

presence of what we call 'Nature', with her never failing loveliness as our delight. To others too she is a joy, though most men think of her beauty and beauty only. To the geologist, however, she tells the story which is written over like a palimpsest, a story which we can but dimly read which haunts and calls with the calling of the half unknown. But even that is definite and tangible beside the pervading mystery of Nature as an outward and visible, standing forth an inward and invisible. For those to whom that vision comes their work takes a spiritual exaltation. They have seen -

"Glories of the flashing of the shield, the earth
And common face of Nature speaks to them of
Rememberable things".

Is Scientific Fraud to be Glossed Over ?

Strange things are happening in the Panjab in the political as well as the academic scene. Professor V.J. Gupta who had stunned the academic world by his various acts of alleged scientific fraud of a serious nature is once again the limelight. A year ago he was placed under suspension as a consequence of the exposure of his guilt. It was expected that the University, after taking such an action, although belatedly, would take effective steps to hold an enquiry and come out with the truth. Instead, we find that after a whole year of inaction, the erring professor has been reinstated. Strangely, the reports of the two committees which went in to the allegations — the one constituted by the Geological Survey of India and the other headed by Dr. Paintal, past president of the National Science Academy — have not been published. This is most unfortunate and does not speak well of the progress of earth science studies in this country. We will be failing in our duty if we refrain from pointing out the serious damage being caused to the pursuit of healthy geological research by suppressing truth. Should scientific fraud be glossed over in this manner? Should Indian palaeontology continue to be under a cloud ?