

everywhere ; there were four nests in the house, constructed of white blankets cut up to suit—while huckaback towels cut into cotton rags, curtains, books, carpets, clothes, cartridges, pictures, work-baskets, groceries, wheat, cutlery, children's toys, cactus, bones of deer, dried cow dung, dolls' tea-sets, about 100 empty tins and 5000 prunestones, carefully brought a distance of sixty yards from the rubbish hole. I have not enumerated half the things in those nests but only a few that occur to me. In conclusion, I may say that the Bushy-tailed rat evidently considers that he owns any house in which he takes up his abode ; for him any human intruder is the only part of the furniture to be avoided ; but if cornered and brought to bay, he will not avoid even man but will act on the defensive and die fighting like a tiger.

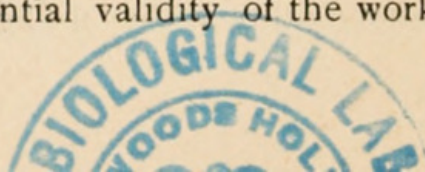
NOTES, REVIEWS AND COMMENTS.

Geology :—DAWSON, SIR WILLIAM.— *The animal nature of Eozoon*, Geological Magazine, Oct., Nov. and Dec. 1895. 17 pp. with eight illustrations.

This is a "review of the evidence for the animal nature of *Eozoon Canadense*." Few are the geological subjects which have attracted more attention or have been discussed more freely than the question as to the animal nature of Eozoön. The purport of the present paper is to correct "some misapprehensions" which as Sir William says "seem to have arisen in regard to points well established and which independently of any question as to the nature of Eozoön, belong to the certain data of geology." Protest is also made "against that mode of treating ancient fossils which regards the most obscured or defaced specimens as typical." This contribution is divided into three parts :—

1. Historical and stratigraphical.
2. Petrographical and chemical.
3. Structural and Biological.

In reviewing the evidence adduced during the last thirty seven years Sir William says: "I confess that in the intervening time I have seen no good reason to induce me to doubt the essential validity of the work



embodied in the paper entitled, "On the Occurrence of Organic Remains in the Laurentian Rocks of Canada," a paper published conjointly, but prepared independently by Sir William Logan, Dr. T. Sterry Hunt and Principal (now Sir William) Dawson.

After pointing out the latest views held on the lowest Laurentian by Dr. G. M. Dawson, Dr. Ells and Dr. F. D. Adams, Sir William summarises the facts and states that "in the case of the Grenville limestone" we have "to deal with a formation which indicates that in the early period to which it belongs regular sedimentation was already in full operation."

Sir William then describes the mineralization of *Eozoon* and meets the objections raised by Moebius "that the canal-systems of *Eozoon* and its tubes present no regularity, " by alledging that "good specimens and decalcified specimens are required to understand the arrangement " of these tubes and canal systems.

Dr. Carpenter's views regarding the combined Rotaline and Nnmuline characters of *Eozoon* are again quoted by Sir William as practically unassailable.—H. M. A.

Botany.—*Canadian Wild Flowers*. Painted and lithographed by Agnes Fitz-Gibbon (Mrs. Chamberlin), Fourth Edition, 1895.

This new edition of a beautiful and well known book which first appeared in 1869 will be welcomed by ail lovers of Canadian wild flowers. It is rather remarkable that with the many lovely wild flowers we have in our Canadian woods there is no work, with the exception of the one under consideration and Mrs. Traill's "Plant Life in Canada," now out of print, where accurate figures and descriptions of the many charming denizens of our woods can be found. A noticeable feature of this work is that it is essentially Canadian, not only were the drawings all done from nature by the talented artist, but also the lithographing of the plates and their subsequent colouring by hand, an undertaking simply gigantic in its proportions. The title page and ten plates upon which groups of some of our more showy native flowering plants are displayed in a most tasteful and artistic manner, are by Mrs. Chamberlin, an honoured member of our Club. The literary part of



Ami, Henry M. 1896. "On the Animal Nature of Eozoon, by Sir William Dawson [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 9(11), 228–229.

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