interesting form for the study of mural pores and their relations. The affinities of this genus are likewise discussed and seem to point to Aulopora and Romingeria—rather than any other genera of the *perforata* excepting Michelinia and Pleurodictyum. The first stage of Pleurodictyum and of Favosites is an auloporoid stage represented by the initial cell.

Geology of Aylmer—On the 27th of March, 1895, one of our members, Mr. T. W. E. Sowter, delivered a lecture on the "**Palæontology** and **Geology** of **Aylmer** at the Academy. The lecture proved to be very interesting and was illustrated by a large suite of specimens consisting of rocks and fossils, some new to science. We are pleased to state that we expect to receive a paper from Mr. Sowter on the above subject for the pages of the NATURALIST in the near future.

Zoology—*Tunicata of the Pacific Coast of North America.*

1. Perophora annectens, n. sp. By WILLIAM E. RITTER. Proc. Cal. Acad. Sc., Vol. IV, Part I, pp. 36-85, Plates I. II. and III., figs. 1-39. Sept., 1894.

This is an interesting and exhaustive biological study of one of those interesting species of tunicates which abound along the rocky coasts and shores of the North American Pacific. The species here described for the first time is from Monterey Bay, California. The author gives first a general summary of our knowledge of simple and compound ascidians, and points out that with the result of his researches, the importance of this old classification becomes "*nil.*"

Perophora Hutchinsoni, from Australia, and *P. viridis* from the New England coast of North America are the latest forms brought under Wiegmann's genus established in 1835. Then follows a diagnosis of the species with a general description dealing with the mode of occurrence of the ascidiozooids in their colonies. Their histological characters are very ably described. This form is a particularly favorable one to study owing to its wonderful transparency. The *test* and the origin of its cells receives special attention. The results of Ritter's work confirm those of Salensky and Kowalevsky on the same subject, showing that the cells of the tunicate test are not derived from the ectoderm but from the mesoderm. Dr. Ritter says: "I believe this to be due to the fact that the cellulose substance of the test is here being formed.. I have no evidence that the matrix or cellulose portion of the test is produced as a secretion of the mesodermal cells imbedded in it.....