

plained by Mr. Forbes in a recent number of the Popular Science Review, and previously by Professor Jukes in his Manual. The reviewer in the Quarterly Journal of Science, by the context, would seem to be quite aware of the proper difference between Lithology and Petrology, my only excuse, therefore, for occupying any of your space is the vague way he expresses himself, which undoubtedly must mislead all young geologists.

G. H. KINAHAN.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF IRELAND,  
RECESS, CONNEMARA.

#### THE FETISH WORSHIP OF FOSSILS.

SIR,—The subject-matter of my letter, as indicated by the above heading, has upon various occasions pressed itself on my notice during my visits to collections belonging to private individuals, but more especially to soi-disant scientific persons, in various parts of England; and I think that a ventilation of it may do good by calling attention to a reform which is much needed.

First of all, I will describe what I have seen in some of the "Arcanas of Science." Imagine a series of glass-cases and drawers crammed with specimens augmented in number in a *duplicate* ratio, guiltless of labels, piled one on another, "in confusion worse confounded," suggestive alike of the interior of a *marine* store, and of an attempt to give a practical illustration of the probable scheme of Creation according to the Mosaic account. These collections belong to Fossilists whose ignorance of Palæontology reminds one of the Naturalists of the old school, whom the late E. Forbes used to describe as examining animals as though they were merely skins filled with straw, and whose scientific acumen displays itself in estimating the worth of a specimen by its *uniqueness*. The "*minatus amor natendi*" is strong in the minds of these worthies, and to part with any of their duplicates would be in their opinion to run the risk of losing a future chance of immortalizing themselves as the fortunate possessors of some new and *unique* species.

It is probable that I may have cast upon me the dregs of the "odium theologicum" which was poured out from the "phials of wrath" with such remarkable success during the late election; but if I can procure for some neglected pre-Adamite relic "a *local habitation and a name*" in some county museum, which would otherwise be fated in all probability to point a moral and adorn a grotto in a country village, I shall consider myself amply recompensed.

Example being better than precept, let me refer to the munificent gift of fossils lately made to the Norwich Museum by one of your reverend contributors.

PHILO-TAXIS.

BOGOTA TRANS-AYONENSIS, January, 1869.

#### OBITUARY.

GEORGE VICTOR DU NOYER.—On the third day of January, at Antrim, where he was engaged superintending the Geological Survey of the North of Ireland, died George Victor Du Noyer, M.R.I.A.,

F.R.G.S.I., etc. etc.; District Surveyor of H.M. Geological Survey of Ireland. This gentleman's name is well known in connection with not only the Geology but also the Archæology of Ireland; and there is scarcely a work that has been published within the last quarter of a century on either of these subjects in which Ireland is mentioned but his name appears. About thirty years ago, when still quite a boy, he was appointed to the Geological Branch of the Ordinance Survey of Ireland, then commenced under the superintendance of the late General Portlock. After that branch was given up he served for some time on the Archæological Section of the same service under the great Petrie, and subsequently, when the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom was resumed under the superintendance of the late Sir Henry de la Beche, he again joined the Irish branch of that service, and continued on it until his sudden and regretted early death by scarlet fever after four days' illness. Mr. Du Noyer, on account of his long period of service, was more or less acquainted with the whole of Ireland, and has enriched many of the Memoirs of the Survey with his spirited Geological Sketches. They will also be found in "Murchison's Siluria," "Jukes' Manual," "Jukes' Popular Geology," and many other works on the same subject; while Griffith's and M'Coy's Palæontological Plates owe much to his pencil. Formerly he published many valuable and interesting papers in the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, the Proceedings of the Dublin Geological Society, the Geologist, etc.; but of late years he has altogether confined himself to writing for the Memoirs of the Government Survey, save a few short papers read before the Royal Geological Society of Ireland and the Geological Society of London.

While engaged in the geological examination of Ireland, a love of archæology having been imbibed during his early life with Petrie, he studied and sketched the ancient structures both historic and pre-historic, and has established for himself a lasting monument in *The Du Noyer Sketches*. These consist of six large volumes of original drawings, which he presented to the Royal Irish Academy, and for this generous and patriotic act he was presented with its life membership. He was also one of the original members of the "Kilkenny Archæological Society," now the "Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland," and at the time of his death was their provincial Honorary Secretary for the province of Ulster. During his geological researches in the Dingle promontory, he discovered the pre-historic city of Faha, of which he made elaborate drawings and plans illustrative of its cahers, raths, cloghauns, etc. Subsequently he wrote an account of them and read it before the British Association at their last meeting in Dublin, which afterwards was published by the Archæological Society of London. While in the county of Meath, he superintended the opening of the pre-historic carns Je Danaan at Lough Crew, and made minute drawings of the numerous archaic sculptures that covered the sides and pillars of the internal chambers of these ancient tombs. Of this discovery, only a short notice, with a few of the most characteristic sketches was published in the

journal of the Kilkenny Archæological Society. However, it was intended to publish a full account, but the death of the proprietor, Mr. Nappen, of Loughern, delayed it, and now it is to be hoped that the lamented and early death of Mr. Du Noyer will not deprive the archæological world of this treat. Of late years he had paid particular attention to the Megalithic structures known by the general name of Cromlechs, and was publishing in the Journal of the Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland an interesting and most instructive series of papers showing their mode of construction and their uses.

The principle official geological publications with which Mr. Du Noyer was connected, are as follows:—Forty-eight sheets of the Map of Ireland, with seventeen memoirs. Of the latter, those calling for special notice are the explanations to accompany sheets 102 and 112; sheets 160, 161, and 172; sheets 167, 168, 178, and 179; sheet 184; also sheets 185, 186. The two last memoirs illustrate the parts of Cork and Kerry in the neighbourhood of the far-famed lakes of Killarney, they being enriched by thirteen of the author's sketches—all so spirited, that it is impossible to say which is the best, besides numerous maps and diagrams. The first of those enumerated above illustrates parts of the counties of Dublin and Meath; the second, the Dingle promontory in the county of Kerry, and the third, parts of the counties of Waterford, Wexford, Kilkenny, and Tipperary. To the last two, we would draw particular attention, more especially on account of the sketches, which for truthfulness and artistic skill will be rivalled in few, if any, geological works, and the loss of whose author will, we fear, subtract not a little from the beauty and interest of the future memoirs of the Geological Survey of Ireland.

Mr. Du Noyer was of French extraction, he being the lineal descendant of the Chevalier du Noyer, his ancestors having come to Ireland as refugees. He was a Royal Arch Mason, having been initiated into that ancient order under the warrant of the Clonmel Lodge. By his death the post of District Surveyor of the Geological Survey of Ireland is vacant. In the middle of December he delivered interesting and instructive lectures to the inhabitants of Belfast. At the first meetings in this year both the members of the Royal Irish Academy and of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland had to lament the loss of one of their most eminent fellows, and—to many—of an intimate friend. At the meeting of each of these Societies his extreme private worth and his valuable services to his adopted country were mentioned, and resolutions were passed that the influences of the Societies should be used, in the hope that his long and faithful services may be recognised by Her Majesty's Government granting a pension to his widow. We heartily join in the hope that the influence of these Societies may not be exerted in vain.—G.H.K.

JAMES DAVID FORBES, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.L. & E., F.G.S.,  
Principal of St. Salvator's and St. Leonard's College, St. Andrews,

was the youngest son of Sir William Forbes, the seventh Baronet of Pitsligo, in the county of Aberdeen. His death has just been recorded (see *Illustrated London News*, Jan. 16, 1869). Principal Forbes was born April 20, 1808, and was educated at the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained several prizes, and where he held the Professorship of Natural Philosophy from 1833 until 1860. He was the author of several papers on heat, and other works on Physical Science; "Travels in the Alps of Savoy," "Norway and its Glaciers," "Papers on the Theory of Glaciers," etc. He received the Keith medal of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and the Rumford and Royal medals of the Royal Society of London, for various papers he prepared, and which were published in the Transactions of those bodies. He was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of London in 1831, but read no papers before that Society. In 1843 he married Alicia, daughter of George Wauchope, Esq., of Edinburgh, and by her, who survives him, he leaves issue two sons and two daughters. Principal Forbes is succeeded in the College at St. Andrews by Professor J. C. Shairp, M.A.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS.

LITHODOMOUS BORINGS 667 FT. ABOVE THE SEA.—Mr. Mackintosh, F.G.S., who wrote on *Pholas*-borings near Torquay, in this MAGAZINE for July, 1867, has just discovered what he believes to be Lithodomous perforations up to 667 ft. above the sea on the eastern side of Hampfell, on the border of Morecambe Bay. It is with great difficulty they can be detected at high altitudes, as they almost invariably occur on the protected or overhanging sides of rocks or boulders. It would appear that up to 250 ft. above the sea, Mr. Boulton and other inhabitants of Furness have been familiar with these perforations for many years, without having studied their importance in a theoretical point of view. Though rain has made numerous *rough* holes in limestone rocks, Mr. Mackintosh contends that the above *smoothly* ground-out perforations (some of which run into and through fossils, and most of which ignore the composition of the rock) could not have been formed by rain, as nearly all of them occur in positions to which rain could never have had access.—Abridged from the *Ulverstone Advertiser* of Jan. 7, 1869.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Various changes have taken place in the staff of this Society. 1. Mr. Henry M. Jenkins, F.G.S., who has for the past six years so ably filled the post of Assistant Secretary, has been appointed to the position of Secretary and Editor to the Royal Agricultural Society of England. Mr. W. S. Dallas, F.L.S., who, during the past ten years, has been the Curator to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society's Museum at York, has been elected to the post of Assistant Secretary, Librarian, and Curator in the room of Mr. Jenkins. 2. Mr. Skertchly, the Library Assistant, has resigned, in order to accompany Messrs. Bauerman and Lord to Egypt. Mr. Frederick Waterhouse, second son of G. R. Waterhouse, Esq., Keeper of the Geological Department, British Museum, has been elected in Mr. Skertchly's stead.