THE EARLY TERTIARY VOLCANOES OF THE ABSAROKA RANGE.*

It is, I suppose, accepted by many geologists that volcanic energy has played an important part not only in bringing about the present configuration of the Rocky Mountains, but in building up the entire northern Cordillera, stretching from the Front Range, along Colorado, Wyoming and Montana, westward to the Pacific Ocean. Over this wide area the volcanic phenomena of Tertiary time present a varied and complex mode of occurrence, offering from different points of view many problems of geological interest. These problems have been vigorously attacked both in the field and in the laboratory, and something has been accomplished tending toward their final elucidation.

The literature upon the subject is already voluminous, being scattered widely through the publications of official reports, both State and National, and in the proceedings of scientific societies. While I desire to call your attention to some of these features, I do not propose to summarize the work that has already been done in this direction in a manner which is perhaps usual on occasions like the present. Neither do I wish to review the field from my own standpoint, possibly because, although much has been accomplished, such a vast amount of work remains to be done that the broad

*Address of the President before the Geological Society of Washington, February, 1899.