

## BOOK NOTICES.

REPORT OF THE EXPEDITION IN THE YUKON DISTRICT, N. W. T., AND  
ADJACENT NORTHERN PORTION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.—By Dr.  
G. M. Dawson, 1887.

The above report which is upon a portion of the work of the Yukon Expedition of 1887-88, by Dr. G. M. Dawson, forming Part B. of the Annual Report of the Geological Survey, (1887) has just been distributed. In this report Dr. Dawson details the results of that part of the exploration carried out by himself, adding thereto some portions of Mr. McConnell's work during 1887, which belong to the same general region. Further reports, dealing particularly with the country to the North and East of that covered by this publication, are stated to be in course of preparation by Mr. R. G. McConnell and Mr. W. Ogilvie.

The present report is a book of 277 pages, and is accompanied by an index map, while a detailed map with Geological indications, in three sheets, including the Strikine, Dease, Upper Liard, Frances, Pelly, and Lewes Rivers, with adjacent country, is promised in the course of a few days, under separate cover.

A comparison of the index map, with previous maps professing to represent the same regions, coupled with Dr. Dawson's well-known accuracy, shows what an important contribution this report is to our knowledge of the Geography of North Western Canada. The first part of the report is of a general character, and in this the ruling physical and geological features are described, and some facts given respecting the climate, flora, fauna, and resources of the country as a whole. In the following part the country examined is taken up by districts, and greater detail is entered into. Historical notes are also added, for each district, of the exploits of the few earlier explorers, who originally penetrated this country in the interests of the Hudson Bay Company, or for other objects.

The report includes seven appendices, of which the first is on the distribution of trees, the second on the Indian tribes of the regions, the third a list, by Professor Macoun, of the plants collected (201 species, of which three are new.) The fourth appendix is zoological, including



a list by Mr. James Fletcher, of diurnal lepidoptera, a short list of fishes by Dr. T. H. Bean, and a description of a new mouse by Dr. C. H. Merriam (see page 11 of this number.) In the fifth appendix Mr. F. D. Adams describes the microscopical characters of some of the rocks collected; the sixth contains meteorological observations, and the seventh is a survey of the astronomical observations taken along the route of travel, upon which the positions of places, as given on the map, depend.

It is, naturally, impossible here to do more than mention some of the main headings of this valuable report, which, constituting as it does, the first authentic or systematic account of a vast region, of which very little has up to the present time been known, cannot fail to be of great interest to all. This region, even that portion of it which lies to the North of the 60th parallel, appears to be possessed of considerable natural resources, and is by no means the sub-Artic waste, which some theorists have assumed it to be in advance of its exploration.

J. F.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANADIAN PALÆONTOLOGY.—PART 3—ON SOME FOSSILS FROM THE TRIASSIC ROCKS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA—By J. F. Whiteaves, F.G.S., F.R.S.C., &c.

Distributed advance copies of this contribution, published by the Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada, contain, besides a history of the discoveries of Triassic fossils in Canada, notes on and descriptions of nineteen species, of which the following are new to science:

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| 1. <i>Spiriferina borealis</i> .          | 8. <i>Popanoceras</i> ? <i>McConnelli</i> .      |
| 2. <i>Terebratula Liardensis</i> .        | 9. <i>Acrochordiceras</i> ? <i>Carlottense</i> . |
| 3. <i>Monotis ovalis</i> .                | 10. <i>Trachyceras Canadense</i> .               |
| 4. <i>Halobia occidentalis</i> .          | 11. <i>Arniotites Vancouverensis</i> .           |
| 5. <i>Trigonodus</i> ? <i>productus</i> . | 12. " <i>sp. indt.</i>                           |
| 6. <i>Margarita Triassica</i> .           | 13. " <i>or Celtites</i> .                       |
| 7. <i>Nautilus Liardensis</i> .           | 14. <i>Badiotites Carlottensis</i> .             |

The remaining *five* species have been "identified with previously described species." They are *Terebratula Humboldtensis*, *Monotis subcircularis*, *Halobia Lommelli*, *Arcestes Gabbi*, *Aulacoceras Carlottense*.

The specimens were for the most part collected by the director and officers of the Geological Survey during their explorations, and include the following collections: 1875, Dr. Selwyn, Peace River, lat. 56° 10', and long. 122° 10'; 1877, Mr. J. Hunter, Upper Pine River,



Fletcher, James. 1889. "Report of the Expedition in the Yukon District, N. W. T., and Adjacent Northern Portion of British Columbia, by G. M. Dawson [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 3(1), 41–42.

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