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CIRCULATION.

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THE DATA OF GEOCHEMISTRY.

T. Sterry Hunt, whose monumental labors on the chemistry of geologic phenomena were the foundation of modern geochemistry, was a daring and brilliant adventurer in the realms of science. Posepny's monographs changed the current of geological thought in the last decade of the nineteenth century. The able and tireless Van Heiss added the fruit of his careful work early in this century. Meanwhile geologists, chemists and mineralogists on this continent and in Europe have published the results of special research in official bulletins, scientific periodicals, or in other forms.

Thus a vast bulk of geochemical data has appeared in papers, magazines, and pamphlets, over a considerable period of time. It is not incorrect, however, to state that since 1900 a far greater amount of accurate work has been reported than in any preceding corresponding period.

So important are many of the recent contributions to our knowledge of geochemistry, and so easy is it for excellent work to be crowded out of the field of our attention, that we are impelled to make prompt acknowledgment of the value of a monograph just published by the United States Geological Survey. Under the title "The Data of Geochemistry," Dr. F. W. Clarke has gathered and correlated an astonishing amount of well-sifted, sound, information.

No mere compiler could have attempted this work. No mere academician could have made it a coherent whole. Dr. Clarke has drawn upon every available source. His foot-notes constitute in themselves a copious bibliography. The scope of the monograph is splendidly wide. Its details are full and accurate.

The sequence of subjects treated in Dr. Clarke's monograph is, roughly, this:

The Nature and Distribution of the Elements.
The Atmosphere.
Lakes and Rivers.
The Ocean.
Waters of Closed Basins.
Mineral Wells and Springs.
Volcanic Gases and Sublimates.
The Molten Magma.
Rock-forming Minerals.
Igneous Rocks.
Decomposition of Rocks.
Sedimentary and Detrital Rocks.
Metamorphic Rocks.
Metallic Ores.