

order to get into possession of this specimen. Worth about £5. Quenstedt considers it to be a sick *Am. bipartitus*. Dr. Br." Although this label is in part merely a translation of the label already mentioned as accompanying the specimen, we think it confirms the opinion expressed in the former paper that this example is really Zieten's type-specimen. G. C. CRICK.

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY), S.W.

December 7, 1901.

#### SUB-FOSSIL YEW-WOOD.

SIR,—Dr. Conwentz, who has published papers on the spontaneous growth of the yew-tree in Germany, read a paper at the meeting (1901) of the British Association on the past history of this interesting tree in Great Britain and Ireland. By microscopical examination he has proved the occurrence of much sub-fossil yew-wood, particularly from buried peat-beds and submerged forests in this country; but he is anxious for more material from localities in England and Ireland, and he asks all who have an opportunity of collecting examples of reddish woods, looking like yew, to post to him small pieces for examination. His address is: "Prof. Dr. CONWENTZ, Director of the Museum, Danzig, Germany," and parcels should be labelled outside "Of no value." E. T. NEWTON.

### OBITUARY.

#### SAMUEL ROWLES PATTISON.

BORN 1809.

DIED NOVEMBER 27, 1901.

THE death has been announced, on November 27, at Kensington, of Mr. S. R. Pattison, at the advanced age of 92. Mr. Pattison was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society in 1839. At this period he resided at Launceston, and there he gathered together a fine collection of fossils from the Upper Devonian Limestone of South Petherwin. These specimens and his local information were placed at the disposal of De la Beche and John Phillips when they were engaged on the geological survey in that part of Cornwall, and on the description of the organic remains. Pattison contributed a number of papers to the Royal Institution of Cornwall and the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, on the geology of Launceston, Tintagel, and other places. In 1854 he drew attention to an auriferous quartz-rock in North Cornwall (*Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. x, p. 247). In 1871, after a visit to the Franco-Belgian Devonian regions, he brought before the Geologists' Association a paper on the Upper Limits of the Devonian System. In 1849 he published a little work entitled "Chapters on Fossil Botany," and in 1858 "The Earth and the Word; or, Geology for Bible Students." Mr. Pattison was a member of a firm of solicitors, and his legal knowledge was for many years placed at the service of the Geological Society, on whose Council he served. A few years ago he resigned his fellowship of the Society.