

of contents. The technical nomenclature departs little from accepted usage, though it may be noted that the name *Cabassous* McMurtrie, 1831, is substituted for *Tatu* Blumenbach, 1799, *Manatus* Storr, 1780, for *Trichechus* Linnæus, 1758 (as applied to the manatee), and *Dicotyles* Cuvier, 1817, for *Tayassu* Fischer, 1814. The name *Trichechus*, though based on the manatee alone, is applied to the walrus. *Aplodontia* is altered to *Haplodontia* to conform with rules irrelevant to nomenclature, but *Reithrodontomys*, *Cynomys*, *tridecemlineatus* and doubtless many others, which on the same ground might be changed, are left in their correct original form. A single new name is proposed, *Balænoptera velifera copei* (page 13). As if to compensate for the brevity of the text, the book is illustrated with a profuseness hitherto unknown in similar works. The plates and text figures contain half-tone reproductions of photographs of the skull and teeth of at least one representative of nearly every genus and subgenus. The standard of excellence of these figures is very high, and no equally successful application of photography to zoological illustration on so extensive a scale has hitherto been made.

GERRIT S. MILLER, JR.

THE MARYLAND EOCENE BOOK.

THOSE who have had to deal with official geologic surveys know how frequently it is argued that publications of a character so purely scientific as paleontology appeal to a very limited audience, too limited, it is often urged, to justify the expenditure necessary for their proper production. The counter-argument, however, gets at the facts. Toward the close of the Second Geological Survey of Pennsylvania, after a cloud of volumes upon tectonics, economics and devitalized stratigraphy had been issued, Dr. Lesley prepared a 'Dictionary of Fossils,' profusely illustrated, suffused with important facts, amusing fancies and pages of errata, but a work of great usefulness. The demand created by the appearance of this book was so much greater than the supply that the edition was gone while its reportorial predecessors were resting on the shelves waiting for inquirers. In New York, Ohio and Illinois the experience has been very much the same.

'Maryland Geological Survey: Eocene' is the title of the first of a series of monographs upon the historical geology of Maryland, that is to say, its stratigraphy and fossils, in other words its paleontology. It seems eminently appropriate that the Eocene is chosen as the subject for the initial volume of this series in view of Professor Clark's exhaustive acquaintance with this formation. The state geologist, though taking a leading part in the composition and execution of the work has brought into cooperation with himself a number of experts in various special lines of research. Thus the leading chapter on Eocene stratigraphy and sequence, 'The Eocene Deposits of Maryland,' is by W. B. Clark and G. C. Martin. Under the part assigned to descriptive paleontology the chapters are as follows: Reptilia, by Case; Pisces, by Eastman; Arthropoda, and Bryozoa, by Ulrich; Mollusca, Brachiopoda and Echinodermata, by Clark and Martin; Cœlenterata, by Vaughan; Protozoa, by Bagg, and Plantæ, by Hollick. Ten plates of maps and half-tones illustrate the first part of the work, and fifty-four process plates, largely of McConnell's fine pen-and-ink drawings, are devoted to the fossils. Like the other volumes of Professor Clark's survey this is exquisitely constructed on finished lines and commends itself to lovers of well-made books, who will all pray that the supercalendered wood-paper used for the plates may last until the world has no further need of the facts registered upon them.

It is an admirable achievement, bringing together in one place all that is now known of the Eocene stratigraphy and fauna in an important political division, and long after the present quarry workings, coal mines and clay pits of Maryland shall have been exhausted and abandoned, and all the economic products of the State shall have been converted into cash, the facts here brought together will endure, with a never-lessening value to the sum of human knowledge. The book will receive a welcome from paleontologists and merits the cordial appreciation of the citizens and students of the State for whom it has been specially prepared.

JOHN M. CLARKE.