

ing his descriptions and correlations, with the fact that he was a man of unusual ability, and possessed of a keen appreciation of the value of thorough palæontological work."

Dr. Charles Schuchert, Assistant Curator of the U.S. National Museum at Washington also writes :—

"When in Ottawa last summer I was much pleased to see the splendid portrait of Elkanah Billings and delighted to know that it was to be shown amongst the many Canadian fossils which he immortalized. His short but brilliant descriptions hit off the salient characteristics of the species, proof positive of a distinguished palæontologist. In short, Elkanah Billings's name stands high amongst North American Invertebrate palæontologists and is one of that great triumvirate of pioneers in our sciences : Hall, Billings and Meek."

Besides these brief but genuine appreciations of the man whom we seek to honour this evening, I feel constrained to add another tribute paid to the memory of Mr. Billings by one who formed the main theme and subject of our address last year, viz., Sir William Dawson. In his volume entitled "Salient points in the History of the Earth," Sir William dedicates Chapter XII "to the Memory of Elkanah Billings, first Palæontologist of the Geological Survey of Canada, who laid the foundations of our knowledge of the invertebrate fossils of Canada."

I shall not attempt to give you any further details of his life works or writings, suffice it to say that "though dead he still lives" and his name stands unusually high in the estimation of all who have had anything to do with the unravelling of the Geological problems of Canada, especially as they present themselves to us in the older Provinces of our Dominion.

In 1876 Billings died, and to fill his position the department engaged the services of the present distinguished occupant of the position of Palæontologist and Zoologist, Dr. J. F. Whiteaves, a member of our Club since 1883.

I regret exceedingly that Dr. Whiteaves is not present on this occasion. He has requested me to present his sincere regrets to this audience. We expected some words from him, but he is unfortunately prevented from being here by an indisposition, and