

still bound in our study of rocks of the crust by the involuntary contemplation of sea-level as it happens to be at any place to-day.

The whole work displays restraint on theoretical aspects of the subject, but this does not suggest timidity or confusion as the vast array of facts is excellently marshalled, being particularly well planned for easy reference; the style of writing and the selection of illustrative photographs reveal great delicacy of touch which gives this most important work still further distinction.

N. F. H.

CORRESPONDENCE

CRATANIOPHYLLUM, A NEW NAME FOR A CARBONIFEROUS CORAL GENUS

SIR,—Lang, Smith, and Thomas [*Index of Palaeozoic Coral Genera*, Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.), 1940, p. 26] proposed the name *Barbouria* for *Craterophyllum* Barbour (*Publ. Nebraska Geol. Surv.*, iv, (3), 1911, p. 38), a junior synonym of *Craterophyllum* Foerste, 1909, and of *Craterophyllum* Tolmachev, 1931. Dr. Dorothy Hill has pointed out to us, however, that *Barbouria* is pre-occupied by *Barbouria* Rathbun [*Bull. Mus. comp. Zool. Harvard*, liv, (15), 1912, p. 455], for a crustacean. We now propose *Crataniophyllum* (κρατάνιον, τό, a kind of cup; φύλλον, τό, a leaf) to replace *Craterophyllum* Barbour *nec* Rathbun *nec* Tolmachev, the type species being *C. verticillatum* Barbour (op. cit., p. 38, pls. 1–4), probably from the horizon of the Oread Limestone (Pennsylvanian), of Nehawka, Cass County, Nebraska, U.S.A.

W. D. LANG.

H. DIGHTON THOMAS.

DEPARTMENT OF PALAEOLOGY,
BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),
CROMWELL ROAD,
LONDON, S.W. 7.

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A SLOW TEMPO OF DENUDATION CLAIMED FOR EASTERN AUSTRALIA

SIR,—The average rate of lowering of the land surface by solution (chemical denudation) throughout the world is, according to data collected by Clarke (1924, p. 121) one foot in 30,000 years, or 2,000 feet in an interval extending back to the beginning of the Tertiary (60 million years). This takes no account of mechanical degradation, which cannot be negligible in a diversified landscape like that around Canberra, in eastern Australia. Noakes (1954, p. 128) confidently infers that at Canberra the erosional lowering (by chemical and mechanical denudation) during that time has been practically nil, though in valleys to the east it might amount to 100 feet.

Even though this applies to valley lowlands, and the hills bordering the lowlands have considerable relief, it may be taken to be applicable to the surface as a whole, if serious attention is to be paid to the claim (made by Noakes) that the general aspect of the landscape and particularly its relief have changed little since the Mesozoic (or even the Palaeozoic).

The hills immediately around Canberra have a relief of 800 to 1,000 feet,