

The stratigraphical questions of Start Bay lie entirely outside my province; but I may, perhaps, be allowed to point out how little they affect my position.

In the course of a walk from near the Start Lighthouse to Dartmouth, we may notice the following rocks:—Westward of the lighthouse, forming the cliff face, is a mass of compact greenrock, which, previously to Mr. Ussher's survey, seems to have been invariably overlooked by geological visitors. Immediately to the north are the mica-quartz-schists of Start Ridge, succeeded along the coast by a series of mica-schists which pass into the ordinary Devonians at Hallsands, with but slight indications of an important area of greenrock inland.

Devonian slates and sandstones are interrupted by volcanic rocks at Torcross, and then continue to Blackpool, where volcanic rocks reappear in force, and are considerably developed up to the entrance of Dartmouth Harbour, where the Mewstone islet and the eastern and western blackstones indicate the seaward extension of the diabases.

Now, from Hallsands to Dartmouth Harbour, the rocks including the diabases are admitted to be Devonian, of some age. If they are Lower Devonian, Mr. Hudleston tells us that in other districts Lower Devonian diabases "are not by any means in evidence." If, on the other hand, they are Middle Devonian, it is equally noticeable that the limestones (the characteristic rocks of that horizon) are absent.

If the explanation be that Middle Devonian slates and diabases are folded together with Lower Devonian slates and sandstones (with no useful fossils to assist the observer) the difficulty of the case as a purely Devonian problem is sufficiently obvious. But so far as the main problem of the age of the metamorphic green rocks is concerned, the question of the exact horizon of the Start Bay diabases, whether Lower or Middle Devonian, is of very minor consequence or interest. My point is that the sandstones, slates, and diabases north of the metamorphic boundary are the analogues of the quartz-schists, mica-schists, and green rocks to the south of that boundary; of which fact I do not entertain the shadow of a doubt.

A. R. HUNT.

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OBITUARY.

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CHARLES S. BEACHLER.

BORN NOVEMBER 5TH, 1870. DIED APRIL 5TH, 1894.

WE greatly regret to hear of the death of this young American geologist, which occurred at Crawfordsville, Indiana, on the above date, and was due to a complication of heart and lung trouble. Charles Beachler's scientific studies were begun at Wabash College, when he was fifteen years old. Here he became interested in herpetology, and made a collection of the reptiles of Indiana for the College at his own expense. Subsequently he was employed by Mr. Frank Springer to collect Crinoids from the Carboniferous beds of Crawfordsville, and the Niagara Limestone of Waldron and

St. Paul. While engaged in this work he made the best of his opportunities to study the geology of the districts visited, and made some geological excursions on his own account.

Short but interesting notes resulting from these investigations have appeared in the *American Naturalist*, *American Geologist*, and the *Journal of Geology*. In the autumn of last year Mr. Beachler studied and taught under Prof. J. W. Spencer, State-Geologist of Georgia, and, on his return to Crawfordsville, himself became a candidate for the post of State-Geologist of Indiana.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

“HARKNESS SCHOLARSHIPS IN GEOLOGY FOR MEN AND WOMEN.”—It seems difficult to devise a more pleasing or useful form in which to perpetuate the memory of one who was greatly esteemed and loved, than to establish a scholarship, as has been done by the late Mrs. Pearson of Penrith, to the memory of her brother, Professor Robert Harkness, F.R.S., F.G.S., late Professor of Geology, Queen’s College, Cork.

Professor Harkness, who died in 1878, was a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, where he attended the lectures of Professors Jamieson and James D. Forbes. He was appointed to the Chair of Geology in Queen’s College, Cork, in 1853, a post which he held until 1878. He was an excellent geological teacher, and contributed many admirable papers on the geology of Cumberland and Westmoreland, and other parts of England and Ireland. He was, for many years, a constant attendant at the meetings of the British Association, where his presence in Section C was as regularly expected as that of the late Mr. William Pengelly, F.R.S., and he took an active part in its meetings and discussions, as well as in those of the Geological Society whenever he could be present.

The scholarship for women, tenable at either Girton or Newnham College, Cambridge, is to be awarded triennially to the best candidate in an examination in Geology and Palæontology, provided that sufficient proficiency be shown. The candidates must be resident members of either Girton or Newnham College, in their first or second term. The scholarship will be of the value of about £35 a year tenable for three years. The next examination will be held at Cambridge in the Michaelmas Term, and the award will be made on or before November 15th, 1894.

Another Harkness Scholarship in Geology, which was also established by Mrs. Pearson to her brother’s memory, is open to men and is vested in the hands of the University of Cambridge. This is awarded annually, any member of the University being eligible who has graduated as B.A., “provided that not more than three years have elapsed since the 19th day of December next following his final examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts.” The award is in the hands of a Board of Electors. We trust that this memorial to so excellent a geologist may long maintain its vitality, and form a living link between the past and present for the good of our science.