

chiefly devoted himself, I have understood enough of his labors to appreciate his singular patience and accuracy as an observer, his ingenuity in devising experiments, and the caution and conscientiousness with which he was accustomed to report the results of his investigations.

These qualities, early recognized by his scientific co-workers abroad as well as at home, placed him in the front rank of the promoters of the biological sciences. To these intellectual gifts was added a modesty and self-forgetfulness which, while they were unfavorable to the more popular recognition of his merits, have rendered his example preëminently worthy of imitation by all honest seekers after truth.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM B. ROGERS.

Out of respect to Dr. Wyman's memory, it was voted to adjourn without the transaction of any business but the imperative election of members.

Prof. Oswald Heer was elected an Honorary Member, and Messrs. Geo. W. Bond, Jonathan Brown, Jr., E. S. Cassino, W. G. Corthell, R. W. Greenleaf, M. L. Ham, J. S. Hayes, C. E. Hobbs, Wayland Hoyt, Dan'l T. Huckins, John Orne, Jr., R. Rathburn, and E. A. Thompson, were elected Resident Members.

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October 21, 1874.

The President in the chair. Fifty-four persons present.

The Secretary read a note by Mr. Charles Stodder, on the locality of the Bermuda Tripoli, accompanied by a communication on the same subject by Prof. Christopher Johnston of Baltimore.

In "Science Gossip," London, for May, 1874, is a note signed "F. K.," in reply to a correspondent, who had inquired for the locality

of the celebrated "Bermuda Tripoli," so rich in peculiar forms of Diatomaceæ, described by Ehrenberg and the late Prof. J. W. Bailey. "F. K." says that "Mr. Geo. Norman of Hull, England, found that it came from Nottingham, Maryland."

As the Nottingham earth came from our corresponding member, Prof. Christopher Johnston of Baltimore — and that it was possible that Nottingham was the original locality, was well known in this country independent of Mr. Norman — I applied to Prof. Johnston for the authentic history of that deposit; to which he replied by the paper herewith appended. Mr. Norman's paper is in the "Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science," January, 1861. In that paper he does not say that the Bermuda came from Nottingham, as "F. K." represents, but only suggests the possibility of the case, as American diatomists had before him. Since Dr. Johnston's paper was written, Dr. Josiah Curtis has visited that part of Maryland, and discovered numerous other localities of the diatomaceous earth, containing the same forms as the Bermuda and Nottingham deposits.

ABOUT THE REDISCOVERY OF THE "BERMUDA 'TRIPOLI,'" NEAR NOTTINGHAM, ON THE PATUXENT, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND. BY CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTON, M.D.

In 1854 I had the great pleasure of being a correspondent of Prof. J. W. Bailey of West Point, and during the year received from that distinguished gentleman valuable guidance, and also specimens of diatomaceous material, among others a very small portion of a buff-colored dust, labelled "Bermuda Tripoli." From this I prepared a single slide, now in my possession, containing very beautiful forms, chiefly *Heliopelta*, *Corcinodiscus*, *Craspedodiscus*, *Aulacodiscus Cruz*, and *Eupodiscus Rodgersii*.

At a later period I was in correspondence with my friend J. Sullivant, Esq., of Columbus, and while making some exchanges, I asked for "a good boiling of Bermuda Tripoli"; to which request Mr. S. replied, June, 1859, "I would send you a quantity if I had it. I have nothing but a slide, and I have been long struck with its resemblance to the Richmond earth. . . . In a letter just received from Mr. Geo. Norman, he says 'what a pity the locality of Bermuda Tripoli and its beautiful fossils has been lost;' and then adds 'that himself and Dr. Arnott had come to the separate and independent conclusion that they *never came from Bermuda at all*, but from Bermuda or James River in Virginia.' I have very little doubt of it,

for there is a place called 'Bermuda Hundreds' on the James River. From the frequent intercourse between Baltimore and Richmond, you have an opportunity of following this up. I trust you will."

Early in 1860 I sent my "Bermuda" slide to Columbus, where the beauty of the diatoms was much appreciated, and Bermuda Hundreds again the subject of remark, as appears by a letter from Mr. Sullivant, dated March 25, 1860.

I had resolved to visit Bermuda Hundreds for the purpose of making an exploration, when, about the first of April, my valued friend P. T. Tyson, Esq., State Geologist for Maryland, sent me a number of small parcels of "Tripoli," which he had procured in different parts of the State. One of these earths marked *Nottingham*, attracted my particular attention, for I had the extreme pleasure to find in it the diatomaceous forms familiar on my Bermuda Tripoli slide, besides a host of others, and I at once was satisfied that the lost Bermuda Tripoli was before me, and its locality discovered.

I at once communicated my discovery to Mr. Tyson, who was much gratified at being the means of leading to so interesting a development; and as he was about to visit Boston as member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which was to have its sitting in May, my friend offered to take a short note which I hastily prepared, together with some of the "new Bermuda earth," and lay both before the Academy. Mr. Tyson kept his promise.

In the next month I received a note from that eminent physician, Dr. Silas Durkee of Boston, of date June 9, 1860, making me acquainted with Charles Stodder, Esq., an associate of the Boston Natural History Society, and conveying a valuable and detailed catalogue of "the genera and species" of Diatomaceæ found by Mr. Stodder in the Nottingham earth.

I had hardly convinced myself of the identity of the "Bermuda Tripoli" and the Nottingham earth, than I thought of my friend Mr. J. Sullivant, to whom I dispatched a parcel of the earth in question; and in his reply, dated June 4, 1860, he says "I trust you have re-discovered the equivalent of the Bermuda Tripoli."

Although I had identified the "Bermuda Tripoli" in the Nottingham earth, I could not abandon all hope of tracing the former to Bermuda Hundreds, on the James. Accordingly, in the summer of 1860, I made a pilgrimage to the latter place, situated upon the right bank of the river, above City Point, about one hundred miles nearly due south of Nottingham, and since made remarkable by a historic

amphoric inclusion, but my visit was without other fruit than a surprise to the inhabitants, who failed to appreciate any zeal, but who, nevertheless very kindly aided my search.

About this time my friend Mr. Wm. S. Sullivant of Columbus, sent a portion of the Nottingham earth with which I furnished him to Mr. G. Norman of Hull, as I find in a letter of date January 12, 1861, from Dr. J. M. Dempsey, of Charterhouse Square, with this reference: "In the last '*Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*,' there is a short paper by Mr. Norman of Hull, describing the fossil forms of *Diatomaceæ*, contained in a deposit forwarded to him by Messrs. Sullivant and Wormley, Columbus, Ohio, described or discovered by you at Nottingham, Maryland."

The letter also contained a request for some of the earth, with which I complied at once, forwarding by the same conveyance a parcel to Mr. G. Norman of Hull, and to my almost namesake, the venerable Christopher Johnson, Esq., of Lancaster, and included under the cover of each several other Maryland deposits. For these, Mr. Johnson wrote in acknowledgement a very kind letter, bearing date March 15, 1861, and Mr. Norman's reply soon followed, his letter being dated April 12, 1861.

From this time until the present, Mr. Tyson and myself have supplied quantities of the Nottingham earth to very many correspondents; and upon looking over my own slide of the new Bermuda, nothing gives me so much satisfaction as the knowledge that I have, by the very probable discovery of the "Bermuda" locality, contributed so much to the pleasure of other microscopists.

In reply to a question by the President, Mr. R. C. Greenleaf said that the diatomaceous forms contained in the Bermuda Tripoli were the same as those found in the Richmond earth.

Dr. T. S. Hunt spoke of the geological age of these deposits, and said that no infusorial earths are as yet known to occur in Bermuda.

Prof. W. H. Niles stated that Tyson's Reports on the Geology of Maryland contain very good reports on the various Maryland localities of infusorial earth.