

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, doils' 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