

and to a depth of at least six feet, were fresh water shells innumerable, of all sizes, such as are to be seen in the specimens exhibited. Mr. Ellis had dug down for about six feet, but realizing that there was a danger of striking a subterranean water course which might rise and inundate the land, he desisted. Flowing into the valley and past Mr. Ellis' house, is a small stream which loses itself lower down, but reappears some distance below the natural dam alluded to. The land below the dam is considerably lower than it is on the upper side, giving a good opportunity for drainage, so Mr. Ellis and his partner are running a tunnel through the dyke in order to ensure safety against possible flooding; a very wise precaution. Crops of different kinds had been attempted on parts of the land; some parts gave good results whilst others showed acidity. There was a rank growth of weeds belonging to the *Cenopodium* family, growing on portions of the site of the lake. Oats in places grew rank but the straw showed lack of phosphoric acid and potash and were in patches quite stunted. It was reported that within the memory of some of the inhabitants in the vicinity the lake site had been covered with water but of that no definite information was obtainable.

---

Among the most recent additions to the library of the Geological Survey is the "Nature Library" in ten volumes. This great work published by Doubleday, Page & Co., covers the whole natural history field, and though perhaps to be classed among "popular" rather than "scientific" books, every volume has been written and edited by a specialist.