tries outside of the United States. Naturally, from the contiguity of Canada, the largest number of those foreign members reside there, the list showing 230 names of residents of Canada. This number is larger than the total membership of the Royal Society of Canada, which, however, limits its membership. But it is small in comparison with the total membership of the Association, although not insignificant in view of the fact that no meetings have been held in Canada since the last Toronto meeting thirty-two years ago. After the meeting of 1889, the next following list contained 85 names of members and fellows resident in Canada. While only seven of these 85 persons now survive as members, the present Canadian membership of 230 indicates that accessions have been increasing, and doubtless there will be further increases as a result of the meeting about to be held.

The place of the meeting is also a reminder that the Geological Society, at the time of the last meeting in Toronto, took a step toward organization as an independent body, which was the beginning of a movement that has eventually contributed to the remarkable growth of the Association. The recently issued volume shows that in addition to the large membership of nearly 12,000, there are now 93 affiliated and associated societies, most of which have been organized since 1889.

A. F. Hunter

Normal School Building,
Toronto, Nov. 15, 1921

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

The Life of the Pleistocene or Glacial Period. By Frank Collins Baker. University of Illinois Bulletin, vol. XVII., No. 41; June 7, 1920, iii, 476 pp. 8, pl. 1–57. Urbana, Illinois.

This portly volume is divided into two parts, the first including beside a historical summary of preceding researches an account of the postglacial geology and life of the Chicago area, followed by a résumé of our present knowledge of the postglacial life of the entire glaciated region of the United States and Canada. Each locality investigated is taken up separately, its stratigraphy and fossil content described and listed, and at the end of each chapter the collected data are summarized.

In the second part the life of the interglacial intervals is discussed and the species of plants and animals listed from data furnished by an indefatigable search of all available literature.

The difficulties attending the reduction to a common nomenclature of the records extending over many years, can easily be understood and the author frankly acknowledges that in some cases his judgment may have been at fault, but such instances do not materially affect the general conclusions and are inevitable in any such bringing together of scattered data of varying degrees of authenticity. The volume concludes with a bibliography of forty-five pages, covering the literature from 1846 to the date of publication and an ample index. Among the plates are interesting maps showing the fluctuations of the geographical features of the Chicago area and the region about Toronto, as well as the extensions at numerous periods of the continental ice sheet. It would have added to the convenience of those who use the volume if legends had been added to the plates, obviating the necessity of turning back in each instance to the printed explanation.

Much of the work, and presumably of the most carefully observed and valuable part of it, is the result of field work prosecuted by the author. The labor involved in the search for and correlation of the data in the literature was evidently prodigious, and reflects credit on the industry and patience of the author. His work in bringing together in orderly shape the data bearing on his subject will be a boon to all later students of the American Pleistocene. We may be permitted to regret the instrusion in a scientific work of a few of the "simplified spelling" futilities; we really *ot* not to imply that *thot* renders either the sound or the meaning of the word *thought*.

Wm. H. Dall