

fossils recorded in England, with the range of each. A consideration of this list enables the author to suggest that the lower limit of the formation should be drawn at the first evidence of Rhætic life after the deposition of the gypsiferous and red or green marls, which (at any rate in their lower part) are certainly of Keuper age. The upper limit may, for convenience, be drawn at an indefinite level where *Modiola minima* and *Pleuromya crowcombeiana* become very rare, and the ammonitic and Liassic fauna begins. Further discussion of the lithological, physical, and palæontological evidence leads the author to recognize that the affinities of the Rhætic, thus defined, are rather with the Jurassic rocks than with the Trias. The following zones are suggested, in descending order:—

- Zone of *Pleuromya crowcombeiana* = White Lias.
- „ *Monotis decussata* = Cotham Marble and just above.
- „ *Estheria minuta* var. *Brodieana*, and *Naiadita*.
- „ *Pecten valoniensis*.
- „ *Avicula contorta* = Black Shales and a limestone bed.
- „ Bone-bed.

These zones seem to be fairly constant throughout England, and harmonize well with those of Germany, although they cannot be expected to fit in with the oceanic type of the Alps and the Mediterranean. Further consideration shows that the fossils give evidence of migration, but very little of evolution. The paper closes with the description of a new species of *Anomia* and a bibliography.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ATMOSPHERIC EROSION IN CORSICA.

SIR,—The remarkable mode of erosion described by Mr. Tuckett in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for this month is not uncommonly met with in the drier regions of the globe, and excellent examples are described and figured by Walther in his “Die Denudation in der Wüste” (Abh. k. sächs. Ges. Wiss., Math.-Phys. Classe, 1891) and “Das Gesetz der Wüstenbildung” (Berlin, 1900). Fig. 7 in the latter work presents a particularly close resemblance to the Tête de Chien. It is a reproduction of a photograph taken near the Indian desert.

Walther attributes the peculiar mode of erosion in these regions to the relative persistence of dew and other moisture on the shady side of the boulder or cliff, and its rapid evaporation on the sunny side. The shaded side consequently weathers much more quickly than the other, and the weathered material is removed by the wind.

In the Northern Hemisphere the cavities formed are generally, though not always, on the northern or western side of the rock; but from the shadows shown in Mr. Tuckett’s beautiful photograph of the Tête de Chien, I infer that in this case the cavity does not face the north.

It would be interesting to learn whether the Corsican examples support Professor Walther’s view.

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