

fossils are in many cases so fragmentary or indistinct that identification is by no means easy; nevertheless, we succeeded in detecting among them several specimens of one of the Budleigh Salterton species of *Brachiopoda*. Having been furnished by Mr. Peach with all needful information, we were so fortunate as to secure the assistance of one of his old collectors, who conducted us to the fossiliferous beds of the Great Cairn and Great Peraver, near Gorran Haven. In the Peraver, we succeeded in finding fossils having the same general facies as those of the "pebble-bed," and inhumed in quartzites identical in structure and even in hue with the pebbles of South-eastern Devonshire." (See Transactions Plymouth Institution, 1864-5, vol. i. pp. 22-3.)

TORQUAY, 4th April, 1878.

WM. PENGELLY.

ON THE ORIGIN OF A QUARTZITE BOULDER FROM THE BUNTER CONGLOMERATE, NOTTINGHAM.

SIR,—A short time ago it was my good fortune to find, in a heap of road-metal, near Nottingham, a liver-coloured quartzite boulder, no doubt derived from the Bunter Conglomerate of the district, which exhibits on its fractured surface a well-defined concave cast of *Orthis redux*—a Caradoc fossil that is, I understand, by far the most frequent species in the quartzite pebbles of the Triassic shingle beds of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, and of similar deposits in the North of France.

In recording the occurrence of the above fossil in this locality, I am content to leave the question whence this and similar pebbles in our Bunter Conglomerate were derived for the consideration of those who are more competent than myself to offer an opinion on the subject.

NOTTINGHAM, March 18th, 1878.

J. H. JENNINGS.

OBITUARY.

JOHN ROFE, C.E., F.G.S., ETC.

BORN, 14 OCTOBER, 1801. DIED, 11 APRIL, 1878.

We regret to record the loss by death of an excellent geologist, a much valued friend, and a frequent contributor to this Journal.

Mr. Rofe was born in London, Oct. 14, 1801, and was educated at Enfield, by the late Mr. Cowden Clarke, and afterwards at Reading with the Rev. Dr. Williams.

He studied engineering under his father Mr. John Rofe, C.E.; and afterwards, in partnership with him, carried out many important public works, notably the Birmingham Gas, and Water-Works; the Reading Gas-Works; Gas and Water Engineering Works were also carried out by Mr. Rofe for the towns of Leicester, Guildford, and Boston. On several occasions he gave valuable evidence in Committee before the House of Commons, with reference to public Towns Water Works and Gas Companies Bills, in which his sound geological knowledge proved of great service to him.

On the 26th June, 1827, he married the daughter of the Rev. Bartholomew Goe, Vicar of Boston, Lincolnshire, and settled in

Preston as Engineer to the Gas Works, a post which he held for twenty-five years.

While resident in Preston he took a very active part in the Literary and Philosophical Society of that town, and in December, 1845, a service of plate was presented to Mr. Rofe by the members "in acknowledgment of the zeal and ability with which he had promoted the establishment, progress, and success of that Institution."

He had only one son and daughter; the latter married Dr. Fearnside of Preston; the former (the Rev. John Rofe), a young man of high promise, after graduating at Cambridge, 1850, received in 1859 from the Master of his College (St. John's), the offer of an Indian Chaplaincy, which he accepted. He officiated as Chaplain to Lord Canning (then Governor General of India) during a tour in the North-West Provinces; and finally as Chaplain to Dr. Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta—with whom, whilst on a visitation tour, he died in 1861, at the early age of 34 years.

This severe family bereavement had no doubt a most depressing influence on so amiable a man as Mr. Rofe, and caused him to spend much of his time in the retirement of his library or engrossed in the study of his fine private collection of Crinoidea from the Carboniferous Limestone of Clitheroe. Having resigned his official duties at Preston from ill-health, he devoted himself to a careful study of the internal anatomy of the fossil Echinodermata, and his valuable researches will be found embodied in a series of papers printed in this MAGAZINE, a list of which is subjoined.

For some years he resided at 15, Abbey Place, St. John's Wood; but afterwards removed to Lancaster, where he was elected President of the Lunesdale Naturalists' Field-club; his health, however, did not long permit him to retain the office. For the last few years he has resided at Leamington, but of late he has been prevented by failing eyesight from carrying on his favourite microscopic researches. In February last he presented his rich collection of Crinoidea and other fossils from the Carboniferous Limestone (numbering upwards of 1,500 specimens) to the National Museum.

He died at his residence, 9, Church Hill, Leamington, on the 11th day of April, at the age of 77 years.

The following are the titles of Mr. Rofe's scientific papers:—

1. "Observations on the Geological Structure of the Neighbourhood of Reading" (read Feb. 26, 1834), *Trans. Geol. Soc.* 2nd series, vol. v. 1840, p. 127. *Proc.* vol. ii. p. 72.
2. "Description of a New Species of *Actinocrinus* from the Mountain-Limestone of Lancashire" (with 3 woodcuts), *GEOL. MAG.* 1865, Vol. II. p. 12.
3. "Notes on some Echinodermata from the Mountain-Limestone," etc. (with a plate), *GEOL. MAG.* 1865, Vol. II. p. 245.
4. "Notes on Coal and Cannel," *GEOL. MAG.* 1866, Vol. III. p. 208.
5. "Note on the late Colliery Explosions," *GEOL. MAG.* 1867, Vol. IV. p. 106.
6. "Note on the Cause and Nature of the Enlargement of some Crinoid Columns" (with 5 woodcuts), *GEOL. MAG.* 1869, Vol. VI. p. 351.
7. "On some supposed Lithodermous Perforations in Limestone Rock" (with a plate), *GEOL. MAG.* 1870, Vol. VII. p. 4.
8. "Notes on the Crinoidea" (with a plate), *GEOL. MAG.* 1871, Vol. VIII. p. 241.
9. "Further Notes on the Crinoidea" (with a plate), *GEOL. MAG.* 1873, Vol. X. p. 262.
10. Presidential Address to the Members of the Lunesdale Naturalists' Field-club, 25th Feb. 1873: "On the Geology of the District around Lancaster."—H.W.