Dr. Günther, F.R.S., the Keeper of the Zoological Department, for the facilities which they have placed at our disposal while working in the Museum, and for the use of the rich national collection, without which it would have been scarcely possible to carry on the work.

We are further under great obligations to Professor A. M. Marshall, F.R.S., of the Owens College, and to the authorities of the Normal School of Science and Royal School of Mines, especially Mr. G. B. Howes, F.L.S., for kind permission to make use of their laboratories and appliances for purposes of anatomical and histological investigation.

With reference to his share in the preparation of this Report Mr. Ridley desires to add the following note :—

"Works like the present, produced by a joint authorship, differ in some respects from those otherwise produced, and I wish to say a few words with regard to my own connection with the Report, and especially to the views expressed in it.

"At the time at which it became necessary for another worker to share the labour in order satisfactorily to complete the work, I had done no more than study as carefully as my somewhat limited time and means allowed the classificatory characters of most of the species, and in a few cases also their minute anatomy and histology, and had decided on the novelty or the nomenclature (in the case of the old species) of most of the forms below treated of. The results thus obtained proved to require considerable modification, and the credit of presenting the work in its present form is mainly due to Mr. Dendy, who has studied afresh all the species and mastered their characteristics, besides undertaking by far the greater part of the labour involved in the 'production' of the Report.

"With regard to theoretical views, where any such are referred to in the following pages, either explicitly or by implication, my own position is that references to 'affinity,' 'genetic relationship,' 'development' 'acquisition,' &c., are only to be taken, so far as I am individually concerned, as convenient methods of expressing the phenomena presented to us, and as involving merely hypothetical interpretations of the processes which may be conceived to have taken place in the past history of these organisms; the theory of evolution appears to me to give an extremely reasonable and very possibly true, but as yet not fully demonstrated explanation of these phenomena, except, perhaps, in the case of some book-species, which ought not to be separated from each other. I hold the view that 'theories are convenient bases on which to group facts,' but further consider that facts acquire an additional interest when they are studied with the object of testing theories, and perhaps attain their greatest importance when it is possible to use them inductively, viz., for the construction or confirmation of general laws."