

a leading authority on the subjects of which it treats. As the author himself states, this work and more especially the "Crenitic" hypothesis developed in it, are "the result of nearly thirty years of studies, having for their object to reconstruct the theory of the earth on the basis of a solid nucleus, to reconcile the existence of a solid interior with the flexibility of the crust, to find an adequate explanation of the universally contorted attitude of the older crystalline strata, and at the same time to discover the laws which have governed the formation and the changing chemical composition of the stratiform crystalline rocks through successive geologic ages."

To Dr. Hunt we thus owe some of the earliest attempts to subdivide and classify in a scientific manner the stratiform crystalline rocks; a work to which he brought not only his studies throughout Canada and the United States, but also the results of enquiries conducted during repeated visits to the British Islands and to continental Europe. In pursuing these studies and while reviewing and controverting various hypotheses, including the igneous or plutonic, the metamorphic and the metasomatic, all of which he rejected as irreconcilable with observed facts, and as violating chemical theory, Dr. Hunt vindicated what he deemed the essential soundness of the still imperfect Wernerian aqueous view, and advanced, as its proper development and completion, his own crenitic hypothesis. According to this theory, the source of the various groups of crystalline rocks was "the superficial portion of a globe, once in a state of igneous fusion, but previously solidified from the centre. This portion, rendered porous by cooling, was permeated by circulating waters, which dissolved and brought to the surface during successive ages, after the manner of modern mineral springs, the elements of the various systems of crystalline rocks. These rocks thus mark progressive and necessary changes in the mineralogical evolution of the earth."

Dr. Hunt never abandoned the scientific pursuit of chemistry and mineralogy. In the former science he summed