

Again, referring to the Himalayas and the plains south of that range, Mr. Osmond Fisher says (Ch. x., "Physics of the Earth's Crust"): "The conclusion seems irresistible that, corresponding to the long though occasionally interrupted depression of the plains, a correlative elevation of the great range, which has supplied the deposits, has been going on." This seems to me totally at variance with Mr. Reade's theory of contraction by denudation.

9, PEMBROKE VALE, CLIFTON.

ARTHUR VAUGHAN.

OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR ALLEN HARKER, F.L.S.

BORN 1848.

DIED DECEMBER 19TH, 1894.

By the early death of Allen Harker, the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester has lost one of its most active and popular Professors. Appointed in succession to Dr. Fream, in August, 1881, Prof. Harker soon gained the esteem and affection of all his students by his admirable courses of instruction, both in the field and in the lecture-room, and by his genial character. It is no easy task now-a-days to teach Botany, Zoology, and Geology; and even when lessons are restricted to their special applications to Agriculture, the work of the Professor is necessarily of an arduous nature. Prof. Harker, however, carried on his labours with much enthusiasm, and devoted all the time he could to researches on those subjects with which he had to deal in his lectures. He made known, through the Proceedings of the Cotteswold Club, of which he was an active member, many new facts in the local geology. He first drew attention to the fine exposure of the Kellaways Beds in a new railway cutting at South Cerney, where many large "doggers" or concretions of calcareous sandstone were opened up, and where a number of fossils were obtained. Other sections of Cornbrash, Forest Marble, and Great Oolite displayed in cuttings along the same railway between Cirencester and Chedworth, were also described by Prof. Harker, and he discovered in the Great Oolite traces of the organism determined to be *Solenopora* by Prof. H. A. Nicholson, and subsequently described as *S. jurassica* by Dr. Alexander Brown.¹

In Cirencester itself the records of various well-borings occupied Prof. Harker's attention, and he was enabled by the account of the strata and their fossils, to determine the presence of a small faulted tract of Oxford Clay and Kellaways Beds that had previously escaped notice.

When, in 1887, during the Presidency of Mr. F. W. Rudler, the Geologists' Association paid a visit to Cirencester and its neighbourhood, Prof. Harker acted as guide in the excursions made to Birdlip, to the Royal Agricultural College, and to South Cerney.

He died, after a painful illness, on December 19th, 1894, aged 46.

¹ See Harker, Proc. Cotteswold Club, vol. x. p. 89; H. B. Woodward, Memoir on the Lower Oolitic Rocks of England, p. 290; and Brown, GEOL. MAG. Dec. IV. Vol. I. 1894, p. 150.