

OBITUARY.

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GEORGE SHARMAN,

late Palæontologist to the Geological Survey.

BORN SEPTEMBER 27, 1832.

DIED MARCH 28, 1914.

WE regret to have to announce the death of Mr. George Sharman, who for many years was Palæontologist to H.M. Geological Survey, but whose name may be little known to the present generation of geologists, seeing that his retirement from official duties took place some seventeen years ago. Mr. Sharman, after being at the British Museum for a short time, joined the Survey in 1855, was promoted in 1865, and became senior palæontologist in 1882, which post he held until his retirement at the end of 1897. Mr. Sharman did not devote himself to what is usually spoken of as original work, that is to say, he did not publish papers, but his whole energies were devoted to his official duties, and for many years a large part of the fossils collected by the Survey officers were determined by him, and the results appear in the Survey memoirs. He was particularly keen in the study of the fossil Brachiopoda, and Dr. Davidson's ponderous volumes, published by the Palæontographical Society, were his familiar textbooks. Mr. Sharman was of a peculiarly retiring disposition, and consequently was seldom seen at any of our Society meetings, but his kindly disposition and sterling integrity endeared him to all who were privileged to work with him, and many geologists will remember the kind friend at Jermyn Street Museum who years ago helped them in naming the fossils they had collected. After his retirement he lived quietly at Tooting and for some years has had very indifferent health, notwithstanding which he attained to a length of life beyond the usual span.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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CONFERENCE OF BRITISH GLACIALISTS.—At a meeting of the Yorkshire Geological Society, held at Leeds on Thursday, March 19, a communication from the President (Mr. R. H. Tiddeman) was read in which it was suggested that the time was now ripe for a review of the whole question of British Glacial Geology, and that for this purpose it might be desirable to call a conference. The suggestion was received with enthusiasm, and arrangements are to be put in hand at once for such a conference to be held in Leeds in the autumn and will last a week. Excursions will be made during the day to various centres of importance in connexion with the glaciation of the North of England, and the evenings devoted to papers and discussions. Glacialists from all parts of the country will be invited to attend. A committee was elected to make all the necessary arrangements, consisting of the President, Professor P. F. Kendall, Mr. T. W. Stather, Mr. T. Sheppard, Mr. A. Wilson (treasurer), and Mr. A. Gilligan (secretary).