

NOTICES OF MEMOIRS.

L'EXCURSION DE LA SOCIÉTÉ GÉOLOGIQUE EN BRETAGNE. Par M. DE LAPPARENT. *Revue Scientifique*, 8 Janvier, 1887.

THIS is an article upon the excursion already described in the February Number of this MAGAZINE. It gives a general view of the geological features of the Armorican peninsula, the igneous and metamorphic rocks occurring there, and certain questions hitherto controverted on which evidence regarded as conclusive was produced. Among these were the age of certain granites, the causes of the metamorphism in certain localities, and the nature of the passage from Cambrian strata to Silurian. As to this last, the sections in the Bay of Douarnenez and the succession seen at Gourin are said to present concurrent indications that in this district the transition is conformable and continuous.

Upon the Archæan question the author expresses decided opinions. To think that the crystalline schists can be excised from the chronological succession, and to regard them as capable of being produced out of any strata, whatsoever their age, is, he says, "an extension of the idea of metamorphism which is altogether a misuse of it." "The facts observed in Brittany seem fatal to this view." E. H.

REVIEW S.

GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY OF CANADA. Annual Report (New Series), Vol. I. Accompanied by an Atlas of Maps. Royal 8vo. pp. ix. and 798. With Geological Maps, Plans, Plates, and Woodcuts. (Montreal, 1886.)

THE present volume ushers in a new series, and although entitled Report for 1885, it includes work done in previous years, and in the early part of 1886. It begins with the customary "Summary Report" ("A." pp. 1A—108A<sup>1</sup>) by the Director, Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, F.R.S., F.G.S. This contains an excellent résumé of the operations of the Geological Staff in the field, and of the work carried on at head-quarters (Ottawa) in the museum, laboratory, and library.

The succeeding reports fully sustain the deservedly high reputation so long enjoyed by the Canadian Survey. Many important contributions to the history of the geology and resources of the country are contained in them; showing how work has been prosecuted "over portions of every province and territory in the Dominion, from Nova Scotia to the west coast of Vancouver Island."

Among the varied duties that now fall to the lot of the Dominion geologists are included the collection of specimens illustrative of the Zoology, Botany and Ethnology of the tracts explored, in addition to their Geology and Lithology.

Messrs. Whiteaves and Ami undertake the palæontological and zoological work, with the occasional assistance of eminent English

<sup>1</sup> The Reports being also published separately, each is distinguished by a letter or letters in the pagination.