

There is an old saying that "he who takes what is to hand will never want." This was true of the Indians before the white man came among them. They always had enough to eat, such as it was. Now they sometimes suffer from hunger. Once they had the whole country to roam over, to hunt, fish, pick berries and gather roots. Now the area is circumscribed, and the habits of a people cannot be changed in one or two generations. An Indian friend of mine made this remark: "I'm afraid we are trying to be white men too rapidly."

The list of plants given above is not by any means complete, but enough has been given to show that the "poor Siwash" took what was at hand.

SOME NOTES ON FOSSIL COLLECTING, AND ON THE EDRIOSATEROIDEA.

BY GEORGE H. HUDSON

The timely and valuable paper by Dr. E. M. Kindle on "Fossil Collecting," which appeared in THE OTTAWA NATURALIST for January, 1916, has led me to present certain notes and problems belonging to the same subject.

We may group the history of fossil collecting into three overlapping periods or stages. At first specimens were saved out of simple curiosity, and in the "cabinet" they found themselves associated with minerals, archaeological specimens and objects of recent historic interest. In this stage only the more showy or curious forms were preserved, and a trilobite might find a setting within the coil of a hangman's rope.

In the second stage the principle focus of interest was also the "cabinet," but this reflected more of the developing individuality or intellectual advancement of the collector, in that it showed a more restricted field and a devotion to its amplification. Certain persons limited themselves to fossils only, and came to value their collection by the number of markedly distinct species presented, and by the perfection of the specimens. Duplicates were saved principally for purposes of exchange, and closely allied species or varieties were rejected as not being *typical*. The idea of the fixity of species was responsible for this attitude. This stage was of the same type as that displayed in coin or postage-stamp collecting, save that it was less discriminating; for in the latter groups an exceedingly slight change in die or plate often enhanced the value of the specimen. As