

those of the northern hemisphere; but to be effectual, the comparison must be made by one who is well acquainted with the northern deposits.

F. W. HUTTON.

CHRISTCHURCH, N. Z., 12th Nov. 1889.

CORAL-LIKE STRUCTURES FROM THE CULDAFF LIMESTONE, CO. DONEGAL.

SIR,—I feel sure it will interest many of your readers to learn that the peculiar Coral-like structures from the Culdaff Limestone have recently been identified by Prof. James Hall, of Albany, and Mr. Charles Walcott, of the U. S. Geological Survey, as belonging to two genera of Palæozoic Corals, namely, *Columnaria* and *Tetradium*; forms which are often found together in the Hudson Group of America. These determinations have been arrived at, first, from photographs of specimens from the Survey Collection, but afterwards from five specimens selected and forwarded for examination. The determinations were independently made, and serve to confirm each other; and Prof. Hall gives a detailed diagnosis of each specimen.

I may add that similar determinations have been arrived at by Professors Dana and Ferd. Roemer from an inspection of photographs only. Descriptions of some of these forms will appear in the Geological Survey Memoir on Inishowen, North Donegal, now passing through the press. The identification of these forms by such experienced palæontologists as those above named must be regarded as of the highest importance in throwing light on the question of the age of the Donegal crystalline rocks; a question to which I hope to return at a future time.

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NOTE ON *PHLYCTÆNIUS*, A NEW GENUS OF COCCOSTEIDÆ.

SIR,—As my friend Dr. Hinde has just called my attention to the fact that the name *Phlyctænius* has already, under the form *Phlyctænum*, been given by Prof. Zittel to a genus of fossil Sponges, I propose to substitute for it the term *Phlyctænaspis*, concerning which I can find no evidence of preoccupation.

R. H. TRAQUAIR.

RADIOLARIAN CHERT IN THE BALLANTRAE SERIES (= LLANDEILO-CARADOC) OF THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND.

SIR,—Sections of this rock, just received from Mr. B. N. Peach, of the Geological Survey of Scotland, unmistakably show that it is mainly composed of Radiolarians. These bodies were first recognized in the chert by my friend Prof. H. A. Nicholson, but their real nature is only now conclusively shown in the sections sent me.

21 February, 1890.

G. J. HINDE.