

respectively—5, 6½; 8, 9; 8½, 6½; 6, 6; 3½, 3½; 6½, 7½; 21½, 12½; 8, 6; 8½, 7; 10, 8; 10½, 10; 7½, 6½.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HORIZON OF *PRODUCTUS HUMEROSUS*.

SIR,—In reply to Dr. Wheelton Hind's letter in the October number of the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, may I point out that there appear to be two forms of *Productus humerosus* occurring at different horizons. The earlier form is evidently characteristic of the Belgian "*sub-lævis*" level (C-S), while the later mutation is found in the *Dibunophyllum* zone. The late Dr. Vaughan, in his paper on the "Correlation of Dinantian and Avonian", published in the *Q.J.G.S.*, vol. lxxi, No. 281, refers to this matter, and mentions, on p. 47, that the Clitheroe form is the early variety of *Productus sublævis*. For the present I conclude, from evidence stated in my paper, that the Leicestershire beds contain the later advanced form of *P. humerosus*, and are of D₁ age, but I am looking forward to reading, with much pleasure, Dr. Hind's forthcoming paper on the Clitheroe area, and will then carefully reconsider the question.

L. M. PARSONS.

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OBITUARY.

SAMUEL WENDELL WILLISTON, M.D.

BORN JULY 10, 1852.

DIED OCTOBER, 1918.

VERTEBRATE palæontology loses a distinguished student by the death of Professor S. W. Williston. After leaving school he entered the Kansas Agricultural College, where his interest in geology was roused by Professor B. F. Mudge. He was then employed by Professor O. C. Marsh as one of his fossil-collectors in Kansas and other western territories of the United States. At the same time he helped with the preparation of the fossils in the Yale University Museum, and also pursued medical studies, which eventually led to his graduating as M.D. He was deeply interested both in the fossils and in the living animals which he met with during his explorations, and so early as 1877 he began to publish small notes. Professor Marsh, however, discouraged Williston's researches on fossils, and he therefore turned in earnest to dipterous insects, on which he became one of the leading authorities in the United States. In the early eighties he was appointed Professor of Geology and Palæontology in the State University of Kansas at Lawrence, where he brought together a great collection of fossils from the Cretaceous and Carboniferous formations of the State. In 1902 he removed to the newly instituted chair of Palæontology in the University of Chicago, where he continued active researches until nearly the time of his death.