

VIII.—BRIEF NOTICES.

1. PERMO-CARBONIFEROUS ICE AGE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—This subject was dealt with by Mr. A. Gibb Maitland in his Anniversary Address to the Natural History and Science Society of Western Australia (vol. iv, session 1910-11). The essay is well illustrated by map, sections, and photographic views.

2. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—In Bulletin No. 2 (1913), the Government Geologist, Mr. L. Keith Ward, discusses the possibilities of the discovery of petroleum on Kangaroo Island and the western coast of Eyre's Peninsula, and comes to the conclusion that the facts do not justify the expenditure of capital in boring for oil. Some account is given of the rubber-like material known as 'coorongite', but there appears to be no genetic connexion between it and petroleum.

3. MINING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The *Review of Mining Operations* in the State during the half-year ended December 31, 1912 (No. 17, 1913), gives satisfactory accounts of the production of copper, gold, and silver; other minerals obtained include lead and iron ores, uranium ores, gypsum, and graphite.

4. INDIAN AEROLITES.—G. de P. Cotter, B.A., contributes "Notes on Indian Aerolites recorded since 1906" (Rec. Geol. Surv. India, vol. xlii, pt. iv, p. 265). The paper gives details of six falls, viz., Vishnupur, Chainpur, Mirzapur, Baroti, Khohar, and Lakangaon. It is admirably illustrated by fourteen photographs of separate stones, and by a map of the Chainpur fall. The mineral constitution of the stones is only discussed very briefly.

5. THE BERNESE JURA.—The structure of the Bernese Jura finds an able expositor in Dr. P. Schlee, who in an interesting paper published in the *Mitth. geogr. Gesellsch. Hamburg*, xxvii, 1913, illustrates his remarks with a fine series of photographic reproductions, a map, and sections. The paper can be obtained separately from Friederichsen & Co., Hamburg, for 3 marks.

6. TERMITES AND GEOLOGY.—Mr. Donald Steel writes in the *American Naturalist*, July, 1913, on this subject. He does little more than record the facts, but we gather from a perusal of his paper that the work of the Termites is much like that of worms, a turning over the surface soil. The Termite, however, piles the soil up into hillocks, which are themselves worn down again by storms, and gradually spread over the surrounding country.

7. THE LANDES OF GASCOGNY.—M. Edouard Harlé (Bull. Soc. géol. France (4), xii, 1912) has investigated the Landes of Gascony, and comes to the conclusion that far from being extremely old and entitled to the term 'Pénéplaine landaise' of authors, these tracts are quite modern and still in process of formation. They are due to the prevalent westerly winds, are of different ages, and continually changing. In the same communication Harlé traces the changes in the bed of the River Adour, the struggle between that river and the dunes, and their influences on each other.