ABRAHAM GESNER-REVIEW OF HIS SCIENTIFIC WORK. 45,

or hypogene rocks, and he speaks of the associates of the granite he also would inclu., the gneisses and mica schists. He now describes the elay slates and quartzites of the primary district and those of part of his former "clay slate district" as Cambrian --- a natural out-growth of the improvement of geological nomenclature, and parallel to his recent work in New Under the head of Silurian Group he includes the Brunswick. remainder of the "clay slate group" of his first book on Nova Scotia. His fourth group is the "Old Red Sandstone," or Devonian group, for the red rocks that were found below the coal measures, etc. This is merged in the Lower Carboniferous by later writers. The fifth division is the "Carboniferous rocks or coal formation." The sixth is the "New Red Sandstone." This division, extensive in the former work, is now limited to certain strata near Truro, The seventh group is the "Intrusive and Igneous rocks" of the North Mountains. The eighth is the Boulder or drift formation. This group was not recognized in the earlier work, for in that the surface deposits are mentioned casually in connection with the coherent rocks of the older Dr. Gesner attributes both the unstratified and formations. stratiged drift to the action of water, manifested through ocean currents, floe ice, etc.

Over thirty pages of this work are devoted to a description of the economical minerals of Nova Scotia, with statistics of the exportation of coal.

Dr. Gesner lived in a period when the science of geology was in its infancy. Hence we see proof, as we peruse his works, of the gradual acquisition of new ideas upon the theoretical part of the science. Now a geological surveyor enters upon his work after a long course of preliminary training; then he had to make himself acquainted year by year with the rapid development and new phases of thought in his favorite science. Now he enters the field provided with the stores of knowledge accumulated in the last one hundred years; then he was slowly gathering those facts and observing those phenomena which lie at the base of geological theory.

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