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EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. ALFRED BELL has presented to the Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge, a manuscript catalogue compiled by himself of the Newer Tertiary Flowering Plants of Great Britain; in each case localities and geological horizons are recorded. The catalogue will be available for reference by those desiring to consult it, but since only one copy exists this cannot be allowed to leave the Museum. Mr. Bell hopes to compile a similar catalogue of the flowerless plants.

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At the risk of becoming tedious and to avoid misunderstanding, we find it necessary to refer once again to the subject of illustrations in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE. We wish to emphasize the fact that under present economic conditions plates must be considered a luxury, and with much regret we are compelled to insist on a strict rule that all such must be paid for by the author, the approximate cost of a plate being about £4. With regard to text-figures the situation is that the cost of a line-block is about the same as that of an equivalent amount of type; therefore, we wish to urge on contributors the desirability of illustrating their papers by means of line drawings instead of photographs. For such we shall henceforth make no extra charge, and in our opinion as a rule drawings are much more effective than photographs for nearly all geological purposes: they enable the artist to emphasize the essential points and to omit extraneous details which only serve to distract attention from the real object of the illustration.

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ONE of the most notable signs of the times with regard to the recent progress of geology in this country is the extent to which discussions of theoretical questions of petrogenesis are now being transferred to meetings of technical societies and to the periodicals specially devoted to economic geology. We wish to refer specially to the animated debates that have recently enlivened the proceedings of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy and to some excellent papers on petrological subjects in the pages of the *Mining Magazine*. Although some of the ideas put forward in these quarters are doubtless heretical, they do at any rate show originality and thought. It is by way of heresy that progress is made. It is greatly to be feared, however, that many geologists never see these publications, and for that reason attention is called to them here. A theory is not necessarily negligible because it is based on economic data, and the future of petrology is likely to be underground.