and the latter with France. The second invasion, the so-called 'Great Siberian Migration,' took place after the deposition of the continental boulder day in Central Europe, and the retreat of the glaciers, reaching only England, as Ireland and Norway had become detached by that time. A branch of this invasion reached Scandinavia from the east. The third invasion is still in progress, being most marked and most easily demonstrated along the shores of the Arctic Ocean, entering Scandinavia from the northeast over Finland and northern Russia, a comparatively recent connection between Norway and Siberia. The immigration of a number of birds and mammals into Scandinavia by this route was treated in detail, from both a historical and a distributional point of view.

Erwin F. Smith spoke of 'Sugar Beets in New York and Michigan,' describing the methods of beet cultivation and the various steps in the process of making beet sugar. As many as three hundred acres of beets were raised on one farm, and the daily output of one of the smaller factories was five tons. In theory, the speaker stated, the beet crop was one of the best possible for the land, since by utilizing the waste products of the sugar factory, the potash taken from the soil could be returned to it, but unfortunately in practice this was not done and the waste products, instead of being used, were in Michigan dumped into the streams. Beet diseases, it was said, were already a serious problem, causing serious losses to the farmer, and other diseases would doubtless be introduced from Germany, whence came most of the seed used in this country.

F. A. Lucas.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

The report of the Council states according tot he London *Times* that during the past year its time and attention had been largely occupied by business connected with matters of national and international scientific interest, in which her Majesty's Government had either directly sought the advice and assistance of the Society, or had itself given assistance and financial support to undertakings promoted by the Society in the interests of science. The operations of the National Physical Laboratory had been carried on in the buildings of the Kew Observatory. The control of the work carried on by the Kew Committee of the Royal Society was taken over by the executive committee from January 1st, and the property of that committee was made over to the Royal Society from that date. The committee, which was incorporated as a public company, has since been dissolved. The work at Kew Observatory had been continued in all its branches. After considerable discussion, plans for a physics building, at an estimated cost of £6,000, and an engineering laboratory, at an estimated cost of £4,000, were approved by the executive committee and submitted to the general board. Unfortunately, all these plans must be discarded, and very grave loss of time had been caused by the unexpected opposition to the erection of the laboratory in the Old Deer-park. Her Majesty's Treasury had now informed the Council that her Majesty was willing to assign the lease of Busheyhouse and the surrounding ground, thirty acres in extent, for the purpose of the National Physical Laboratory, and that the Government would increase the grant for building by £2,000 in order that the extensive alterations and repairs which would be necessary might be carried out. Though the Council regretted the decision of the Government not to erect the laboratory in the Deer-park, they recognized with gratitude that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to place at the disposal of the Society a site in which the work of the laboratory could be carried on, and they had, therefore, accepted the offer made to them by her Majesty's Treasury. The committee had to thank various donors for gifts. Sir Andrew Noble had contributed £1,000 for the purchase of apparatus. Dr. Isaac Roberts had given a spectroscope and two very valuable induction coils. Dr. Common had provided apparatus for determining the magnifying power and testing

* 'The Principles of Stratigraphic Geology,' by J. E. Marr, 1898, p. 98.

† See *Bull. Amer. Paleont.*, No. 13, November, 1900. Ithaca. 26 pp., 5 pl. Describes twenty new species of calciferous Gastropoda, Brachiopoda and Trilobites; also one new genus of Trilobita, all from the Mohawk Valley, usually considered unfossiliferous.

the collimation error of the telescopic sights, and had promised a large flat surface for optical work. Mrs. Sworn had given two thermometers (used by her late husband). The report dealt also with the disturbance of magnetic observatories by electric railways, the steel rails committee, and the national Antarctic Expedition. With respect to the latter it was stated that the commander of the expedition, Commander R. F. Scott, R.N., the head of the scientific staff, Professor Gregory, and three other officers had been appointed, and it was confidently hoped that the expedition would be ready to start by August, 1901, when the German Antarctic Expedition was also expected to sail. Funds had been raised exceeding £91,000, including the grant from her Majesty's treasury of £45,000. This fund was raised in view of an expedition lasting two years, but appeals were being made for more funds to enable the expedition to remain in the Antarctic for three years, for which the sum of £120,000 was required. The report also dealt with malaria, into which the results of the investigations had now been published in part. Other subjects were the 'Solar Eclipse of May 28, 1900,' and the 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature,' on which considerable progress had been made. Her Majesty's Government had guaranteed £1,000 a year for five years, 'to make good to the Royal Society a part of any loss which might be incurred by the publication of the proposed catalogue.' At the International Association of Academies, the first meetings of which were held at Paris on July 31 and August 1, 1900, the Royal Society was represented by Professor Rücker. As matters at present stood, the Royal Society being regarded as a scientific society only, the United Kingdom could only be represented on the scientific section of the Association. With respect to the Mackinnon Bequest it had been decided that the award should be in the nature of a studentship for the encouragement of research rather than a prize for the reward of past achievement, and tha the studentship (which at present amounted to about £150 per annum) should be devoted to the maintenance of a student engaged in research. Under the will of the late Professor Hughes, a bequest of £4,000 had been made to the Royal Society with a direction to award the income annually as a prize either in money or in the form of a medal, or partly one and partly the other, for the reward of original discovery in the physical sciences, particularly electricity and magnetism, or their applications, the prize or medal to be given under conditions to be fixed from time to time by the Society on lines similar to those followed in the bestowal of the Copley, Rumford and Royal medals. The report also dealt with terms of bequest, the apartments of the Society, electric lighting, the library, publications, the publication fund, the catalogue of scientific papers, the Government grant, general business and the presidency.

THE HARTMAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL COLLECTION.

THERE has just been exhibited at Stockholm a fine collection of archeologic and ethnographic objects from Central America, made by Dr. C. V. Hartman (formerly naturalist of the Lumholtz Expedition to North Mexico) at the instigation and expense of Engineer Åke Sjögren. In a short guide to the exhibition by Dr. Hj. Stolpe, we are told that Dr. Hartman began his researches in 1896 at Mercedes, where he discovered a large workplace for the manufacture of stone gods and other antiquities of unusual interest. Among those now exhibited are two standing figures of stone, the largest as yet brought to Europe from Central America, which were erected at the east end of a large oval tumulus, about 300 feet in circumference and covered with stone to a height of 22 feet. East of this was a rectangular court, walled with stone on three sides, with a cairn of about 90 feet in circumference and 12 feet in height in each of its eastern angles; and on the flat tops of these lay fragments of smaller statues. Afterwards Dr. Hartman went up to the high plateaux of the interior and investigated many cemeteries, especially those of Orosi, Chiricot (3,000 feet above sea level), Lemones and Santiago. The graves were examined in the most exact and scientific manner, such as had never before been attempted in these parts, and a foundation was thus laid for a chronological grouping of