

tests that may be applied to determine in the easiest and quickest way what a mineral actually is, and others which, though they may be of equal scientific interest, are unimportant or inapplicable. In its detail the work is monographic and if this is what the author had in mind there is naturally nothing more to be said. Criticisms along these lines are often unfair, being based upon what a reviewer thinks he has a right to expect rather than what the author intends. Whatever may be one's views on these subjects there is always the comforting reflection that the information given is as accurate as the stage of the science will permit.

The make-up of the book is the same as that of the first edition. The paper and binding are good, the type clear, and the illustrations excellent. Petrographers are to be congratulated that so able an authority has found time to put the knowledge gained by many years of study and experience into a form available for students the world over.

GEO. P. MERRILL

*The British Nudibranchiate Mollusca.* By ALDER and HANCOCK; Supplement by SIR CHARLES ELIOT. London, Ray Society (Dulau & Co.) 1910. 4to. Pp. 198. 8 plates.

Of works on this attractive group of mollusca, that of Alder and Hancock is *par excellence*, the classic, not only on account of its exquisitely beautiful and accurate plates, but from its monographic character and correct anatomical details. Among the posthumous papers left by the two authors were notes and drawings preliminary to a supplement to the original work.

To forty-two of these drawings Sir Charles Eliot has added twenty-three new ones and supplied a text, the whole being sent out by the Ray Society with suggestions for the completion of imperfect copies of the old work possessed by individuals interested in the subject. The form is that of the original monograph and the quality of the plates fully equal to that of the first issue.

But the author has not been satisfied with

the preparation of a merely descriptive and corrective supplement. He has prefixed to the purely systematic portion chapters on variation and distribution, bionomics, embryology and larval stages, general classification of the group and an exhaustive discussion of the affinities and relationships of the animals concerned. These chapters not merely illuminate the subject but are from a merely literary standpoint presented in a form so clear and interesting as to be readable with pleasure by one having only a general knowledge of the mollusca. Such contributions to zoology are likely to invite study of the animals treated, and it is to be wished that works of this quality were more common.

WM. H. DALL

*Duc d'Orleans, Campagne arctique de 1907.*

Par CHARLES BULENS. Bruxelles. 1910-11.

*Etude lithologique*, par J. THOULET; *Echinodermes*, par JAMES A. GRIEG; *Mollusques et Brachiopodes*, par PHILIPPE DAUTZENBERG et HENRI FISCHER; *Microplankton des Mers de Barents et de Kara*, par le DR. ALPH. MEUNIER; *Faune des Mousses: Tardigrades*, par FERD. RICHTER; *Journal de Bord, et Physique du Globe*, par A. DE GERLACHE, etc.; *Appendice, Sondages de 1909*, par A. DE GERLACHE; planches et cartes.

The steamer *Belgica*, well known for her explorations in the Antarctic seas, has been engaged in Arctic exploration of late years, under the auspices of the Duke of Orleans and commanded by Commandant A. de Gerlache de Goméry. In 1907 the expedition left the northern coast of Norway at Hammerfest and Vardö, crossed the Murman Sea, circumnavigated the southern island of Novaia Zemlia, skirted the west coast of the northern island, penetrated to about latitude 78° in the Polar Sea, taking numerous soundings, before returning to Norway. In 1909 hydrographic explorations and soundings were made in the Greenland seas. By the munificence of the patron of the expedition the scientific results of the work are appearing in a series of finely illustrated and beautifully printed quartos. A summary of the titles of those which have