

paper, which is described and figured as a left ischium (pp. 721-3, figs. 7-9) is the left coracoid.

In the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, February, 1887, p. 84, the humerus of *Pelorosaurus* is referred to *Cetiosaurus*. I had previously, in the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, 1882, vol. xxxviii. p. 371, regarded the same bone as referable to *Ornithopsis*, and to that determination I adhere. *Cetiosaurus* is well known to be allied to *Ornithopsis*, but I am aware of no evidence of the presence of *Cetiosaurus* in the Wealden deposits, in which the type is represented by species of *Ornithopsis*.

H. G. SEELEY.

24th August, 1887.

#### PARALLEL STRUCTURE IN IGNEOUS ROCKS.

SIR.—I am obliged to Mr. Harker for the information given in his letter in your August Number. I do not see the American Journal of Science, and was not aware that Prof. Dana had partially modified his views; or that Mr. G. H. Williams had by observations on the ground come to the conclusion that the igneous rocks of Cortland were sharply separable from the adjacent crystalline schists. It need hardly be pointed out that this coincidence of opinion between Mr. Williams and myself is of considerable evidential value.

CH. CALLAWAY.

WELLINGTON, SHROPSHIRE, September 17th, 1887.

### OBITUARY.

#### EDWIN WITCHELL, F.G.S.,

TREASURER OF THE COTTESWOLD NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the sudden death, on the 20th August last, of Mr. Edwin Witchell, solicitor, of Stroud, at the age of sixty-four. Mr. Witchell was a son of Mr. Edward Witchell, of Nymphsfield, a well-known and highly-respected yeoman, and was born in June, 1823. His tastes from early boyhood led him more to the study of books than to the cultivation of the soil; at the early age of thirteen years he was placed in the office of Mr. Paris, of Stroud, the chief local solicitor of those days. Later on he was articled to that gentleman, and ultimately succeeded to his practice in 1847. He was at one time very fond of hunting, and used frequently to accompany the late Mr. Paul Hawkins Fisher in some of the most memorable runs of the adjacent packs of foxhounds. This exhilarating sport doubtless contributed to his then robust health; but as years crept on, Mr. Witchell gave up his hunter and applied himself assiduously to rambles in pursuit of his favourite science of Geology. About five years ago, when climbing in a dangerous part of the cliffs at Lyme Regis, heart trouble set in, and for three or four years he has suffered from angina pectoris, but had not been incapacitated from business, nor deterred from carrying on his geological work. And it was while engaged in collecting fossils from the Inferior Oolite at Swift's Hill, near Stroud, that Mr. Witchell overtaxed his strength, and fell amidst the rocks to which he had devoted so much study. In the neigh-

bourhood of Stroud the loss will be long felt, for Mr. Witchell was much esteemed; a man of kindly, genial nature, he was essentially a peacemaker, and was never known to say a harsh or unkind word of any one.

Mr. Witchell no doubt owed his early love of geological study to his long association with the late Mr. George Poulett Scrope, for many years M.P. for Stroud. Mr. Witchell was for a long period the trusted agent and friend of Mr. Scrope. In 1861 he was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society, and had since contributed papers to its Quarterly Journal. The last of these, on "The Basement Beds of the Inferior Oolite of Gloucestershire," was read for him on the 24th of February last year, his health at that time rendering a journey to London undesirable. Mr. Witchell was for many years an active member of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club, and contributed many valuable papers to its Proceedings. For several years he was treasurer to the Club, and this year was elected one of its vice-presidents. No geological discussion at the meetings of the Club was considered complete until Mr. Witchell had taken part in it, when his stores of geological knowledge would be given out with his characteristic enthusiasm and ability. His last contribution to the Cotteswold Proceedings, on the "Genus *Nerinea*," appears in the part last issued, and was illustrated by his own hand with a series of beautiful and accurate drawings. Mr. Witchell took an active part in all matters pertaining to scientific education in Stroud, and helped to support the various institutions that succeeded the first Mechanics' Institution more than thirty-five years ago. He read papers, gave lectures, and not seldom took parties of members for Geological field-work on the neighbouring Cotteswolds. He was always most anxious to see a local museum formed in Stroud, and his own large and complete collection of local fossils was a great attraction to all geologists visiting the district. It will be remembered that last Whitsuntide the members of the Geologists' Association visited Stroud, when Mr. Witchell conducted them to Rodborough and Minchinhampton, an excursion which will long be a pleasant recollection to them. The following is a list of the principal papers contributed by Mr. Witchell to the Proceedings of the Cotteswold Club:

1. "Sections of the Lias and Sands exposed in the Sewage Works."
2. "A Deposit on Stroud Hill containing Flint Implements, Land and Fresh-water Shells."
3. "On a Section of the Lias and Recent deposits in the Valley of the River Frome at Stroud."
4. "On the Denudation of the Cotteswolds."
5. "On a Bed of Fullers' Earth at Whiteshill, near Stroud."
6. "On the Angular Gravel of the Cotteswolds."
7. "On a Section of Stroud Hill, and the Upper Ragstone Beds of the Cotteswolds."
8. "On the Pisolite and Basement Beds of the Inferior Oolite of the Cotteswolds."
9. "On the Genus *Nerinea* and its Stratigraphical Distribution in the Cotteswolds."

In 1882 Mr. Witchell published an excellent work on "The Geology of Stroud," which contains a large amount of original information; and at the time of his death he was collecting materials for the publication of another work.—*Stroud News*, Aug. 16, 1887.