

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1896.

RELATIONS OF GEOLOGIC SCIENCE TO EDUCATION.*

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INTRODUCTION.

THE custom has been established which requires the retiring President of this Society, as other societies which have for their purpose the advancement of science, to set forth his views concerning matters related to the interests which the association seeks to promote. This custom evidently rests on the reasonable presumption that the officer during his term of service has been led by his duties to consider how the cause which he represents may be promoted, how its store of truth may be enlarged, and in what manner it may best be made to serve the interests of mankind. This task may be essayed either by a survey of the work which has recently been accomplished in the science, with appropriate comment on the trends and results of the endeavors, or the essayist may restrict his undertaking to some one portion of the field with which he is conversant in the hope that he may be able to present the fruits of his own labors in a way which is likely to be profitable to others. For various reasons I have chosen the latter of these alternatives and have taken for my subject the relations of geological science to education. Under this title I shall not only include those questions

* Annual Address by the President, N. S. Shaler, Read before the Geological Society of America, December 27, 1895.