

large numbers of the common white ant. The flower is a hybrid raised in England, and first imported to this colony by Mr. Campbell.

Mr. J. G. Griffin, C.E., exhibited two samples of gravel used as ballast on the Deniliquin and Moama Railway. No. 1 was taken from the bed of the Edwards River, and consisted chiefly of fine subangular drift, while No. 2 obtained from a pit 12 miles south from Deniliquin, and at a depth of from 12 to 30 feet, contained in addition to fine drift some waterworn pebbles of quartz,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. Professor Stephens considered that the occurrence of such coarse pebbles in the finer drift might be accidental, and that they may have been dropped from the roots of the trees which were swept over this country during floods. Mr. Macleay thought that this country had gradually risen, and referred to the great deposits of coarse gravel on the Murrumbidgee and elsewhere as evidence of the powerful transporting currents in past ages. Mr. Wilkinson said these extensive deposits probably corresponded in geologic age with those of the glacial period of the northern hemisphere. At that time there must have been a much heavier rainfall in the southern hemisphere than we have at the present day, and the material derived from the valleys then eroded in the higher lands spread over the low-lying country and formed the plains. Some of the pebbles resembled those found in the Devonian conglomerate beds of the Hanging Rock, between Urana and Wagga. Mr. Whittell remarked that similar drifts had been met with in some wellsunk in the level country to the west of the Darling River.

The President exhibited some specimens of fossil insects found in the tin-bearing tertiary deep leads near Vegetable Creek, New England. This is the second discovery of fossil insects in Australia, and the specimens show the impressions of larvæ and pupæ of *Ephemera* or "*May fly*."

A fossil coral (*Cyathophyllum* sp.), from the carboniferous rocks, near Jervis Bay, was exhibited on behalf of the Hon. Jas. Norton.

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