be descriptive, so that to dispute its value because it affords no information concerning "the spawning period and the nature of the eggs" is surely beside the mark. The aim of the book is uniformity in its subject matter, not description, and its object is clearly stated in the introduction as the following quotation will show: "The technical name, governed by the rules of priority; the vernacular name when the fish has one . . . .; the environment concisely, and the geographical distribution of each fish are given."

Concerning the figures, if "C" had examined the specimens in the Canadian Fisheries Museum, from which the photographs which he criticizes were taken, he would have seen that the majority of the figures are from mounted specimens of the fishes themselves—a minority only being from casts (which, moreover, are actual impressions of specimens), viz.: the steelhead salmon and the five species of *Oncorhynchus* of the Pacific slope; whereas "C" says they "are in *very many cases* from defective coloured casts." [*Italics mine*].

ANDREW HALKETT.

A WELL-EARNED HONOUR.

Many members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club learned, with much pleasure recently, that the University of Toronto had conferred upon Mr. F. T. Shutt, M.A., F.R.S.C., Assistant Director of the Experimental Farms and Dominion Chemist, the degree of Doctor of Science. Mr. Shutt has always taken a keen interest in the work of our Club, being for many years a valued member of the council. From 1892 to 1895 he was vice-president of the Club, and during the years 1895 to 1897 he occupied the office of president. It was with appreciation, therefore, that notice of such honour reached us early in the present month (June). The degree was conferred on June 5th.

Such an honorary degree, when it comes to one who has really accomplished valuable results in science, is indeed worth having, and not only honours the one receiving it, but also honours the seat of learning conferring it. In the present instance, we think the University of Toronto has chosen wisely. Dr. Shutt, during the last 27 years, has given the best part of his life to a study of the science of chemistry in relation to agriculture. His researches towards the economic maintenance of fertility of soils and the factors that influence their nitrogen content; in the composition and relative values of Canadian grown fodders and feeding stuffs; on the influence of environ-