

Lithostrotion aranea I believe to be of very rare occurrence at Cannington Park. But one specimen as far as I am aware has been obtained from the locality, and that by Mr. Pring. This specimen, with the others collected by him, are now in the Museum of Practical Geology in Jermyn Street. I should expect *Cyathophyllum Murchisoni* to occur in this Limestone, though I have not as yet seen an example of this species among the Cannington fossils. There are some corals in Mr. Pring's collection from the same locality which would at first sight appear to be of Devonian type, but on account of their obscurity and bad preservation it is difficult to determine their nature. I have not observed them in the Mountain Limestone of any other district. The corals in the Cannington Limestone do not appear to have attained a large size.

The Limestone in parts is Oolitic in structure, and is identical in character with that developed in the neighbourhood of Bristol. It undoubtedly belongs to the Upper Carboniferous Limestone, and is probably of the same date as those portions of the massive limestone occurring in the Mendips, and in the neighbourhood of Bristol, of which *Lithostrotion Martini* is a characteristic coral.

Small opaque quartz crystals, with double terminations, presenting an Oolitic structure, occur in portions of the Cannington Limestone, of which there is a specimen in the Taunton Museum, with the crystals weathered on the surface, collected by Mr. Baker.

It is important to observe that there are some specimens in the Taunton Museum, from the collection of Mr. Baker, which I hardly believe are from Cannington Park, though labelled as such, and though some are specimens from the Mountain Limestone. One consists of a large polished slab of a Devonian astræiform coral of unusual size (*Cyathophyllum Boloniense*), and is palæontologically and lithologically distinct from the Cannington Limestone. The Limestone composing this specimen is of a white pearly colour, with a bluish-grey tinge, translucent, highly-crystalline, and impregnated with sulphuret of iron (iron pyrites). I believe Mr. Baker obtained it of Hurford, a stone-mason at Bridgwater, on whose authority he labelled it "Cannington Park." Judging from the quality and size of the specimen, I should think it must be from Devonshire.

HENBURY, BRISTOL,
Jan. 1872.

S. G. PERCEVAL.

THE GREENLAND METEORIC STONES.

SIR,—On the 30th of June, 1862, I sent a letter to the *Hampshire Chronicle*, entitled "Twenty Steps in the International Exhibition." It ended thus, in reference to a "so-called meteorite" which was exhibited. "All evidence that a meteorite ever fell on earth is unworthy of belief. The argument for it is this. Nickel, iron, etc., are not found similarly mingled in any other substance on earth. If they were they would not be an *other* substance, but the *same* substance. But does it follow from this that the substance comes from heaven? How many other substances must come from heaven by this reasoning?" In the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for October, 1864,

page 191, are these words: "Colonel G. Greenwood has favoured us with a letter on the improbability of the existence of real meteoric stones." In your this month's number, page 571, Professor Ramsay takes my side.¹ He thinks that the Greenland (meteoric!) stones may be of terrestrial origin; "that, supposing the earth to have in part an elementary metallic core, eruptive igneous matter might occasionally bring native iron to the surface."

BROOKWOOD PARK, ALRESFORD.

GEORGE GREENWOOD, Colonel.

MINERALOGY OF CORNWALL AND DEVON.

SIR,—In the very favourable review of my "Handbook to the Mineralogy of Cornwall and Devon," which appears in the Dec. number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, your reviewer remarks that "Stenna Gwynn is given as a locality for Wavellite, while under Tavistockite it is correctly stated that this is the mineral, as first noticed by Dana, that really occurs there, and not Wavellite, for which it was formerly mistaken."

On this point I should wish to make two remarks. First, that I did not give Stenna Gwynn as a locality for Wavellite, but merely stated that "*it is said to have occurred*" there, which is perfectly true.

Second, the authority for Tavistockite is not Dana, but Mr. Michell, of Calewich, near Truro, who discovered what he calls "Soft Wavellite," but which appears to have been what is now called Tavistockite, more than fifty years ago, and mentioned it in a book published anonymously at Truro, in 1825 or 1828.

J. H. COLLINS.

FALMOUTH, Dec. 26, 1871.

OBITUARY.—SAMUEL HUGHES, Civil Engineer, of Park Street, Westminster, was elected a Fellow of the Geol. Soc. of London in 1847, and died in October, 1870, at the age of 55. He early evinced a taste for natural sciences, and the most successful results of his more important undertakings in connexion with the supplying of water to towns was due to his knowledge and practical application of geology. He wrote the "Water Works" for Weale's Series, and throughout it he insists upon the necessity of possessing a familiar acquaintance with the stratigraphical relations of our rock groups. During the latter part of his life he rose to be amongst the first scientific gas engineers of the day, which was in great part due to those habits of careful observation and rational deduction which result from the study of physical phenomena. In this branch of engineering also he wrote the text-book for Weale's Series.

¹ Prof. Ramsay thought the Greenland (Meteoric) Iron *might be* of terrestrial origin; but he *did not* (like Col. Greenwood) deny the existence of real meteoric stones. If the Colonel will visit the British Museum any day, he may see a very large series of iron and stone meteorites, the circumstances attending the fall of many of which are well authenticated. As spectrum-analysis has revealed to us that many of the heavenly bodies are composed of like elements with our own planet, it need not surprise us to find that fragments of such bodies, falling on our earth, should be composed of the same materials.—EDIT. GEOL. MAG.