

bered land is also excellent for farming. In the streams is an abundance of fish, among which are the finest salmon in the world.

There is enough to live on in this country. The inhabitants are generally good farmers, raise large quantities of grain, and have from forty to one hundred head of cattle, twenty to sixty head of hogs, and horses without number. Clothing is cheaper here than in Iowa. There is nothing to be found in your stores, but what we have an abundance of, and at a cheaper rate, as they are brought here free of duty. Nothing will bear exportation from Iowa except good rifles. They are worth about \$50 in this country. Good cows will sell at from \$30 to \$50 per head.

Several of our company are dissatisfied with the country, and contemplate going to California this spring. For my part, I am well satisfied and expect to end my days in Oregon. This place (Oregon City) is situated at the head of navigation, and at the foot of Willhammut Falls, one of the greatest water powers in the world. It contains twelve dwelling-houses, three stores, one blacksmith's shop, one cooper's shop; two saw mills and one grist mill are in operation, and another of three run of stones is to be erected this summer. I get \$3 a day for my work, and tools furnished. Common labour is worth \$1 75 per day, without board. No ardent spirits in the country.

WILLIAM T. PERRY.

The Missouri *Expositor* of October 21st states, that Lieutenant Fremont's company passed Independence Rock, near the South Pass of the mountains, about the 10th of September. The Oregon emigrants were ahead of Lieut. Fremont's company, and had divided into three or four smaller parties, for the greater convenience in travelling. No accident of any kind had occurred to them, and their cattle, mules, and horses, were all fat and in fine travelling condition. They were well supplied with every article of food necessary for their trip; and have, doubtless, ere this reached their place of destination. The *Expositor* says-It will be a source of much gratification to the friends of Oregon everywhere, to learn that this company has made its trip with no greater losses and hardships than it has as yet met with. The present company has blazed the way, and future emigrants will have every thing clear before them. Next year, (1844), from all indications, there will be another great out-pouring for Oregon territory.

## OUR NOTE-BOOK.

**NATURAL HISTORY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**—We observe with pleasure a letter by **J. E. Gray**, Esq., F.R.S., to the editor of the “Annals of Natural History,” in which a description is given of two new species of **mammalia**, discovered by his Excellency Governor Grey, and of which his Excellency had sent specimens to the British Museum, with a description. The letter is too long to give in full, but we subjoin extracts, which will be found interesting by the lovers of natural history. As the specimens are extremely rare, any of our readers who find animals of the species described, will render a service to science by **preserving** and communicating an account of them. We understand a **tarsipes** has been seen at **Port. Lincoln**, and only one specimen of the **chæropus** has been obtained.

The most interesting of the specimens is a representative of the family **Insectivora**, not, it is believed, before found in Australia. This animal, from its general appearance and habits, would appear to be a true **sorex**. It inhabits the low scrubby and **heathy-looking bushes** near King George’s Sound, and can only be got **at** by setting the scrub on **fire**. A second species of this animal had been found, which differs **from** the one forwarded, in being larger and somewhat **differently** marked. It is, however, possible that this may be only a variety, and not a distinct species. Only three of the animals had been obtained :—

“The animal referred to above would not only have proved a new species, but a hitherto **undescribed** genus, if it had arrived two weeks **sooner**; for at the last meeting of the **Zoological Society**, **M. Paul Gervais**, one of the **assistants** in the zoological collection of the Garden of Plants **at Paris**, on my recommendation, described the genus to which it appears **to** belong, judging **from** the figures of the skull and teeth which alone he had with him, under the name of **Tarsipes**, being doubtful if it belonged to the family of **Didelphidæ** or **Lemuridæ**. The account of this genus has not yet been published; **but as on** my showing **M. Gervais** the specimens, he observed that it evidently belonged to his genus, though it appeared to be a second species of it, I shall in courtesy use the generic name he has given.

**TARSIPES, Gervais MSS. Didelphidæ, Sect. Phalangistina.**—**Head** elongate, tapering, slender. Ears large, hairy. Body mouse-like. Tail elongate, cylindrical, tapering to a **fine** point, covered with close-set, **short**, bristly hair, covering rings of **squarish** scales. Legs short. Toes five, free, callous beneath, dilated at the tips, and with very small acute claws; the inner and outer **front** toes subequal; the three middle ones larger, nearly equal. The thumb of the hind feet elongate; the index finger short, only reaching to the first **joint**; the two outer fingers **larger** and nearly equal. Scrotum very large, **pendent**, hairy. The cutting teeth, upper very small; the **lower very** long, lying **down** horizontally and projecting in front, subulate, **transparent**. The canines and grinders very small.

This animal has a resemblance to some of the smaller Lemurs in the form of the claws, in the shortness of the index ringer, and in the position and form of the lower cutting teeth. It is much more nearly allied to the *Phalangistæ*, and is easily known from them by the length and slenderness of the lower cutting teeth and the rudimentary nature of the other teeth.

**TARSIPES, Spenseræ.**—Blackish grey ; back with a longitudinal black streak to the base of the tail, and a brown stripe on each side; beneath pale bay, darker on the sides, where it unites to the grey of the sides, and especially over the outside of the limbs. Face blackish grey ; forehead dusky brown ; cheeks pale brownish. Ears rounded, with scattered short brown hairs ; whiskers black.

“ Inhab. the scrub, King George’s Sound,

“ Length of the body,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; of tail, 3; of hind feet,  $\frac{3}{4}$  ; of head,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ .

“ **CHÆROFUS, Ogilby.** *Didelphidæ, Sec. Peramelina.*—Nose elongate, **tapering**, slender; **muzzle** bald, callous; **whiskers** rigid; eyes moderate ; ears large, slightly hairy, thin. Cutting teeth  $\frac{2\frac{1}{2}}{3\frac{1}{2}}$ , close, nearly uniform; upper conical, lower truncated, hinder one notched externally, Canines  $\frac{1\frac{1}{2}}{1\frac{1}{2}}$ , conical ; compressed, upper simple, far from the cutting; lower with a notch in the front edge and near to the hinder cutting teeth, False grinders  $\frac{3\frac{3}{8}}{3\frac{3}{8}}$ , **upper front** compressed like the canines; two others three-lobed, broader, the last approaching the grinders in form ; the lower compressed, three-lobed. Grinders  $\frac{4\frac{1}{4}}{4\frac{1}{4}}$ , each formed of two triangles united by their wider outer edge of the upper broader, and the inner edge of the higher narrower lobes of the lower teeth ; the ends of the broad side of the triangle are two-lobed, Legs and feet are very slender, weak ; the **front** feet elongate, with two equal toes, each armed with a conical claw ; the bone on which the claw is supported is bid at the top; the sole of the feet callous and convex; the hind feet elongate, with four toes ; the sole compressed ; heels hairy ; the outer toes very small, armed with a nearly sessile conical claw, placed nearly in the middle of the outer side between the heel and the end of the toe; **middle** toe very large, elongate, armed with a tapering compressed claw, and with a large callous pad beneath; the two inner toes equal, small, compressed, united together nearly to the claws placed before the outer toes a little before the joint of the **first** joint of the **middle** toes, which has a rounded pad beneath it; the claws of these **toes** are compressed, concave beneath and sharp-edged. Tail elongate, hairy, with a small terminal pencil.

“ This **genus** is at once known from *Perameles*, to which, in other respects, it is very nearly allied by the conformation of its feet. The genus was established by Mr. Ogilby in the **proceedings** of the Zoological Society, 1828, on a drawing brought home by Sir T. L. Mitchell, who had left the animal at the Sydney Museum. A copy of this drawing is published in Mitchell’s ‘Eastern Australia,’ vol. ii. 131, t. 27.

“ Sir Thomas Mitchell’s specimen was without any tail; hence Mr. Ogilby named it *Chæropus ecaudatus* ; but I strongly suspect, when the animal is re-discovered, it will be found to have a tail, like the one here described ; for the tail appears, as in *Perameles*, to be easily destroyed in **skinning**, as in the specimen under examination the tail is **only** attached to the skin by a very narrow piece,

"There are no smaller toes behind the two large front ones,\* which Mr Ogilby (*Ann. Nat. Hist.*, vii, 231) considers probable to exist : and the hind feet, as may be seen by the description, are not 'perfectly similar to those of *Perameles*;' and, from these discrepancies, I should have been induced to consider the animal under consideration a distinct genus from that described by Mr. Ogilby, if it had not very accurately agreed with Sir Thomas Mitchell's copy of his figure.

"Mr. Gould; who examined the specimens in the Australian Museum at Sydney, informs me that he believes it is very different from the one here described, and has longer legs.

"*CHÆROPUS castanotis*.—Brownish grey, beneath white, sides brownish. Head grey, with intermingled black hairs; whiskers black, rigid. The ear two-thirds the length of the head, broad, thin, rather coriaceous, covered at the back and externally with short, close-set, rufous hairs, naked and blackish at the tip externally. Fur soft, lead-coloured, with longer black-tipped hair on the back, and rufous-tipped hairs on the sides; outer side of the thighs and legs covered with soft hair; the feet covered with short, close-pressed hair rufous from the heel to the base of the middle toes, and the rest brownish white. Tail with white, adpressed hairs, with a central black stripe, along the upper surface, becoming paler and ending in a ridge of elongated brownish white hairs over the tip. Inhab. the scrub near the Murray : the Hon. Cap<sup>t</sup> G. Grey. Length of body and head, 10 inches; of tail,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ ; ears,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ; of head  $3\frac{1}{4}$ ; of hind foot,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ; from the tip of the nose to the eye,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ."

Mr. Gray states his Excellency to have made the following additional discoveries and observations:—A species of *Prion* and a new species of *Puffinu* a new species of *Pedionomus* allied to *P. Torquatus*, a new species of *Dasyurus* an animal allied to the *Hydromus* of Geoffroy, but which is likely to form a new genus, and the new species of *Phascogale*. It has been observed, that the sternum of the *Podargus* does not resemble that of the *Caprimulgidae*, but much more closely that of the owls. We give the above extracts, not only as showing the honourable exertions of the discoverer, but also with the hope that the colonists generally, at least those who feel an interest in this branch of science may be stimulated to unite their efforts in completing the researches which have been made. We recollect hearing of a Society of Natural Historians which was formed in Adelaide about five years ago. It is high time they were doing something. From what we hear of other animals, it is clear that much remains to be done, and that even concerning the species apparently best known, much new and interesting information remains to be collected.

STEAMBOATS ON LAKE ONTARIO.—The following lists of steam vessels employed in the navigation of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence, include a list of those that have been so employed, from the first use of steam on those waters, whether built on the United States or the Canadian side. We are indebted for the statement to Mr. John Disturnell. The amount of tonnage propelled by

\* There is a single very small toe, high up on the outside of the legs, not easily seen in the dry specimens, — J. E. G.

steam, on the Canada side, will be seen to be not far from four times more than the amount belonging to the American side; a difference, which though in part accounted for, by the greater extent of waters exclusively Canadian, is still, notwithstanding this fact, a greater difference than would, we apprehend, have been generally supposed to exist.

The following is a list of American Steamboats, built and running on Lake Ontario, since their first introduction in 1816:—

When built.	Names.	Tons.	Where built.
1816	Ontario	400	Sackett's-harb.
1818	Sophia*	75	" "
1823	Märtha Ogden*	150	Brownville."
1830	Brownville*	150	" "
1831	Charles Carrol*	100	Sackett's-harb.
1831	Pimitoytates	150	Ogdensburgh.
1833	Black Hawk	200	French Creek,
	† Now named		olphin, and owned in
			Canada.
1834	Oswego†	400	Oswego.
	† Hull used as a timber ship.		
	John Marshall	60	Lake Erie.
1836	Oneida	300	Oswego.
1837	Telegraph	200	Dexter.
1839	St. Lawrence	450	Oswego.
1839	Express	150	Puttuceyville.
1841	George Clinton	100	Oswego.
1841	President	60	" "
1842	Lady of the Lake	425	" "
1843	Rochester	400	" "

Total tons.....4,120

**Ericson Propellers, running from Oswego to Chicago, (Il.)**

When built.	Names.	Tons.	Where built.
1841	Vandalia	150	Oswego.
1842	Chicago	150	" "
1842	Oswego	150	" "
1843	New York	150	" "

Total tons.....600

**British Government Vessels.**

When built.	Names.	Tons.	Where built.
1835	Traveller	350	Niagara.
1838	Experiment	150	" "
1842	Mohawk (iron ves)	150	Kingston.
1842	Cherokee:	700	" "

Total tons.....1,350

**List of British Steamboats, built and running on Lake Ontario.**

When built.	Names.	Tons.	Where built.
1816	Frontenac*	700	Kingston.
1817	Charlotte*	150	" "
1819	Dalhousie*	350	Prescott,
1824	Toronto*	200	Toronto.
1824	Queenston*	350	Queenston.
1825	(Canada)*	250	Toronto.
1830	Niagara*	400	Brockville.
1828	Alciops*	450	Niagara.
1829	Sir Jas. Kempt*	200	Kingston.
1830	Great Britain*	700	Prescott..
1831	Iroquois*	100	" "
1832	John By"	200	Kingston.
1832	William IVth	450	Gananoque.
1832	Transit	350	Oakville.
1833	Britan. (laid up)	200	Kingston.
1833	Cobourg	500	Cobourg.
1833	Brockville	350	Brockville.
1833	Kingston	200	Kingston.
1834	Com. Barrie†	275	" "
	† Lost in 1842.		
1834	Union	300	Oakville.
1835	St. George	400	Kingston.
1837	Sir Robert Peel†	350	Brockville.
	† Destroyed by the Patriots in 1838.		
1837	Gore	200	Niagara.
1838	Queen Victoria	200	" "
1839	Hen. Gildersleve	250	Kingston.
1840	Highlander	300	Coteau du Lac
1840	Albion	200	Brockville.
1840	America	300	Niagara,
1840	City of Toronto	500	" "
1840	Sovereign	475	" "
1841	Princess Royal	500	" "
1841	Canada	450	Prescott.
1841	Frontenac	200	Kingston.
1841	Sir Charles	200	" "
1842	Prince of Wales	200	" "
1842	Admiral	400	Niagara.
1842	C. Just. Robinson	400	" "
1843	Eclipse	400	" "

Total tons....12,600

In addition to the above list of British steamboats, of a large class, there are a number of smaller boats and Ericson Propellers, running from Kingston to Montreal, passing down the rapids of the St. Lawrence river, and returning through the Rideau canal, carrying an immense amount of produce, merchandise, and passengers. When the Beauharnois canal is completed, vessels of a large class can run direct from Montreal to the Upper Lakes.

\* Broken up.

## REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS, ETC.

*The Cape of Good Hope and the Eastern Province of Algoa Bay.*  
By John Centlivres Chase, Esq. London : P. Richardson, Cornhill.

**THE** recent outbreak of the **Dutch** Boers in the eastern division of the Cape of Good Hope, their attempt to establish themselves near Port Natal upon the **pretence** that it was without the Cape boundaries, their subsequent submission, and the annexation of Port Natal and the country down to Algoa Bay where the **first** settlements of the Portuguese begin, have necessarily attracted the attention of the public to those districts of the Cape, and the recent publication of the above work, by John **Centlivres** Chase, Esq. a **settler** of 1820, Secretary to the Society for exploring Central **Africa**, Author of a Map of the Colony, &c. &c. &c. which gives the most recent accounts of those districts, cannot **but** be **acceptable** to all those who take an interest in the legitimate and useful extension of our Colonial Empire.

The Work itself is preceded by a short introduction and preface, followed by an **account** of its discoveries and successive occupation; which, to our general readers, must be so well known as not to require any particular attention. To this succeed a general account of the colony, a particular description of the Eastern province, the location of the author, and a history of the origin and progress of a **small settlement** of something less than five thousand persons, who were sent out in 1820 by the Government, as it was then understood as an experiment, and **which**, if successful, was to have been followed by further **numbers**, **but which** does **not seem to have been** the case; this is much to be regretted, as it **is** very satisfactorily shown by Mr. Chase, that there is not only **room for** the **advantageous** location of almost any number **of** emigrants, but that by the increase of trade, both as to imports and exports, consequent upon an increase of settlers, any judicious and moderate outlay by the Government **would**, be **infinitely** more than **compensated**.

Had the Government experiment of 1820 been followed up, as it **ought to** have been, by further annual emigration, we should by 1843 have had such **an** accession of numbers of Englishmen, that the late Dutch outbreak and those at times most disastrous irruptions of the **Kaffres** never could have taken place, and the great expenses consequent upon the stationing so large a **military** force upon the frontier might have been avoided. Emigration, particularly to the Eastern district, should receive every encouragement from the Government at home, Lands should **be disposed** of at the most moderate price, or even given away to such parties as could furnish a guarantee that they intended to become real and bona-fide personal settlers.

How far the aborigines within our intended limits can be rendered of use or not in the extension of European **civilisation** may be somewhat problematical; **but** all those who choose to remain should be made strictly amenable to the English laws, which in every case ought to be introduced and enforced. A

new survey by a board of engineer officers, similar to those accomplished in England and Ireland, must be at once undertaken; all the Dutch or other foreign names of the divisions of the country, mountains, and rivers, ought to be done away with, and replaced by English ones, so that for the future no doubt can be entertained that we mean to make it in reality a thorough English colony; and if a proper encouragement shall then be given to emigrants, we shall find that the population, which now amounts to about 200,000, will rapidly increase to half a million at least, defying in war every attempt that any country may make to wrest it from us, and extending the commerce of the country in a most advantageous and eventually profitable manner.

The Cape of Good Hope is a most healthy country, and every way suitable to the English constitution and habits.; and it will be seen by reference to Major Tulloch's report on the health of soldiers stationed in our various colonies, that there are fewer casualties at the Cape than at any other.

Municipal institutions have been already introduced, and a general legislative council must follow, as no one now doubts that self-government is the most advantageous means of drawing out the greatest possible improvement of the country. Whilst a new and efficient survey shall be making of the interior, the line of coast ought also to be well examined, and the entrance to all the rivers correctly laid down on a chart. These measures ought to be undertaken and carried on entirely at the cost of the mother-country, and is a most legitimate expenditure. Emigrants have difficulties enough to contend with, and ought not to be expected to perform such works, and in the end it would be a great saving of expense; as then only the most proper sites for towns, either on the coast or in the interior, would be determined on, which to intending emigrants, as well as to those who are now in the country, would be of the greatest possible advantage.

The Home Government should also undertake a thorough scientific exploration of the country, so as to develop earliest, and in the most advantageous manner, all the mineral or other treasures that will no doubt be found to exist there, that a progress may be made in ten years fully equal to what is now accomplished in fifty; and the richer and more prosperous the colony, the more advantageous to the parent state.

The statement of population and stock of the colony in 1841 (page 78) is very satisfactory, but does not show its progressive increase, which would have been desirable.

The progress of improvement in the Eastern districts of Albany and Utenhaye was very terribly interrupted in 1834 by the inroads of the Kaffres, and property to an immense amount was destroyed. The natives can only be kept in order by an extended population, and is one of the greatest reasons that can be given why emigration to a large extent should have every encouragement.

The Government of the Cape, as a Crown colony, has hitherto been only responsible to the authorities at home; but it is to be hoped that a better system of things is about to be established, and that an independent legislation will shortly be granted, which is unquestionably the best for the general interest. The whole country must be divided into nearly equal counties, say from 5 to 600,000 acres in each, and whenever a country had attained a certain amount of population it should have a representative, and the different towns in the same proportion. The laws of England should be at once introduced and

acted on, and everything that was found to be opposed to them should be changed ; and if any special injury **is found** to arise to individuals, **compensation** should be made.

The statement of revenue and expenditure for the years 1839—40 exhibits many items that could, perhaps, be advantageously altered for **the** better; but all these matters would be well settled by a legislative council.

The religious establishments appear, for their present population, to be on a satisfactory footing; but these, with the schools, would receive an extension with an increase of population.

The press, periodical literature, agriculture, trade and commerce, internal and external, are all properly treated of, and very detailed **statements** are given of the wool trade, satisfactorily showing its great and **important** increase. Our limits prevent our giving extracts, which we should otherwise most heartily do, but we conclude our notice by strongly recommending to all those who take an interest in emigration in general, or that to the Cape in particular, to carefully peruse Mr. Chase's volume, and we promise them much pleasure and advantage from it.

There is a good map, upon a small scale, and many woodcuts; which much enhance the interest and value of the volume.

Great credit is due to Mr. Joseph S. Christophers, who undertook as Editor of the work, to bring it before the home public ; **siuce** from his extensive **know-**ledge of the Cape and its interests, it is evident that the volume has derived great advantage. If such a system in the publication of Colonial works were more extensively followed, we should **not** be troubled with so many **incon-****gruous** statements *as* are now **submitted** to the public: and the known respectability of Mr. Christophers is a further guarantee that the **statements** of Mr. Chase are entitled to the greatest credit, and may be fully **relied** on.

*Murray's Colonial and Home Library.- Parts 1 and 2, Borrow's Bible in Spain; 3 and 4, Bishop Heber's Diary.* London: J. Murray.

The united efforts of British authors and publishers **having** obtained from the legislature a rigid enforcement of a Copyright Protection Act, the reading **classes** in our Colonies, especially those of the British North American Provinces and the West Indies, have **been** deprived of those cheap reprints of English works, which were hitherto extensively **diffused** in a cheap form by the American printers; Mr. Murray has been the first to meet this new demand for popular works, by issuing a neat reprint of standard editions. But, although this is a great boon and concession to the Colonies, it does not go far **enough** in meeting the required demand. Mr. Murray's edition, it is true, is neat and portable, but it is not so low in price as to meet the American pirates on their own ground; it cannot circulate, **as** their reprints do, to the distant clearance **and** isolated log cabin of the settler by means of the post ; and moreover, **the** selection of works announced for publication does not **confirm** the new and current works of the day, but only those which have first been extensively circulated at home, until no further sale can be obtained for them.

Although five shillings may **appear** a very moderate price in England to book-buyers who are in the habit of paying their guinea and a half, **yet** it should be remembered, that before it can reach the parties among whom **it is**

principally intended to circulate, the cost of conveyance across the Atlantic, interest of money, booksellers' profits, and carriage into the interior of the country have to be superadded, which will almost double the selling price at home; and hence, the American reprints, which including postage, seldom cost more than one shilling or one shilling and six-pence for an entire work, will still have the advantage and continue to be extensively smuggled across the American frontier-an extent of country which it is impossible to guard, The Americans have this further advantage, that they produce and reprint with the smallest possible delay those **current** works which are the most popular at home, and not those, the copyrights of which have **expired**. The attention of the London publishers should be specially directed towards obtaining from the Government permission to have their works forwarded to the Colonies by the post, either by the agency of a stamp, or at a 'fixed moderate charge per sheet-Education has made, and is making, such rapid strides, and we are daily sending from our shores Colonists to people our possessions in the most distant parts of the world, who should be permitted to share in the literary advantages which the mother-country possesses in so **eminent** a degree.

We must further urge the claim of all our Colonies to a cheap edition of Standard Works. Why should Canada alone have the advantage of cheap English literature? Malta, the Cape of Good Hope, Australasia-all are interested in this matter; for the expense of conveyance, the high price of books, and the after charges, are almost prohibitions to the circulation of books in new Colonies, where money is seldom so plentiful, and libraries, reading rooms, and book clubs less common than with us. We may, probably, resume this subject hereafter, and have something to say on the monopoly of cheap editions of the Quarterlies **which** has, injudiciously, we **think**, been given to one large 'Canadian house.

**Pope's Yearly Journal of Trade, for 1844.**—London : Charles Albrecht.

-Every year shows a marked and manifest improvement in this old-established **annual** which we learn to look for **as** a regular attendant at our right-hand corner, and an essential work of reference on **the** state of trade and manufactures of the past year; as a manual of commerce-a guide-book to the Acts of Parliament, Treaties and Conventions, **Tariffs**, Orders in Council, Treasury **Minutes, &c.** it is highly important that such a work should be generally **circulated** and consulted. When we state that the index contains nearly five thousand references, we have said enough to convince those who have not seen the work (and they **must** be very few), that it must necessarily contain a vast fund of useful information.

**Paris and its People.** By the Author of "Random **Reollections** of the Lords and Commons," &c.—London : Saunders and Otley.

Mr. Grant appears to possess the pen of a ready-writer, for he dashes off his two or three volumes with a forty-horse power of book-making. That his **present** work will be extensively read we have not the least doubt, for Mr. Grant has the sleasing art of dressing up his narratives in that popular form which takes with the public of the present day. Whether these volumes will add to

his fame is another question. **Such** transient retrospects of manners and scenery as are acquired by a residence of a few weeks, can seldom possess that solidity and depth of observation **which** are so necessary to the right understanding of men and things. While we are ready to admit that our author possesses a ready facility of apprehension, and a **knowledge** of those salient points which offer the best field for description and discussion, we cannot but believe that he lends a too ready ear to all that is told him. The consequence of this **failing**, if we may so term it, **is**, that he too frequently records as facts, matters which, although we doubt not he fully believed to be correct at the time he recorded them, cannot but raise a smile among those whose experience **enables** them to call into question the authority of these assertions.' Such are the statements of the general employment of females **as** Government **clerks**—the want of attention to unmarried ladies—love-letters being unknown among all but the lower classes—the alleged compact between married couples as to the number of children—married women having the sole management of the business of their husbands, **&c.** The annual average number of suicides must certainly be erroneous; 600 is a large proportion of the population in **such** a city as Paris. The chapter on the Newspaper Press is faulty and incomplete, but probably as correct as could be expected **from** the short, cursory glance which Mr. Grant was enabled to bestow **on it**. But we are not desirous of finding fault, indeed there are many sensible and very judicious observations **dispersed** throughout these volumes, which will **fully** repay an attentive perusal.

***Geology for Beginners.*** By G. F. Richardson, F.G.S. **&c.** Second Edition, Longman & Co.

This work is written in so popular a form and is so well **known** to the public, that any commendation **from** us would appear a work of supererogation. The very fact of a second edition being called for, is a **sufficient** proof of the estimation in which the volume is held.

***A Cyclopædia*** of Commerce, **&c.** By Wm. Water & Co. — **Oliver and Boyd**, Edinburgh; **Simpkin and Marshall**, London.

We cannot better give an idea of the scope and object of this important and **well-arranged** volume than by an extract **from** the Preface:—"Its purpose is to present in a popular and accessible form a Digest of Commerce, Mercantile Law, Finance, and Commercial Geography. The work is **framed** with the view, not of instructing the merchant in relation to his own immediate and daily pursuits, but of placing within his reach information which it is always important, and **often necessary**, that he should possess,—which many engaged in active business might find it exceedingly difficult to procure elsewhere, and which being presented under an alphabetical arrangement, may be advantageously consulted even by those who **have** access to more expensive books." The best **sources** of information appear to have been consulted in the preparation of the work, and the details and the statistics are brought down to the latest possible period. In fact, it is one of those essential books of reference, without which no commercial library can be considered complete.