Nineteenth Century Biological Thought (review)*—The publication of Dr. Loren Eiseley's " Darwin's Century " in the centenary year of the " Origin of Species " may suggest that it deals with that hundred years, 1859–1959. That is not so. It is a survey of the biological thought of the century in which Darwin lived and worked and is of particular value not merely in putting Darwin's contribution in its proper setting, but in giving a clear and concise account of the near-evolutionary climate of the first half of the century. The period between Lamarck and Darwin is a perplexing one for the student: Dr. Eiseley has put us in his debt for elucidating it in so readable a style.

B. L. BURTT.

Great French Naturalists (review)†—Buffon and Tournefort have been chosen for the first two volumes in this new series, which appears under the editorship of Prof. Roger Heim. In each volume a number of different authors contribute essays dealing with varied aspects of the life and work of the naturalist concerned. Botanists will be particularly grateful for the volume on Tournefort. His reputation rests safely on the great Institutiones Rei Herbariae, but the practical use of that work suffered from the introduction of the Linnaean system of nomenclature. Tournefort's prodigious travels in the Iberian Peninsula, the Aegean and Asia Minor, and the quality of the observations made in the course of them, entitle him to be ranked as the greatest of the pre-Linnaean field-botanists.

The volume on Buffon is printed on rather inferior paper but that on Tournefort is excellently produced and additions to this valuable series will be awaited with interest.

B. L. BURTT.

* Darwin's Century, by Loren Eiseley. London, Gollancz. 1959. Pp. xx+378. Price: 21 shillings.

† Buffon by L. Bertin et al. Paris, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle. 1952. Pp. 244, 25 plates. Price: 2,000 francs (1,600 frs. in France).

Tournefort by G. Becker et al. Paris, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle. 1957. Pp. 321, 47 plates (1 coloured). Price: 4,400 francs (3,900 frs. in France).