

NOTES, REVIEWS AND COMMENTS.

"REPORT ON THE MARBLE, SLATE AND GRANITE INDUSTRIES OF VERMONT," by G. H. Perkins, Ph. D., State Geologist.—This is a brief preliminary report on some of the economic resources of the State of Vermont issued in accordance with an Act of the State Legislature passed in 1896. It is the first official report published by this state since the well known report of "President Edward Hitchcock in 1861."

As the work has been only recently begun, the report is limited to the three industries mentioned in the title. The different varieties of the various products and their uses are described, as well as the methods of quarrying and manufacturing them. The report is well illustrated and contains much information of a thoroughly practical character.

According to the best information now available, Vermont stands first amongst the United States in the production of marble and granite, and second, only to Pennsylvania, in slate.

The value of the annual output of the first is now about \$3,500,000, of the second \$1,500,000 and of the third \$850,000. These figures alone show the importance of maintaining a geological survey in this state.

The subsequent and complete reports of Prof. Perkins, will be looked for with much interest both for their economic and their scientific results. JOHN A. DRESSER, Richmond, Que.

GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS.—The Eighth International Congress of geologists is to take place in Paris, August 16th to 28th in the year 1900, in connection with the Universal Exposition. A circular letter has been communicated to all American geologists inviting them to take part. Monsieur A. Gaudry is president of the committee of organization, with Messrs. Michel Levy and Marcel Bertrand as vice-presidents and Dr. Charles Barrois, secretary. Special excursions to most interesting localities are already arranged for. It is to be hoped that Canada will be fitly represented at this World's Congress.

A WELL DESERVED HONOUR.—The many readers of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, as well as his many other friends in Ottawa will learn with pleasure that, Mr. Wm. Scott, B.A., has been chosen by the Provincial Minister of Education to fill the position of Principal of the Normal School at Toronto, rendered vacant by the death of the late Principal, Mr. Kirkland, on Dec. the 31st last. Mr. Scott was for several years a most active member of the Council of the Club and, while living in Ottawa, was an enthusiastic and untiring member of the Botanical Branch, for which he did valuable service in working up the local flora and added several new records to the Flora Ottawaensis. We heartily congratulate Mr. Scott on his promotion to the important and responsible office which he has been selected to fill, knowing that he will carry out thoroughly and well anything he undertakes.