

he argues on the basis of the following: "The character of the stages by which one rock passes into another in the field *may* suffice by itself to prove that one of them is derived from the other." This also may be assented to; but the case when one rock is diorite and the other a quartz-schist, will, for few minds, be included amongst those in which such evidence *does* suffice.

Dr. Callaway illustrates his meaning by a piece of underdone beef, as though the matter were one of simple contact or thermo-metamorphism; but when he can show us how, by slicing, rolling, squeezing, or roasting, to convert a piece of lean meat into fat, or *vice versa*, he will introduce a novelty into the kitchen, and experimentally illustrate what he wishes us to believe in the case of rocks.

PORT SAID, 12th June, 1895.

J. F. BLAKE.

PHOSPHATIC CHALK AT TAPLOW, BERKS.

STR.—I hear from Mr. Lodge, estate agent to W. H. Grenfell, Esq., Taplow Court, that phosphatic chalk has been met with at a point 870 yards N.E. by E. from the pit which I described in the Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., vol. xlvii, p. 356 (1891). The section in the new excavation is given by Mr. Lodge as follows:—

Reading Beds	{	Clay with a layer of greensand and flints	ft. in.
	{	at its base	11 0
Upper Chalk	{	Chalk	8 0
	{	Phosphatic Chalk	2 0
	{	Hard white Chalk	2 0
			21 0

It differs from the section at the pit in the phosphatic chalk being eight feet below the base of the Tertiaries instead of twenty feet, and in the phosphatic layer being apparently only two feet thick instead of eleven feet. There are no differences distinguishable under the microscope between the phosphatic beds of the two localities.

28, JERMYN STREET, S.W.

A. STRAHAN.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MR. THOMAS WILLIAM NEWTON, the Assistant Librarian of the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn Street, after a service of nearly thirty-five years, has retired from office under the Treasury Order relating to age. Mr. Newton was joint compiler with the late Mr. Henry White of "A Catalogue of the Library of the Museum of Practical Geology and Geological Survey," published in 1878. This work contains references to about 28,000 volumes, and although a partial dismemberment of the library took place in more recent years, it is still considered a most important compendium to geological literature and other subjects of the natural sciences.