

to show the citizens of Hull the many points of interest their city possesses, and of which they are the trustees.

The wealth of illustrations considerably adds to the interest of this work. Future compilers of the British Association local handbook will do well to study carefully the Hull model. W. E. C.

Our Bookshelf.

The Biology of the Seashore. By F. W. Flattely and C. L. Walton. Pp. xvi + 336 + 16 plates. (London: Sidgwick and Jackson, Ltd., 1922.) 16s. net.

THE study of zoology from the ecological standpoint has made rapid strides in America under the energetic leadership of Dr. Adams and Dr. Shelford, and there has been a steady output of text-books and popular books on Nature study written from this point of view. In this country, zoological ecology has received very little attention, and we welcome, therefore, if only on these grounds, this excellent work on the biology of the seashore. As the authors point out, their book is not intended to supersede but to supplement previous works which have been written on classificatory and morphological lines. In fact, they demand a previous knowledge of classification and external morphology in those who use their work. Given this the authors have directed special attention to functional biology and to the adaptations which organisms present to marine life in all its phases.

The book is an exhaustive summary of the known facts of marine biology from the ecological point of view, and reveals a wide knowledge of the literature of the subject. The illustrations are good and adequate, and the advice given on the methods of ecological research should be most useful to students. The authors, however, have not been content merely to summarise known facts. The book bristles with suggestions for research and further inquiry, and in this respect is most stimulating. It should be in the hands of all students of marine biology. With its help more real knowledge of life in the sea will be obtained than from any other text-book we know. It is not enough to know the mere population of the sea; some knowledge of the laws governing life there, and of the actions and interactions of organism and environment is vastly more interesting and stimulating, and the work under notice supplies the right kind of guidance in this inspiring field of study.

Catalogue of the Books, Manuscripts, Maps, and Drawings in the British Museum (Natural History). Vol. 6. Supplement: A-I. Pp. iv + 511 + 48. (London: British Museum (Natural History), 1922.) 2l. 15s.

THE Library of the British Museum of Natural History is probably one of the most complete, and certainly one of the most important, libraries of works on natural history in the world. The publication of a catalogue of its contents has been of immense service to scientific workers, who find in it a valuable guide to the literature of their subject and a wealth of bibliographical detail which is of the greatest value in settling vexed questions of priority and ensuring accuracy of reference. The first half of the supplement to the main catalogue has

now been issued and serves to give some idea of the natural growth of this splendid library. Like the preceding volumes, it has been prepared by Mr. B. B. Woodward with the same meticulous care and accuracy, and includes as before the results of much bibliographical research by the author and Mr. C. D. Sherborn. The 48 pages of "Addenda and Corrigenda" to the main catalogue consist almost entirely of additional bibliographical information which has accumulated since the catalogue was published.

The expenditure of public money on the publication of a catalogue of this kind is more than justified by its extreme value and usefulness, though it is a pity that so valuable a work as this supplement should have been sent out in a paper cover. For its own value and for the sake of uniformity it is worth a binding similar to its predecessors. Scientific workers are grateful to Mr. Woodward and to the trustees of the British Museum for having made the resources of their library known in this readily accessible form.

Obras completas y correspondencia científica de Florentino Ameghino. Volumen 3. La Antigüedad del Hombre en el Plata. Dirigida por Alfredo J. Torcelli. Pp. 821. (La Plata: Taller de Impresiones Oficiales, 1915.) n.p.

THE third volume of the handsome collected edition of the late Florentino Ameghino's geological and palæontological works now being issued by the government of the province of Buenos Aires, is a reprint of his treatise on the antiquity of man in La Plata originally published in 1880. Francisco Moreno had then just founded the Anthropological and Archæological Museum at Buenos Aires (afterwards removed to La Plata), and Ameghino himself was studying with Henri Gervais in Paris, where he exhibited part of his collection at the Universal Exposition. The author was thus well furnished with materials, and had unusual opportunities of making himself acquainted with the latest advances in the subject of the antiquity of man. While describing the results of his own researches, he therefore took the opportunity of making many references to European and North American work which were illuminating. His volume is a most exhaustive discussion of the remains of the handiwork of prehistoric man discovered in Argentina, illustrated by twenty-five large plates. Of the skeleton of man himself no important fragments had at that time been found. The geological observations are particularly valuable and interesting, and Ameghino seems to make it quite clear for the first time that the man of the pampas was a contemporary of the extinct glyptodonts or giant armadillos, and actually used their large bony carapaces as roofs for his lowly habitations. Although naturally out-of-date, the whole treatise is a valuable record of facts and observations, in which the reprint will stimulate renewed interest. A. S. W.

Le Pôle Sud: Histoire des voyages antarctiques. Par J. Rouch. Pp. 249. (Paris: Ernest Flammarion, 1921.) 7 francs net.

M. ROUCH was one of the officers of the *Pourquoi Pas?* in Dr. Charcot's second Antarctic expedition, and familiarity with the conditions of navigation and the privations of wintering in the Far South has given him