

other crag had been struck during the very heavy thunderstorm which passed over the district on a Sunday evening in the Summer of 1898 (I do not remember the exact date), when several beasts were killed by lightning. In this case some blocks have been thrown eighteen yards from the parent rock; the largest of these is between ten and eleven cubic feet in size, and there are several others lying beside it measuring three cubic feet and less. One huge block measuring sixty-four cubic feet had been thrown twenty-six yards. There are no marks of vitrification on the stricken crags nor on the detached fragments. The lightning has done nothing more than to break off slices and chunks and cast them to a distance.

On subsequently examining the ground again I found several other places where the rocks had been struck by lightning.

The name of the place given on the Ordnance Map is Cerig y Mellt. If this name is correct it is significant, for the words mean 'rocks of lightning'; but there is some doubt as to what is the correct name, for Mr. Roberts tells me that he learnt from his father to call the place Cerig y Myllt, which means 'rocks of the wethers.'

J. R. DAKYNS.

SNOWDON VIEW, NANT GWYNANT, BEDDGELERT.

January 25, 1902.

OBITUARY.

HON. CLARENCE KING, F.G.S.

BORN

DIED DECEMBER 24, 1901.

In the death of Clarence King geological science has lost one who rendered distinguished service in the surveys of the United States. He was born at Newport, Rhode Island, and graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University in 1852. He prepared the geological and topographical atlas and several important reports for the Geological Exploration of the Fortieth Parallel, and when in 1880 this and other geological surveys were amalgamated as the United States Geological Survey, Mr. King was appointed Director. Under his charge the Survey was carried on with vigour, and special investigations were made on regions of exceptional economic importance. A year later, however, Mr. King relinquished his position, desiring to devote himself unfettered to geological research. His fame, however, rests on his official work. Mr. King died at Phoenix, Arizona, on December 24th, 1901.

REV. FREDERICK SMITHE, M.A., LL.D., F.G.S.

BORN 1822.

DIED DECEMBER 9, 1900.

WE learn from the recently published Address of the President of the Cotteswold Club (Mr. E. B. Wethered) of the death more than a year ago of Dr. Frederick Smithe, vicar of Churchdown in Gloucestershire. He laboured for many years with great enthusiasm