

Had they been given me, as stated by Mr. Tylor, I should not have committed myself by publishing the list without first obtaining Mr. Skertchly's permission, and without due acknowledgment. I must ask you, therefore, to insert this, in correction of Mr. Tylor's statement, which is erroneous.

GEORGE J. SMITH.

ISLINGTON, September 5, 1868.

ORMEROD'S GEOLOGICAL INDEX.

A Second Edition of this work, including the papers contained in the Quarterly Journal for 1868, will shortly be published. Geologists are requested to communicate notices of any errors or omissions that exist in the first edition to the author, at the following address,

G. W. ORMEROD, Esq.,
Chagford, Exeter.

FOSSILS FROM THE COAL-MEASURES.

SIR,—I have recently collected, or had forwarded to me, thousands of specimens of fossil jaws, teeth, scales, spines, ribs, vertebræ, and other fish-remains from the Low Main Coal Shales of Northumberland.

As a matter of course, several of the specimens are duplicates, and are not required for the cabinet. I shall therefore have great pleasure in forwarding a tooth or scale to any of your readers who will send me a stamped and addressed parchment luggage label.

The fossils collected are for the most part of the following genera:—*Rhizodus*, *Megalichthys*, *Rhizodopsis*, *Ctenodus*, *Ctenoptychius*, *Pleuracanthus*, *Gyracanthus*, *Strepsodus*, *Acanthodopsis*, etc., myriads of *Entomostraca*, and a few reptile remains.

T. P. BARKAS.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, September 8, 1868.

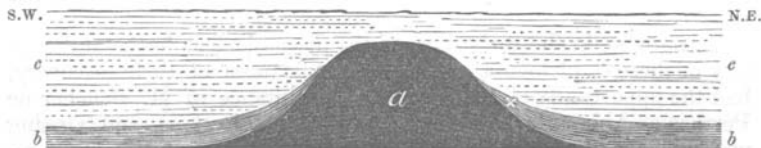
DISCOVERY OF *BOS PRIMIGENIUS* IN THE LOWER BOULDER-CLAY OF SCOTLAND.

SIR,—In my humble opinion, it is doubtful if Mr. Geikie is correct in placing the discovery of the above fossil in the true Till or Lower Boulder-clay of Scotland.¹ He says that "the fossil was imbedded some few feet deep, in a soft clay or mud, interlaminated with lines and beds of sand, and occasional layers of fine gravel." Mr. Geikie takes this bed as being intercalated, with the Lower Boulder-clay, whereas the Lower Boulder-clay rises up through this stratified bed, (if I may so speak), throwing it out altogether, for more than one hundred yards in the cutting,—a fact that Mr. Geikie has overlooked, both in his sketch section, Fig. 1, and in the letterpress description. This has led him to consider the clay that underlies the stratified bed as identical with that which overlies it. They are certainly distinct. The clay that is seen rising from under the stratified bed is the true Till; and consists of a tough dark blue clay, full of stones and quite free of sand. It is seen rising from under the stratified bed, near the place where the fossil was found, and occupying the

¹ See Mr. James Geikie's article in the September Number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, p. 393 (with two woodcut sections).

north bank for one hundred yards westward; it is seen again dipping under the stratified beds—the clay that overlies the stratified bed is of a reddish, or as Mr. Geikie describes it, “dark brown” colour mixed with sand and gravel, and is altogether freer than the under clay.

To account for these stratified beds, Mr. Geikie supposes that “one large lake,” or more probably a series of small lakes, may once have occupied the area between Caldwell and the place where the fossil remains of the great ox were obtained.” This surmise is most likely correct; yet it is doubtful if a glacier passed up the valley after the deposit of the stratified beds. They have no appearance of being disturbed by land-ice having passed over them. Into this I do not enter, it is enough to point out that these upper beds are distinct from the true “Till,” and may belong to deposits long posterior to it.



SECTION OF NORTH BANK, WHERE *Bos primigenius* WAS FOUND.

- a. Lower Boulder-clay.
- b. Stratified bed of fine mud, or clay, free from stones.
- c. Clay with sand and gravel.
- x Place where the fossil was found.¹

ROBERT CRAIG.

LANGSIDE, BEITH, September 10, 1868.

OBITUARY.

M. BOUCHER DE PERTHES.

On the 2nd of August last, at the ripe age of 79 years, there passed away from among us Monsieur Jacques Boucher de Crèveceur de Perthes, Officer of the Legion of Honour, President of the Imperial Society of Emulation of Abbeville, a member of numerous learned societies, and a Foreign Correspondent of the Geological Society.

Throughout the whole of the civilized world there are few names better known than that of M. Boucher de Perthes, who in the present day must be regarded as the first person who directed public attention to those early works of man, the flint implements imbedded in the Post Pliocene gravels of our river valleys. Without detracting from the merits of Dr. Ceselli, of Rome, or of our own countryman, Mr. Frere, it must be confessed on all hands that to Boucher de Perthes and his labours is due the first impetus which was given to the study of the Antiquity of Man, which within the last few years has made such rapid progress, and which has enlisted the energies of so many votaries of science.

His *Antiquités Celtiques et Antédiluviennes*, printed in 1847, and published in 1849, will always be regarded as the starting point of

¹ The fossil was found on the top of the stratified bed, and could not be more than four feet from the surface.