

Bisham at 351 feet above the sea, Maidenhead, Kingston, Wimbledon, and Dartford Heath.

2. "On the Plateau-Gravel south of Reading." By O. A. Shrubsole, Esq., F.G.S.

This paper contains observations on the gravel of the Easthampstead-Yately plateau. The constituent elements of the gravel are described, and the author notes pebbles of non-local material near Cæsar's Camp, Easthampstead, on the Finchampstead Ridges, and at Gallows Tree Pit at the summit of the Clobham Ridges plateau. He mentions instances of stones from the gravel of the plateau (described in the paper) which may bear marks of human workmanship. He furthermore argues that the inclusion of pebbles of non-local origin in the gravels may be due to submergence of the plateau up to a height of at least 400 feet above present sea-level, and cites other facts in support of this suggestion. He concludes that the precise age of the gravel can only be more or less of a guess, until the mode of its formation has been definitely ascertained.

3. "A Fossiliferous Pleistocene Deposit at Stone, on the Hampshire Coast." By Clement Reid, Esq., F.L.S., F.G.S. (Communicated by permission of the Director-General of the Geological Survey.)

This is practically a supplement to a paper, "On the Pleistocene Deposits of the Sussex Coast," that appeared in the last volume of the Quarterly Journal. An equivalent of the mud-deposit of Selsey has now been discovered about 20 miles farther west, and from it have been obtained elephant-remains, and some mollusca and plants like those found at Selsey. Among the plants is a South European maple.

OBITUARY.

DR. OTTOMAR NOVÁK.

BORN NOVEMBER 16TH, 1851. DIED JULY 29TH, 1892.

AN enthusiastic clear-minded student of Palæozoic fossils, including the Phyllocarids, in which the writers have been especially interested, has unfortunately passed away at the early age of 42. When last he wrote to one of us, in April, 1892, after his paper on the *Discinocaris Doslana* had been published in the GEOL. MAG., he said "I am somewhat better this year and hope to recover completely during the summer." How sadly this hope was frustrated we know by his death in July of that year.

Dr. Ottomar Novák was Conservator of the Geological Collections in the Museum of Prague during the years 1885-6. He filled the chair of Geology in the University of Prague 1888-92, and was continuing the researches of the illustrious Barrande in the Silurian faunas of Bohemia at the time of his death.

The following is a list of some of the Scientific papers published by Dr. Novák :—

1. Remarques sur le Genre *Aristozoë*, Barrande (Sitzungsber. k. böhm. Gesell. Wissen. Jahrgang, 1885) showing that *Bactropus longipes*, Barrande, and *Ceraticocaris debilis*, Barr., constitute the abdominal segment and caudal appendage of *Aristozoë Regina*, Barr.
2. Nouveau Crustacé Phyllocaride de l'Etage F—f 2 en Bohême (Sitz. k. böhm. Ges. Wiss. Jahrg. 1885. Prag, 1885). *Ptychocaris simplex* and *Pt. parvula*.

3. Zur Kenntniss der Fauna der Etage F—f 1 in der paläozoischen Schichtengruppe Böhmens (Sitz. k. böhm. Ges. Wiss. Jahrg. 1886. Prag, 1886).
Machæracanthus Bohemicus, Barrande, removed from *Ctenacanthus*.
 Added to the Faunal List, which is given in full, as consisting of 128 species:—
Gyroceras Kayseri, nov. sp.
Tentaculites acuaris, Richter.
Hyolithes (Orthotheca) intermedius, nov. sp.
Aristozöe solitaria, nov. sp.
Ceratiocaris modesta, n. sp. MS.
 — *Damesi*, n. sp. MS.
- Nautilus Alinae*, nov. sp., from Etage E—e 2, is also figured and described in the Appendix. The relationship of *Cryptocaris* to *Hyolithes*, as its operculum, is fully proved (see also Prof. Novák's Memoir on the Tentaculites of the Silurian strata of Bohemia in the Beiträge zur Paläontologie Oesterreich-Ungarns, vol. ii. 1882).
4. Note sur Phasganocaris, nouveau Phyllocaride de l'Etage F—f 2, en Bohême. (Sitz. k. böhm. Ges. Wiss. Jahrg. 1886. Prag, 1886).
5. On the Occurrence of a new form of *Discinocaris* in the Graptolitic Beds of the "Colonie Haidinger" in Bohemia (GEOL. MAG. Dec. III. Vol. IX. No. 334, August, 1892).

Most of Dr. Novák's valuable discoveries in the history of the Phyllocarids have been noticed in our Reports to the British Association. (See also Neues Jahrb. 1893, pp. 1–6.)

H. W. and T. R. J.

HENRY FRANCIS BLANFORD.

HENRY FRANCIS BLANFORD was born in 1834 in Bouverie Street, Whitefriars, where his father had a manufactory, now the "Daily News" Printing Office. His early education was obtained at private schools in Brighton and Brussels, and after studying for some time at the old School of Design in Somerset House he joined the Royal School of Mines at its first commencement in 1851, and a life that might otherwise very possibly have been devoted to art, for he was an admirable draughtsman, was thenceforward gained to science. At the Royal School of Mines he took the first place in his year, and received the Duke of Cornwall's Scholarship, then the only prize. After a year's study in Freiberg and another year in London, which he employed in preparing a translation of Scheerer's work on the blowpipe, his first publication, he was appointed to the staff of the Geological Survey of India together with his brother, Mr. W. T. Blanford, and landed in Calcutta at the end of September, 1855.

Almost immediately after their arrival in India, the two brothers and Mr. W. Theobald were despatched to examine and report upon an almost unknown Coalfield around Talchir in Orissa. The work done was chiefly memorable geologically for one discovery, that of the Talchir Boulder bed, and for the circumstance that, chiefly through Mr. H. F. Blanford's observations, the first step was taken towards the classification of the remarkable series of beds associated with the Indian Coal-bearing rocks, for both the underlying Talchir division and an overlying mass were separated from the Damuda or true Coal-bearing beds. For some time after this Mr. H. F. Blanford was engaged in Calcutta in charge of the Survey Office and was occupied with Palæontological work in the Museum; but in 1857 he was placed at the head of a strong survey party that was despatched to Madras, and he was chiefly engaged for the next three