

University and Educational Intelligence

LIVERPOOL.—Prof. H. H. Read, George Herdman professor of geology, who has just been awarded the Bigsby Medal of the Geological Society of London, has worked largely on the geology of the Highlands. He has made a number of important discoveries on the complicated region of lower Banffshire and north Aberdeenshire, and has just published a paper on the geology of Unst, in the Shetland Islands.

EDUCATIONAL problems in India are, perhaps, more various and more baffling than in any other country, and among the most difficult are those of the education of the Anglo-Indian child. Also, at the present time, they are of peculiar urgency owing to the progressive limitation in recent years (and the prospect of still more drastic limitation in the near future) of the fields of employment open to the Anglo-Indian community and the simultaneous increase (from 1921 until 1931, 22 per cent) in their numbers: some 20,000 who ought to be earning their living are actually unemployed. A valuable and timely discussion of the subject is reported in the *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*. A paper read on November 9 before the Indian Section of the Society by the Very Rev. J. A. Graham, honorary superintendent of St Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong, Bengal, describes what has proved to be an efficient enterprise for enabling needy Anglo-Indian children to develop into worthy members of society. Beginning in 1900 with six children, it has grown into an educational colony in which 575 boys and girls housed in cottages are being trained for such occupations as agriculture, engineering, the railway, telegraph and forest services, business, teaching and nursing. In the course of the discussion which followed the reading of the paper, attention was directed to the recent inauguration of a ten thousand acre colony at Lapra in Bihar. This was described as one of the most hopeful of projects hitherto tried for providing openings for Anglo-Indians.

Science News a Century Ago

Translation of Cuvier's "Animal Kingdom"

Cuvier's "Animal Kingdom", which had been published in fifteen volumes by Edward Griffith and others, was reviewed at length in *The Times* of January 24, 1835. The whole of the Baron's "Règne Animal", said the reviewer, has been translated with a vast addition of supplementary matter, including a full description of all the species, calculated to render the work "not merely useful to the naturalist, as a book of pure science, but also interesting to the public at large, as a general zoological biography, and ornamental as containing original and well executed illustrations. . . . The gentlemen who have been associated with Mr. Griffith in this arduous undertaking are Mr. Edward Pidgeon, Colonel Charles Hamilton Smith, Mr. John Edward Gray and Mr. George Gray. Their competency and qualifications are sufficiently well known. . . . Without entering into a more elaborate examination of the work, we may confidently characterise it as one which cannot fail to recommend itself to a very high rank in public estimation. It appears to have been executed with great care; it evinces a large share of scientific talent and research in the editors; and the plates, some of

them from drawings by Landseer, are distinguished by great neatness and fidelity."

Of the authors of this work, Griffith (1790-1858) was an original member of the Zoological Society, John Edward Gray (1800-75) was a keeper at the British Museum and Col. Smith (1776-1859) served in the Army in 1797-1820. After the appearance of the review, a correspondent wrote to *The Times* saying that Edward Pidgeon had died in poverty on October 14, 1834.

Beaufoy's "Nautical and Hydraulic Experiments"

Col. Mark Beaufoy (1764-1827), the son of a Quaker brewer, was a physicist and astronomer, but he will be remembered longest for his experiments on ship resistance, and as the founder in 1791 of the Society for the Improvement of Naval Architecture. His experiments were made in Greenland Dock, Rotherhithe, during the period 1793-98. After his death, his son published at his own expense his "Nautical and Hydraulic Experiments with numerous Scientific Miscellanies", the book being printed at Beaufoy's private press in Lambeth. In a review of the first volume of this work published in the *Athenæum* of January 24, 1835, many passages were quoted. One of these said: "For some years the calculations were made at Colonel Beaufoy's residence at Hackney Wick by himself, assisted by his wife, who contributed no inconsiderable share to the progress and success of the experiments; for favoured alike in person and in mind . . . she was a good mathematician and astronomer familiar with all the details of the observatory, the calculation of eclipses etc. . . . she was never at a loss for leisure in the furtherance of her husband's pursuits."

In concluding his remarks, the reviewer said, "we have only to express our obligations to the publisher for the munificent gift he has laid on the altar of science. By the time his work is completed, it will, it is reported, have cost together with the experiments it records, a sum of 60,000£, the value of thirty years assiduous labour not being counted in this estimate. There is a munificence and devotion about this gift, which have, we believe, no parallel in the history of science".

Records of General Science

In January 1835, the first number appeared of a *Record of General Science*, a monthly journal edited by Dr. R. D. Thomson, lecturer in chemistry in the Blenheim Street Medical School, with the assistance of Prof. Thomas Thomson, regius professor of chemistry in the University of Glasgow. It was published by John Taylor, 30 Upper Gower Street, London, bookseller and publisher to the University of London. In the preface, after some remarks on the general history of periodicals, it was said: "A few years have only elapsed since not less than six Scientific Journals were published in Great Britain; these have now dwindled into two one of which is published monthly in London, and the other quarterly in Edinburgh". The number opened with an article by Prof. Thomas Thomson "On Calico-Printing", illustrated with actual samples of material pasted in. Other articles dealt with respiration, the composition of the blood, vanadate of lead, transmission of heat through bodies, distillation of pit-coal and the magnetic intensity of the earth. Some of the articles were original contributions, while others were reprinted from the leading scientific journals published on the Continent.