

Mr. DARWIN.—A deputation from the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union recently waited upon Mr. Darwin at his residence, Down, Beckenham, Kent, for the purpose of presenting him with an address, expressive of admiration for his long devotion to scientific research, and appreciation of the great and important results to which his investigations have led. The deputation consisted of Dr. Sorby, F.R.S., of Sheffield, vice-president of the Union; and Messrs. George Brook, ter., F.L.S., of Huddersfield, W. Cash, F.G.S., of Halifax, J. W. Davis, F.L.S., F.G.S., of Halifax, and Thomas Hick, B.A., B.Sc., of Harrogate. Professor Williamson, F.R.S., of Owens College, Manchester, who is the president of the Union for the current year, was prevented from accompanying the deputation by the pressure of his professional duties. The deputation was received in a most hearty manner by the great naturalist himself, Mrs. Darwin, and other members of the family. Dr. Sorby introduced the members of the deputation to Mr. Darwin, and stated that the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, on whose behalf the deputation appeared, was a confederation of natural history and kindred societies which are located in various towns in the great county of York. It was originally formed in 1861, but was reorganized and renamed in 1877, and at present there are 27 societies in the Union, with an aggregate of about 1,500 members. The address was then read by Mr. Thomas Hick, and formally presented to Mr. Darwin by Dr. Sorby. Replying to the address, Mr. Darwin assured the deputation of his deep sense of the honour the Yorkshire Naturalists' Union had conferred upon him on that occasion, and only regretted that he had not done something more deserving of such an honour. He had no idea, previously, that there was so strong a body of working naturalists in Yorkshire, but was pleased to learn that such was the fact, and to find from the Transactions that had been forwarded to him that they were doing useful work. Coming from such a body, the address was all the more gratifying to him, though he still feared he hardly merited the good things that had been said of him. The address which had been presented to him he and his family would for ever treasure and preserve, and he desired to express his warmest thanks both to the deputation and those whom they represented for it, and for the kind and considerate manner in which everything connected with it had been arranged.