

Transactions

OF THE

BANFFSHIRE FIELD CLUB.



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THURSDAY, February 13, 1896.

MEETING AT BANFF.

A MEETING of the Banffshire Field Club was held on Thursday evening, when Dr Alexander Brown, B.Sc., Lecturer on Zoology in Aberdeen University, delivered a lecture on 'Corals and Coral Islands.' Provost Ramsay, who presided, made fitting reference to Dr Brown's success in scientific pursuits, mentioning that the lecturer of the evening was the first to receive from the University of Aberdeen the degree of B.Sc. Dr Brown first spoke of the place occupied in the scale of life by the organisms which gave rise to coral reefs, and traced their development or growth from an ovum or egg. Different species of sea anemones, along with their habits and manners of development, were described. There was also explained the manner in which these coral organisms build up the reefs, how vegetation is grown upon them by storms carrying seeds from neighbouring islands. Barrier and fringing reefs were also dealt with, the lecturer referring to Darwin's and Dr Murray's theories as to their origin. The lecture throughout was of a very instructive character, and was greatly enhanced by a large number of excellent lime-light views illustrative of the subject, which were thrown on the screen by Mr Marshall. At the close, on the motion of the Chairman, Dr Brown and Mr Marshall received hearty votes of thanks, and on the call of Ex-Provost Williamson a similar compliment was paid to Provost Ramsay for presiding.