Review.

distribution of the land and water; the directions of certain physiographic lines, in conformity with which the boundaries of the continents, the ranges of islands and chains of mountains are arranged; the system in the reliefs or surface-forms of the continental lands; the system of oceanic and atmospheric currents, and the general laws of the distribution of forests, prairies and deserts. All these phenomena are within the domain of physical geography, but they can never be well understood unless investigated through geology, as their origin dates far back in time.

2. LITHOLOGICAL GEOLOGY.-Relating to the composition and different kinds of rocks.

3. HISTORICAL GEOLOGY.—Under this title is discussed the main portion of the subject; the description in their order, of all the formations from the most ancient up to the most recent. Here we have, for the first time, the science of geology elucidated by special reference to the series of American rocks; thus removing the great difficulty we have pointed out in the first lines of this notice. Full details of all the deposits, their lithological composition, their characteristic organic remains and geographical distribution are given. There appear to be about 700 figures of fossils, nearly all of which were drawn on wood by Mr. F. B. Meek, an accomplished artist, and one of the best palæontologists of the continent. Most of the species figured are American, and several of them are from the Decades of the Canadian Survey, representing peculiar forms only possessed by the Provincial Collection of Canada. It is not uncommon to find works on general geology illustrated by figures, which, for all natural-history purposes, are perfectly worth-This must happen when neither the artist nor the author is less. a naturalist. In the book before us, the illustrations are first-class. for the reason that all the parties engaged in their production, perfectly understood how to prepare them.

4. DYNAMICAL GEOLOGY.—This division treats of the causes of events in the earth's geological progress. "These events include the formation of all rocks, stratified and unstratified, with whatever they contain, from the earliest Azoic to the modern beds of gravel, sand, clays, and lavas; the oscillations of the earth's crust; the increase of dry land, elevation of mountains, and elimination of the surface features of the globe; the changes of climate; the changes of life."

The work concludes with an appendix and a copious index. Geology is a science of such vast extent, and so largely com