of fact, no Lias of these zones occurs in the cliffs at Charmouth is untrue, unless "cliffs at Charmouth" is limited to Black Ven. Above a big gully immediately under the western end of Fairy Dell on Stonebarrow Cliff, within a mile of Charmouth Church, a section is exposed showing the Three Tiers at the base of *margaritatus* in place (last seen July, 1911); and, nearer Charmouth, in Stonebarrow Cliff west of the Dell, the lowest Tier with Ammonites of the *margaritatus* group may be seen. Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Three Tiers (as well as the beds immediately below down to the Belemnite Stone) are about half as thick here as at Golden Cap. The western end of Stonebarrow cannot reasonably be excluded from the "cliffs at Charmouth".

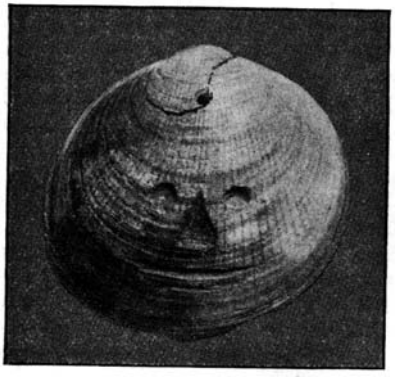
Renevier[1] held that, on account of priority, Pliensbachian should be used rather than Charmouthian. I am not aware that this principle is binding in stratigraphical nomenclature. But, whatever term finally is selected, there is no need either to shift the boundaries of Mayer-Eymar's Charmouthian or to object to the term on the score of topographical inexactitude.

W. D. Lang.

THE RED CRAG PORTRAIT.

Sir,—In the last number of the Geological Magazine (May, 1912) the Rev. O. Fisher figures some of the early handiworks of man. Among these is the sawn bone recorded as from the Crag, which was in Sir Joseph Prestwich's collection for many years and is now in the British Museum.

This reminds one not merely of the Red Crag portrait-shell, in which Sir Joseph was much interested, but accentuates the fact that this shell has never been illustrated. Consequently no figures of it are available for those who are interested, and its appearance is only known to our personal friends and some others who have seen it. Without repeating its history it must be mentioned in explanation



Carved Shell of *Pectunculus glycimeris*, Linn. Red Crag: Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex. Reproduced from a photograph, nat. size.

[1] Renevier, loc. cit.

that in 1881, when it was brought forward by Mr. Henry Stopes at a British Association meeting, it was considered *wrong* to suggest that man could have been alive at so early a date. Mr. Stopes was therefore content to wait till further evidence came to hand before bringing it before a wider public; but his early death left his work unfinished, so the shell has never been figured.

The accompanying illustration is from a photograph and indicates the natural size of the shell; it shows clearly most details of its features except the coloration. It should be noted that the excavated portions are as deeply coloured red-brown as the rest of the surface. This is an important point, because when the surfaces of Red Crag shells are scratched they show white below the colour. It should also be noticed that the shell is so delicate that any attempt to carve it now would merely shatter it.

As, however, the question is still so much under discussion, I wish to do no more now than give a good illustration of the most interesting, though controversial, specimen, so as to make its appearance and detail known to all interested in it. References to the literature will be found in my note in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for February, 1912, pp. 95–6.

MARIE C. STOPES (Ph.D., D.Sc., F.L.S.).

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
LONDON, W.C.

OBITUARY.

RALPH STOCKMAN TARR.

BORN 1864. DIED MARCH 21, 1912.

THE sudden death of R. S. Tarr on March 21 last at the early age of 48 has been deeply felt by his many friends on this side of the Atlantic, who held in high regard his sterling personal qualities, as well as his scientific ability.

Born at Gloucester, Mass., Professor Tarr entered at Harvard in 1881, and after interruptions for practical work in marine zoology and for geological field-work in the Eastern and Western States, he graduated in 1891, and in 1892 was appointed Assistant Professor of Dynamic Geology and Physical Geography at Cornell University, and Professor of the same subjects there in 1896, occupying the chair of Physical Geography up to the time of his death. He was married in 1892, and leaves a widow and two children.

In 1896 Tarr had charge of the Cornell expedition to Greenland, which did excellent work; and in 1909 and 1911 he, conjointly with Professor Lawrence Martin, carried out the research expeditions of the National Geographic Society for the study of Alaska glaciers. In 1910 he participated in the Geological Congress excursion to Spitzbergen.

In his university Professor Tarr was recognized as an inspiring and sympathetic teacher, and his untimely death has called forth many touching tributes to his memory from his former students. He was the author of numerous papers and memoirs on physiography, glacial geology, and educational topics, the best-known in this country being