

ABSENCE OF *LEPUS EUROPAEUS*, PALLAS, FROM BRITISH
PLEISTOCENE DEPOSITS.

SIR,—Having had an opportunity of examining the remains of Hares from the Pleistocene of this country, preserved in the Natural History Museum, I find that all the specimens which are determinable, including the originals of Buckland's and Owen's figured specimens, belong to the Mountain Hare (*Lepus timidus*, L.), there being no evidence of the common Hare (*Lepus europæus*, Pallas). In consequence, I am inclined to assume that the latter has been introduced into this country by man, possibly as late as the Roman period. I ask you kindly to give publicity to this letter in the hope that if there is conclusive evidence of Pleistocene remains of the *Lepus europæus* in some public or private collection it may be forthcoming.

C. I. FORSYTH MAJOR.

OBITUARY.

WILLIAM VICARY, F.G.S.

BORN JULY 26, 1811.

DIED OCTOBER 22, 1903.

WILLIAM VICARY was born in 1811 at Newton Abbot in Devonshire. Early in life he removed to North Tawton, where he started business as a tanner, and with so much success that he retired in 1856 and removed to Exeter, where he resided for the remainder of his long life. He was one of the founders of the Devonshire Association, established in 1862, and an original contributor to Symons' "British Rainfall," the first volume of which, for the year 1860, was published in 1861. He was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of London in 1864. Mr. Vicary was an enthusiastic collector of fossils, and his museum was especially rich in the fossils from the Upper Greensand of the Haldon and Blackdown Hills. He is best known to geologists by his discovery of fossils in the quartzite 'popples' of the Triassic pebble-bed of Budleigh Salterton. The fossils were described and figured by Salter in a joint paper brought before the Geological Society, while Salter dealt more generally with the subject in the first Original Article published in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE (July, 1864). The species, all new to British geology, were identified with forms found in the older rocks of Normandy, some belonging to the *Grès Armoricaïn* (Arenig group). Mr. Vicary's valuable collection, embracing a large number of type-specimens, was bequeathed by him to the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road.

- 1864. "On the Pebble-bed of Budleigh Salterton"; with a Note on the Fossils by J. W. Salter: *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xx, p. 233.
- 1865. "On the Feldspathic Traps of Devonshire": *Trans. Devon Assoc.*, vol. i, p. 43.
- 1867. "On the Source of the Murchisonite Pebbles and Boulders in the Triassic Conglomerates of Devonshire": *Trans. Devon Assoc.*, vol. ii, p. 200.
- 1872. "Fossil Coral allied to *Merulina* (Ehrenberg), from the Upper Greensand of Haldon Hill, near Exeter": *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.*, ser. iv, vol. ix, p. 84.