

FOSSILS AND GARNETS.

SIR,—On p. 165 of the current volume of this Magazine we read that to the writer of the article there printed “it is very difficult to understand how such a fossil as a belemnite could have retained its characteristic form while molecular changes of such importance were taking place in the matrix of the rock The results of contact-metamorphism most nearly resemble the crystalline schists. In them, so far as my [the writer’s] experience goes, garnet, and still more staurolite, are not formed until the materials of the rock have undergone such great molecular changes as to obliterate all traces of a sedimentary origin”

On p. 140 of “*Études Synthétiques de Géologie expérimentale par A. Daubrée*,” dated 1879, we read statements which when translated into English are to the following effect:—

“It is well known that the crystallization that is brought about by the proximity of eruptive rocks has not always effaced the traces of the fossils. There still remain very distinct vestiges of them in the middle of rocks crowded with crystalline silicates. One need only recall the fossiliferous Silurian limestone of Norway, which contains at Brevig paranthine and garnet, and at Gjellebeck amphibole and epidote and lastly, in the Vosges the amphibole rock of Rothau, in which the corals have been replaced, without being deformed, by crystals of amphibole, garnet, and axinite. In some places the rock now consists entirely of a mixture of lamellar pyroxene, epidote, and compact garnet, with flecks of galena. In the middle of this rock, composed entirely of silicates of this nature, I have recognized perfectly preserved impressions of numerous corals (more especially of *Calamopora spongites*, Goldf.) and *Flustras* More than this, the very cavities left by the partial disappearance of the calcareous matter of these corals are lined with crystals of the same minerals as form the bulk of the rock

“Now it is the same thing in the case of the crystalline masses we are considering MM. Lardy and Strider have found in the neighbourhood of St. Gotthard belemnites in the middle of micaceous schists with garnets.”

VERBUM SAP.

 OBITUARY.

JOHN STORRIE, A.L.S.

BORN 1844.

DIED MAY 2, 1901.

JOHN STORRIE, for many years Curator of the Cardiff Museum, and an earnest worker at the natural history of Glamorganshire, was born at Muiryett, in Lanarkshire. His early years were spent at Glasgow, where he was apprenticed to the printing-trade, and about the year 1872 he found employment in the *Western Mail* printing works at Cardiff. The writings of David Page had given to Storrie an interest in geology, and he pursued the subject with zeal when he came to reside in South Wales. The Silurian rocks of