

three consecutive years, and received figures for 1906, 1907, and 1908, as follows :—

	1906.	1907.	1908.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
January	3·12	2·57	2·27
February	4·19	1·99	3·62
March	4·63	3·53	3·48
April	6·65	5·55	5·53
May	6·61	7·30	4·23
June	6·71	6·57	3·49
July	6·42	6·32	4·22
August	10·82	4·92	9·12
September	5·97	5·65	10·75
October	10·60	9·32	6·69
November	3·81	8·35	6·86
December	11·03	9·28	4·66

I think it will puzzle anyone to find evidence in the above for alternating and perfectly distinct wet and dry seasons. Mr. Kilroe doubts the necessity of tropical conditions for the formation of laterite, and as there is no reason whatever for supposing that the Malacca laterite was formed under conditions of rainfall differing from those that obtain now, it appears that alternating wet and dry seasons are not necessary either.

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GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT, KUALA LUMPUR,
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October, 1909.

OBITUARY.

CARL GOTTSCHÉ, PH.D.

BORN 1855.

DIED OCTOBER 11, 1909.

WE regret to record the death of Professor Dr. Carl Gottsche, Director of the Mineralogical-Geological Institute at Hamburg. Born at Altona in Schleswig-Holstein, he early gave attention to geology, and in 1875 described a boulder of sandy limestone found at Eimsbüttel near Hamburg, which contained *Paludina lenta*, *Planorbis euomphalus*, and *Unio Solanderei*, characteristic of the Headon Beds. In 1878 he published papers on the Miocene Mollusca of Reinbeck, and on some Jurassic fossils from the Argentine Cordilleras; and in 1883 he issued a little work, *Die sedimentäre Geschiebe der Provinz Schleswig-Holstein*, which was published at Yokohama. At that date Dr. Gottsche was engaged in a geological study of Korea, and in addition to other papers on the results of his work, he communicated to the Berlin Academy in 1886 a Geological Sketch of Korea, with the first geological map that had been made of the country.¹ Dr. Gottsche attended the London meeting of the International Geological Congress in 1888, and was also present at the British Association meeting at Bath in the same year. Those who attended some of the geological excursions in the west country will remember his keen interest and buoyant spirits in the field; and all will lament his decease at the age of 54. H. B. W.

¹ Dr. Gottsche obtained a recent specimen of *Pleurotomaria Beyrichii* at Enoshima, Japan, described by H. Woodward, *Geol. Mag.*, 1885, pp. 433-9, Pl. XI, Fig. 1.