

CROSBY, W. O. AND M. L. FULLER—*Origin of pegmatite*. Technology Quarterly, Vol. IX, No. 4, pp. 326-356, Boston December, 1896.

The aqueo-igneous theory of the origin of pegmatite, the characters of the *acid pegmatites*, their composition, the relations of the composition to enclosing rocks, texture and crystallization are presented. Then the igneous, aqueous, and aqueo-igneous theories that have been advanced are discussed. We think that writers are presenting the situation in a very fair light when they conclude from their studies of *pegmatite* that :

(1) "No sharp line of demarcation can be drawn between dikes and veins."

(2) "In a broad view of the early history of the earth, all the sedimentary and vein rocks are, of course, secondary with reference to the primitive igneous crust, but so are the igneous rocks with which we are now acquainted."

(3) "Probably none of the igneous rocks which have been studied are truly primitive and their derivation in some cases from sediments is claimed by many observers. We commend this paper to all earnest students of Archæan geology.—H. M. A.

BOLETIN DEL INSTITUTO GEOLOGICO DE MEXICO. Nums 4, 5, 6. *Bosquejo geologico de Mexico*, Director, José G. Aguilera, Mexico, 1897.

We have just received the above work, which contains 270 pages of 4to letter press with a number of wood cuts and a coloured geological map of Mexico. This work opens with an appropriate "biographical sketch of Don Antonio del Castillo, late Director of the Geol. Inst. of Mexico," by J. G. Aguilera, followed by an introduction to the present volume and report by the same author. Three chapters follow, bearing upon the geological work carried on by R. J. Bullna, E. Ordóñez and J. G. Aguilera. This completes part I of the present volume. The second part consists of a geological summary of the Republic of Mexico, in which extensive lists of the fossil