

adopt the Boulton process. A paper on this subject by E. T. P. Shewen, Esq., C. E., which was read before the Society has been published by the Public Works Department in the Report of 1896.

GENERAL.

Two field meetings were held—one at Ingleside, the summer residence of President Hay, the other at Red Head, the summer residence of Vice-President H. G. Addy. Both were largely attended. The first had a decided advantage in point of weather; the second was rendered less pleasant by heavy rains which set in shortly after luncheon and continued all the afternoon.

In September last, Dr. Geo. F. Matthew attended the meeting of the British Association at Liverpool, G. B., where he read a paper on the Early Cambrian Faunas. On his return the Society tendered him a reception which was much enjoyed by the members and their friends. The Council take this opportunity to express their hearty appreciation of the work done by the associate members on this occasion. Nothing could exceed the energy with which the ladies entered into the room improvements, while the arrangements for refreshments were made with a degree of care which contributed greatly to the success of the reception.

The Council desire to thank the St. John press for the free insertion of notices and reports of meetings; and those who contributed papers during the year.

This report would be incomplete if we failed to express the hope that in the future we should possess rooms in which we could exhibit our collections to better advantage and extend the scope of our work. We have now nearly reached our greatest capacity, and we cannot hope to add much to our collections until our (at present utopian) new building has become a reality.

In conclusion, the Council draws your attention to the fact that the past year has been a remarkable one in many respects. Never before have the field meetings been so largely attended; the accessions to the library and membership exceed in importance those of any other year; the Museum has had many noteworthy additions; while to be represented at meetings of the British Association as this Society was last year, would be an advantage to any organization engaged in the study of Natural History.

Respectfully submitted,

PERCY G. HALL,
Secretary.