

I may add that in regard to Mr. C. Reid's argument and conclusion as to the Trimmingham bluffs and their explanation, it is many years since, I think, I conclusively showed the impossibility of his theory, a fact also overlooked by the authors of the much criticized paper in your September number.

30, COLLINGHAM PLACE, EARLS COURT.  
October 4th, 1905.

HENRY H. HOWORTH.

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OBITUARY.

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PROFESSOR BARON FERDINAND VON RICHTHOFEN.

BORN MAY 5, 1833.

DIED OCTOBER 6, 1905.

It is with much regret that we record the death of Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen, Professor of Geography in the Berlin University, and eminent alike as a geologist and geographer; who for the last seventeen years taught in that city, and of whom it has been said that there are few among living German geographers who are not proud to call themselves his pupils.

Born at Karlsruhe, Silesia, on 5th May, 1833, he studied first at Breslau, and afterwards at Berlin (1850-6), graduating in 1856. His first geological work was performed in the South Tyrol.

In 1860, with the rank of a Legation secretary, he joined Count Eulenburg's Prussian expedition as geologist, visiting Japan, China, and Siam; he then left the expedition at Siam and continued his travels in Java, Manila, the Philippines, Celebes, and Burma, spending some time in California and Nevada. In 1868 he went to Shanghai and explored for four years a large part of China, returning to Europe in 1872, to work out the results of his travels. The University of Bonn, after electing him to the Chair of Geography in 1875, allowed him to complete the first part of his great work on China before taking up his post in 1879. From Bonn he was transferred to Leipsic in 1883, and to Berlin in 1886, where he continued to lecture until the time of his death. It was by his advice that the German Government selected Kiao-chau as its naval base in the Far East, and have subsequently devoted themselves to the special development and exploration of the province of Shantung.

Baron Richthofen took an active part in the International Geological Congress held in London, September 17th, 1887. In the following year he was elected a Foreign Member of the Geological Society of London, and in 1892 he received the award of the Wollaston Medal from the Council of that Society. On the occasion of its presentation Sir A. Geikie, the President, said of Baron Richthofen's great work on the geology of China, "The massive volumes and splendid atlas which contain his account of China form one of the most important contributions ever made to geological literature" (*GEOL. MAG.*, 1892, p. 183). His lectures and writings amply testify to the intimate connection which exists between the sciences of geography and geology, and one is led to wonder how they were ever separated.

Baron Richthofen died on October 6th in his 73rd year. His loss will be felt wherever the sciences of geology and geography are cultivated.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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RETIREMENT OF MR. HUGH J. LLEWELLYN BEADNELL, F.G.S.

WE regret to announce that Mr. Beadnell, who for nine years has been connected with the Geological Survey of Egypt, has just retired to take up other work in Egypt. He went direct from the Royal College of Science to Egypt when the Geological Survey of that country was established in 1896. In the Winter of 1896-7 he mapped various portions of the Nile Valley between Minia and Esna, and paid a flying visit to the extensive salt deposits in the Eastern Desert between Assiut and the Red Sea. The following Summer he took up the Abu Roash district, which had been described by Walther and Schweinfurth as a Cretaceous complex separated by faults from the surrounding Eocene: Mr. Beadnell's detailed examination showed, however, that the junction throughout was in reality an unconformable one, the faults being entirely within the Cretaceous beds. The following year the examination of the Libyan Desert oases was taken up, Baharia (western portion), Farafra, and Dakhla oases falling to his share. The most important results of this season's work included the discovery of Cenomanian beds in Baharia and extensive phosphatic deposits in Dakhla. The unconformity between Cretaceous and Eocene, found the previous Summer in Abu Roash, was proved to extend to Baharia.

In 1898 he commenced the examination of the Fayûm, though the work was temporarily suspended to complete parts of the Nile Valley further south. In 1901-4 work was continued at intervals in the Fayûm, and systematic excavations for fossil vertebrate remains were undertaken. During part of this time Dr. Andrews, of the British Museum (Natural History), was associated with Mr. Beadnell or encamped within a short distance, and their united labours resulted in the bringing to light nearly forty new genera and species of mammals and reptiles described and determined by Dr. Andrews. A very large collection of the remains of these animals is now exhibited in the Cairo Geological Museum, while a second representative collection has found a home in the British Museum (Natural History).

Among other districts Mr. Beadnell carried out topographical and geological work in Mogara, Wadi Natrun, Kharga Oasis, and the Nile Valley between Esna and Aswan.

On the Egyptian Geological Survey the work is by no means confined to geology, and geologists have to personally carry out a large part of the purely topographical work. He has been three times to the Sudan, spending altogether nearly a year in taking discharges on the White and Blue Niles and the Atbara River for the Egyptian Irrigation Department. He has on two occasions during the Summer months also been in charge of a section of the Revenue Survey.