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and mineralogical composition, age and localities of rocks, have all, more or less, influenced geologists in naming and classifying The well-known distinction between eruptive and sedithem. mentary rocks will occur to every reader as an instance of classification according to origin. Hunt's division of crystalline rocks into indigenous and exotic, and Scheerer's distinction of plutonites and vulcanites are both founded upon their real or supposed manner of formation. Lava and Rhyolite are examples of special rocks similarly named. Then, with regard to texture, probably no other character possessed by rocks has given rise to a greater number of generic terms. Schist, slate, porphyry, trachyte, amygdaloid, conglomerate, and breecia, are examples of this, but of special names founded on texture only a few can be instanced, such as granite and aphanite. The influence of chemical composition on a lithological nomenclature is, not, as yet, very marked, for it is only recently that the analysis of rocks has bad much attention. Quite lately, however, Cotta has proposed to distinguish as basites those eruptive rocks containing less, and as acidites those containing more than sixty per cent. of silica; and Scheerer, Kjerulf and Roth have each indicated methods of classification, founded, to a very considerable extent, on general chemical composition. By far the greater number of special names in lithology are based upon mineralogical characters. This is the case with pyroxenite, hornblende schist, quartzite, and many simple rocks, while among those of a compound nature where it was impossible to indicate their mineralogical composition in one word, recourse was had to special names, with definite ideas attached to them as to mineralogical constitution. Thus, diorite came to denote a rock composed of triclinic felspar and hornblende; granulite, a schistose compound of quartz, orthoclase and garnet; dolerite, a mixture of labradorite, augite and magnetite. As regards classification, the mineralogical nature of rocks has always been abundantly considered. In this way we have Hunt's orthosites and anorthosites; Seuft's labradorites, and alabradorites, while Zirkel has made the nature of the different felspar species the corner stone of his system of classification,-crystalline or original rocks, being divided into orthoclase rocks, oligoclase rocks, labradorite rocks, anorthite reeks, and rocks void of felspar. The manner in which con-