

the numerous vacancies caused by death with the younger students of fossils, on whom the future prosperity of the Society depends. The loss of the Treasurer, Mr. Robert Etheridge, of Dr. C. H. Gatty, and of Mr. William Vicary, was especially deplored. Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S., was re-elected President; Dr. George J. Hinde, F.R.S., was elected Treasurer; and Dr. A. S. Woodward, F.R.S., was re-elected Secretary. Bishop Mitchinson, Rev. G. F. Whidborne, Mr. W. H. Hudleston, F.R.S., Mr. T. Leighton, and Mr. A. Strahan, F.R.S., were elected new members of Council.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE 'YOREDALÉ' ROCKS OF NORTH DERBYSHIRE.

SIR,—A few days ago I enjoyed the privilege of attending the excursion of the Geologists' Association to North Derbyshire, and I was impressed by the tenacity with which many of the members of the party—including geologists of repute—adhered to the use of the term 'Yoredale' for the strata seen in the excavations of the Derwent Valley Water Board and elsewhere.

In Derbyshire and North Staffordshire there is a well-marked group, consisting of dark shales with thin limestones and sandstones, situated above the massive Mountain Limestone and below the lowest of the Millstone Grits.

I should like to ask those who still consider the name 'Yoredale' to be applicable to this group in this area to be so kind as to state the foundations of their belief. Are the palæontological or the lithological characters their guide?

From either point of view, I think it has been clearly shown that the deposits in question are sufficiently differentiated from the typical Yoredales to justify a distinctive appellation.

The name 'Yoredale' is a good one so long as it is confined to the type of deposit that exists in and about the Yorkshire Yoredale district; in addition to its historic interest it has an intrinsic value in connoting a set of conditions pre-eminent in that area; but to continue to use it for this rock in North Staffordshire and Derbyshire is to maintain a stumbling-block in the way of all workers who are not familiar with the two areas.

The name 'Pendleside Group' has been proposed by Dr. Wheelton Hind and myself, but if there are objections to this there still remains the choice of the non-committal 'Shales with limestones' and 'Shales with sandstones' of the Geological Survey.

Call them what you will; but if the name Yoredale is to stand for these beds let it be on the basis of solid palæontological evidence.

MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, LONDON.

J. ALLEN HOWE.

May 28th, 1904.

##### NEOLITHIC FLINT FLAKES AT HOPE'S NOSE, TORBAY.

SIR,—On the 4th of last May I found four flakes or chips of flint about two feet deep in the earthy head or landwash capping the low cliff on the eastern side of the raised beach at Hope's Nose. The

fragments were exposed on the face of the section. Sir John Evans kindly informed me that he considered two of the flints to be artificially made, and probably of Neolithic date. The soft earthy capping of the cliff is about the same height as the highest beach deposits, but is clearly much more recent. The flints did not overlie the beach, but were to the eastward of the eastern end of the raised beach.

I see that Sir Archibald Geikie mentions the fact that the 20 foot terrace on the north-east coast of Ireland has *produced* many worked flints, regarded as Neolithic (Q.J.G.S., vol. lx, p. xcvi). These Hope's Nose flints are clearly more recent than the raised beach (about equivalent to a 24 foot terrace), and it is likely enough that they were made out of the flints which occur in the beach, but are not elsewhere found in the immediate neighbourhood. I am far from wishing to trouble your readers with any remarks of my own on this rather perplexing subject, but the mere fact of the discovery of Neolithic flakes newer than the adjacent beach at Hope's Nose, Torbay, may be worth a bare record.

A. R. HUNT.

SOUTHWOOD, TORQUAY.

June 14th, 1904.

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## OBITUARY.

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### FRANK RUTLEY.

BORN MAY 14, 1842.

DIED MAY 16, 1904.

THE son of a medical practitioner at Dover, Frank Rutley became early in life interested in geology, and studied at the Royal School of Mines from 1862 to 1864. In 1867 he was appointed an Assistant Geologist on the Geological Survey, under Sir Roderick Murchison and Professor Ramsay. For a few years he was engaged in field-work with W. T. Aveline in the Lake District. There he gave some attention to the subject of glaciation, but, probably through the influence of his colleague, the late J. Clifton Ward, he began to undertake the special study of rocks and rock-forming minerals. The importance of the microscope in the examination of rocks was at this period becoming recognized, and Mr. Rutley was transferred to the Geological Survey Office in Jermyn Street, to undertake the determination and description of the igneous rocks that were collected in the course of the geological survey; he took charge also of the rock-collection in the Museum of Practical Geology. His first official work dealt with the volcanic rocks of East Somerset and the Bristol district (1876), and he later on wrote special memoirs on the eruptive rocks of Brent Tor (1878), and on the Felsitic Lavas of England and Wales (1885).

He was author in 1874 of a small but exceedingly useful work on Mineralogy for Murby's "Science and Art Department" series of text-books, of which a twelfth edition was issued in 1900. In 1879 he wrote an elementary text-book of Petrology, the first work of the kind published in this country, entitled "The Study of Rocks,"