

terms are generally pretty expressive. In solid rocks water often issues from joints.

We went on to Londoun Hill. This hill is not named on Sheet 23; it is just above the house named Backhill on the western edge of the map. It is composed of large vertical columnar felstone.

To the east and south-east of this hill the 'Survey' have shown a 'terrace of marine drift' and an 'old sea beach.' Lately I observed that the talus of large blocks from the hill had *fallen down upon the top of the 'marine drift,'* so that the great vertical cliff on the south side of the hill was very likely *the work of the waves,* assisted perhaps by shore-ice, for much of the 'felstone' in the drift may have come from this hill, it being the only felstone rock within many miles of this district.

The 'marine terrace' is 700 feet, and the top of Londoun Hill 1,034 feet, above sea-level.

The facts given in this letter speak, I think, pretty plainly. The Drift beds here are clearly *water deposits,* and that 'water' was the sea. The blocks and stones in both the stony and laminated clay were clearly dropped into the clay from floating ice. In bed 2 (the stony Boulder-clay), there are frequent indications of *stratification,* and those lines have a steady, *gentle dip of five to ten degrees* towards the east, or up the Irvine Valley. This long section has been exposed to the weather for about six months; the clay has not slipped, and the rain-washed face of the drift can be read like a book. There are many well-striated stones and boulders *lying in all directions,* long ones even vertical, but quite as many which show no striations. The ruts in the stony clay bed 2 were probably produced by floating ice grating on the sea bottom, and these have formed *sheltered hollows* in which laminated clay has been deposited.

J. SMITH.

MONKREDDING, KILWINNING.

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#### SOME SNOWDON TARNS.

SIR,—Will you permit me to correct a mistake in my paper on "Some Snowdon Tarns." The depression at 250 yards from the present outlet of Llyn Llydaw is in a N.N.E. direction therefrom, not N.N.W. as I had erroneously written.

J. R. DAKYNS.

SNOWDON VIEW, NANT GWYNANT,

BEDDGELERT, CARNARVON.

February 19, 1900.

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### OBITUARY.

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#### GEHEIMRATH PROFESSOR DR. GEINITZ,

FOR. MEM. GEOL. SOC. LOND.

BORN OCTOBER 16, 1814.

DIED JANUARY 28, 1900.

DR. HANS BRUNO GEINITZ was born at Altenburg, Saxony, where he passed a happy boyhood in his father's home. The political troubles of 1830 affected the family prosperity, so that the youthful

Geinitz had to serve for four years in the shop of the Court chemist, but this did not prevent him from spending his spare time in the study of botany, chemistry, and modern languages. In 1834 a way opened for him to go to the University of Berlin, and in 1836 to that of Jena, where he graduated in 1838. Under the influence of Quenstedt, Geinitz directed his attention more particularly to the study of mineralogy and palæontology, and the subject of his graduation thesis was the Muschelkalk in Thuringia. In the same year, 1838, he went to Dresden and accepted the post of assistant-tutor in the Technical High School, with the modest salary of 150 thalers (about £22) per annum. In 1850 he became Professor at the same institution, and he occupied this position until 1894, when, owing to increasing deafness, he was obliged to resign. From 1863 to 1878 he was one of the editors of the *Neues Jahrbuch*; in 1857 he was appointed Director of the Royal Mineralogical Museum at Dresden, which may be said to owe its present flourishing condition mainly to his zeal and energy, and also the founding of the Prehistoric Museum in 1874.

Professor Geinitz was a very prolific writer on geological and palæontological subjects, and his published papers date from 1837 to nearly the latest years of his life. Though to a large extent they refer to the rocks and fossils of his native country, they yet include matters of general and permanent importance to geological science. Amongst his principal memoirs are his descriptions of the fossils in the Grauwacke formation of Saxony, which appeared in 1852; the monograph of the animal remains of the Dyas formation, 1861-62; and that on the "Elbthalgebirge," 1871-75, which contains the results of his long-continued researches into the stratigraphy and palæontology of the Cretaceous rocks of Saxony and adjoining countries. He also wrote on the fossil flora of the Hainich-Ebersdorf Coal Basin, and on that of the Coal formation in Saxony. A commendable feature in Geinitz's palæontological memoirs is the admirable manner in which they are illustrated.

Professor Geinitz was deservedly esteemed and honoured alike by the geologists of his own country and by those of other lands. He became a Foreign Member of the Geological Society of London in 1857, and was the last of those elected to this position directly without passing through the subordinate stage of Foreign Correspondent. In 1878 he received the Society's Murchison Medal.

Professor Geinitz died at Dresden on the 28th January in the 86th year of his age, and his remains were interred on the 31st, in the presence of a numerous gathering of his old students and colleagues.<sup>1</sup>

G. J. H.

THE Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws has just been presented by the Senate of the University of Glasgow to Mr. Arthur Smith Woodward, F.L.S., F.G.S., of the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London.

<sup>1</sup> Many of the facts in the above notice are taken from the *Dresden Anzeiger*, a copy of which was kindly forwarded by Miss Agnes Crane of Brighton.