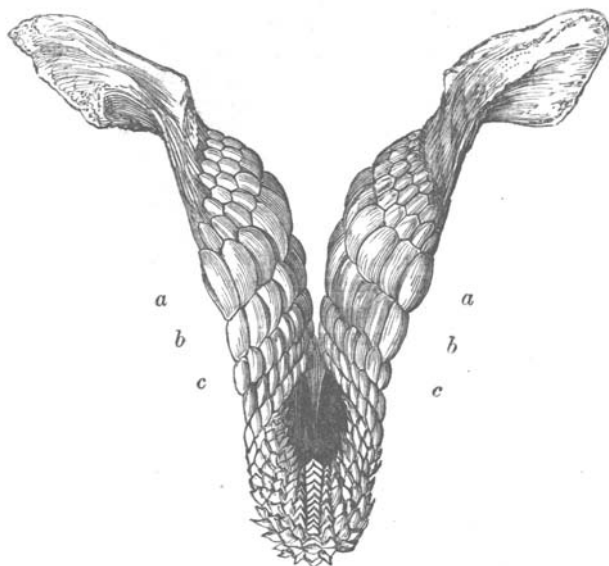


The block unfortunately arrived too late for insertion in its proper place in the article.—EDIT.



Lower jaw and teeth of *Cestracion Philippi*, half natural size. The letters indicate the corresponding rows of teeth seen in *Strophodus medius*, Owen; figured in Plate VII. herewith. (See Prof. Owen's article, p. 193.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

GEOLOGICAL NOTES ON NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, &c.

SIR,—I am glad to see that Professor Morris, in his recent Paper on the Oolites of the Midland Counties in the March number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, has confirmed an opinion I long ago maintained, that some of the beds which he describes in Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire belong rather to the Inferior than the Great Oolite, to which they have been hitherto referred by the Geological Surveyors, and with whom, if I remember right, Mr. Morris then agreed. He seems to have forgotten, or probably was not aware, that I had written a short paper on the geology of the neighbourhood of Grantham, for the Cotswold Club, in 1850, since printed in their Proceedings; and a short notice on the Inferior Oolite in parts of North Hants, in the Annals of Natural History in 1857. In these I stated, in effect, that, after a careful examination of the sections, and comparison of the fossils with those of the Cotswold area, with which I was familiar,¹ I had arrived at the conclusion that certain strata, immediately overlying the Lias to which he refers should be more properly assigned to the Inferior Oolite, and I added that they required a further and closer examination. I have visited most of the localities in Lincolnshire,

¹ Proceedings of the Geol. Soc., 1850, vol. vi. pt. 1, and 1851.

Gloucestershire, and Northamptonshire mentioned in his interesting paper, and I obtained many of the fossils given in his list. Several of these from the neighbourhood of Grantham I sent, at the time, to my friend Dr. Lycett, and he stated that although the greater number were new to him yet the rest were species decidedly belonging to the Inferior Oolite; and Mr. Sharp, with whom, on a future occasion, I examined the neighbourhood of Northampton, and who is thoroughly conversant with the geology of the district, agreed with me in classing the ferruginous Oolite overlying the Lias with the Inferior Oolite. Amongst other fossils obtained there of a decidedly Inferior Oolite facies I found a specimen of *Pygaster semisulcatus* which has not yet been recorded higher than that formation, and is common enough in the peagrit and pisolite near Cheltenham. Mr. Morris gives it in his list of fossils near Northampton, as well as *Hyboolypus agariciformis*. If these were not considered sufficient to prove the position of the rock in which they occur, the other shells I obtained associated with them, and a still larger number named by Mr. Morris, are decisive upon the point, as far as palæontological evidence goes. As there is also a clear ascending section from the Lias to the Great Oolite, the intervening strata may, therefore, be more reasonably placed with the Inferior Oolite, although there are certain lithological differences and a large increase of ferruginous matter in the Midland district, when compared with the same formation in Gloucestershire. It is not a matter of much consequence, but I think it due to myself to state that, after a careful comparison of the sections and fossils of the outer escarpments of the Cotswolds with those of Lincolnshire, and Northamptonshire, I had held from the first, since the year 1850, that a certain portion of the Oolites of the Midland Counties belonged to the Inferior Oolite, with which they will now probably be again and finally classed.

P. B. BRODIE.

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March 17, 1869

ELEPHAS MERIDIONALIS IN THE NORWICH CRAG.

Sir,—I was surprised on again seeing Mr. Roper's collection at Lowestoff, to find that it did not contain one single specimen of an elephant's tooth, and that all the Mammalian remains were from, as he described it, the Coprolite bed beneath the Coralline Crag, and none at all from the Red Crag. The collection had been removed from West Tofts, near Brandon, where I had seen it five years ago; but there was no ground to suppose any specimen had been lost, for Mr. Roper showed me a MS., in which he had carefully figured all the mammals, with a coloured section of the strata at Sutton. The lowest of these was the bed from which he had taken an old shed tooth of a Mastodon, and three fragmentary portions of others, together with the basal part of a deer's horn, and a beautiful and perfect molar of a pig. Above this was the Coralline Crag, and then the Red Crag, from which, he said, he had obtained no Mammalian remains whatever.

I am very sorry to have misled Mr. Fisher by my having founded, as it appears, I must have done, this tooth of a Mastodon,