

the Investigation of the Fauna and Flora of the Trias of the British Isles, he wrote a series of reports on the footprints for which he proposed a provisional scheme of classification. In 1906 he was awarded the proceeds of the Barlow-Jameson Fund by the Geological Society of London for his geological work in this connexion. He was Secretary of the Liverpool Geological Society from 1890 to 1900, and President for the sessions 1887-9, 1904-6, and again 1908-9, and served as President of the Liverpool Biological Society for 1901-2. His fine collection of footprints was recently purchased by Councillor C. Sydney Jones, M.A., for the Free Public Museum of Liverpool. Mr. Beasley was a most indefatigable and persistent worker at his favourite geological subjects, such work being his relaxation from an active commercial career. His unselfish character and his readiness at all times to assist any fellow-worker endeared him to all who knew him.

W. H.

Francisco Josué Pascasio Moreno.

BORN MAY, 1852.

DIED DECEMBER, 1919.

WE regret to announce the death of our friend Dr. Francisco P. Moreno, founder and for many years director of the La Plata Museum. Born in Buenos Aires 67 years ago, he was half English, his mother having been the daughter of an English botanist. He was a collector of natural history specimens from his earliest youth, and he soon began an important series of explorations of Patagonia and the region of the Andes, which lasted from 1873 until 1884. His first scientific paper was a description of some prehistoric cemeteries in Patagonia, published in the *Revue d'Anthropologie* in 1874. Three years later he gave his collection to the Argentine Government, who used it for the foundation of the Anthropological and Archæological Museum of Buenos Aires. In 1880 Buenos Aires became the federal capital, and in 1882 the city of La Plata was established to replace it as capital of the province. In 1884 the provincial governor suggested to Dr. Moreno that he should organize a great new museum in La Plata, taking his anthropological collection as a basis. The special desire of his life was thus fulfilled, and he began to work at once, planning the building and arranging for the acquisition of more collections to illustrate the natural history and antiquities of the Argentine Republic. The excavation of the new docks in the Pampa formation near La Plata especially afforded an opportunity for obtaining a fine series of skeletons of the Pleistocene Mammalia. By 1889 the Museum was nearly complete, and in the following year Dr. Moreno began to issue its well-known series of valuable publications. In 1893, and again in 1894, Mr. Richard Lydekker visited the Museum officially to prepare an account of the fossil Mammalia from the Pampa and some earlier formations,

which appeared in the *Anales del Museo de la Plata, Paleont. Argentina*, vols. ii and iii. In 1896 I spent a brief vacation there, and wrote a description of some remarkable Cretaceous crocodiles then recently received from Neuquen, which occupied another part of the *Anales*. In 1899 Dr. Moreno came to London as Argentine High Commissioner in connection with the Argentine-Chilian boundary dispute, which had been referred for arbitration to the British Crown. He then brought with him many fossils for comparison with the collection in the British Museum, and the piece of skin of an extinct ground-sloth from a cavern in Patagonia, with a skull and other remains of the horned tortoise *Miolania* from Chubut, will be especially remembered. Dr. Moreno contributed a "Note on the discovery of *Miolania* and of *Glossotherium* (*Neomylodon*) in Patagonia" to the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, September, 1899. Returning to La Plata he continued to direct the Museum for a few years longer, until he retired to Buenos Aires and lived a quiet life, utilizing his ripe experience in furthering schemes for the improvement of education.

Dr. Moreno's writings on the geography, anthropology, and geology of his native land are important and varied, but they give little idea of the extent of his labours for the promotion of science in Argentina. He was the unselfish friend and helper of all whom he induced to contribute to the publications of the La Plata Museum, and of Argentine naturalists in general. He was ever ready to devote his private means to the advancement of research, and the great collection and library at La Plata bear witness to his generosity as well as to his genius. He was honoured in this country by election as Foreign Correspondent of the Geological Society and as Corresponding Member of the Zoological Society of London. He was also an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Geographical Society, and received the Founder's Medal in 1907.

A. SMITH WOODWARD.