

from Dunghan Hill, or even shown that Laki beds exist there. The "Dunghan Limestone" fauna quoted by Pinfold in his present paper (p. 192) was described by Nuttall¹ from a limestone of Lower Laki age in the Bolan Pass; several of the species, and one genus, having never been seen elsewhere in India. Since Bolan fossils afford the actual basis for comparison when discussing this formation, I prefer to treat the Bolan as its type area in name, as it is in fact.

I am glad to see that Mr. Pinfold endorses (p. 195) my statement² that the Laki is altogether missing in northern Waziristan. He thinks, however, that a small thickness of shales with an estuarine fauna of uppermost Laki age appears in southern Waziristan. I will not personally be sure of this until I have seen the fossils concerned, which have not yet even been specified. Reasons for caution in claiming Laki beds in Waziristan have been detailed elsewhere.³

Incidentally, I cannot agree with Mr. Pinfold's statement (p. 192) that "the whole of the Ranikot is missing" in Baluchistan. I long ago showed⁴ that typical Upper Ranikot fossils had been collected at Zrind, in northern Baluchistan; and I recently found Ranikot foraminifera⁵ in Carter's collections from the Valley of Kelat farther south. That Ranikot deposits are relatively rare in Baluchistan may be admitted; and this was probably due to local emergence and denudation during basal Laki times.

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PLATYCRINUS TUBERCULATUS OYENS, A
CORRECTION

SIR,—On p. 300, vol. i, *Geological Expedition to the Lesser Sunda Islands under leadership of H. A. Brouwer*, Amsterdam, 1940, I described in my article "Neue permische Krinoiden, mit Angaben über deren Fundstellen im Basleo Gebiet (Niederländisch Timor)" a new species of *Platycrinus* under the name *Platycrinus tuberculatus*.

¹ *Op. cit.*, pp. 420, 440, 448, etc.

² Davies, L. M., 1938. Eocene Beds in Waziristan. *Nature*, cxlii, 296.

³ Davies, L. M., 1938. Quelques résultats de travaux récents sur l'Éocène du Nord-Ouest de l'Inde. *C.R. Soc. Géol. France*, Fasc. 2, 22-23. Quelques observations sur les derniers dépôts marins dans le Nord-Ouest de l'Inde. *Ibid.*, Fasc. 15, 294-295.

⁴ Davies, L. M., 1927. The Ranikot Beds at Thal. *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Lond.*, lxxxiii, 265.

⁵ On British Museum (Nat. Hist.) slide No. P. 30214.

Mr. James Wright, of Edinburgh, was so kind as to call my attention to the fact that the name *tuberculatus* had already been used for a species of *Platycrinus* by J. S. Miller (1821), and that also Phillips (1836) and the Austins (1843-8) gave figures and descriptions of what they considered to be the same species.

Though recently Miller's species has been placed by Wright (1938) under *Pleurocrinus*, my species cannot stand under the name *tuberculatus* and consequently I propose to change *Platycrinus tuberculatus* Oyens, 1940, to *Platycrinus wrighti* nov. nom.

I am exceedingly indebted to Mr. Wright for calling my attention to this oversight.

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AMSTERDAM, GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.
March, 1940.

AUSTIN, T. and T., 1843-8. *Monograph on Recent and Fossil Crinoidea*. London and Bristol, p. 41.

MILLER, J. S., 1821. *A Natural History of the Crinoidea*. Bristol, p. 21.

PHILLIPS, J., 1836. *Illustrations of the Geology of Yorkshire, etc.* Pt. II. London, p. 204.

WRIGHT, J., 1938. Some British *Platycrinidae* and Descriptions of New Species. *Geol. Mag.*, lxxv, p. 278.

REVIEWS

THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES.

By F. D. ADAMS. pp. 506, with plates and figures. London :
Baillière, Tindall and Cox, 1938. Price 22s. 6d.

In this charmingly written book Professor Adams has brought together the results of his own assiduous collecting and study of the early literature of geology, mineralogy, and allied subjects. It is generally believed that the actual word geology is very modern in its present sense, but it is here shown that it was actually used in English as early as 1661 and in Danish in 1657. But it is a curious point that the first known use of the word meant something entirely different. In 1473 Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, used it for, of all things in the world, the study of law, which he called the *earthly science* "in antithesis to the sciences which aid in the understanding of divine things", namely theology.

All the same, geology is a very modern science. It is truly astonishing how long the old and fantastic ideas survived. The reference is here not so much to stratigraphical geology,