

A SUPPLEMENTARY NOTE TO  
A PRELIMINARY SKETCH OF THE GLACIAL  
REMAINS PRESERVED IN THE NATIONAL PARK  
OF TASMANIA.

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In a paper read by me before the Royal Society of Tasmania on 11th July, 1921, on the above subject, I stated: "As far as can be ascertained, the glacial remains on the Mt. Field ranges have never been described. They do not appear to have been observed, or at least their existence recorded, before the proclamation of the area as a National Park. There is, therefore, no previous literature on the subject to which to refer."

Since publishing these statements my attention has been drawn to a paper, entitled "Climatic Cycles," published by Dr. (now Professor) Griffith Taylor, of the University of Sydney, in the American Geographical Review of December, 1919, in which, at pp. 292-3, he mentions the existence of glacial remains, cirques, moraines, etc., in the National Park, and also to the fact that an outline of the subject was compiled by the same author in January, 1919, for inclusion in a Tourist Department guide book, which, however, has not yet been published.

I regret that my ignorance of the existence of these articles caused the omission of any reference to Professor Taylor's researches in the Mt. Field district, and should, therefore, like the paragraph quoted above to be amended to read as follows:—

"The only previous literature on the subject of glaciation in the National Park is a mention of the existence of traces of glaciation in a paper, entitled 'Climatic Cycles,' published in the American Geographical Review of December, 1919, by Dr. Griffith Taylor, D.Sc., and a hitherto unpublished account of the glacial features by the same author to be incorporated in a handbook of the Park, the publication of which is contemplated by the Government Tourist Depart-

"ment. We are also indebted to Dr. Taylor for a map and a "relief model of the area."

The general lack of knowledge on the subject of past glacial action in Tasmania, and the necessity of a general survey of our present information on the subject both recorded and unrecorded, is illustrated by a statement published by no less an authority than Professor Walter Howchin, F.G.S., of the University of Adelaide, in the Official Year Book of the Commonwealth of Australia, No. 13 of 1920, at page 1,135, of which the learned author says: "(c) "Glaciers of Tasmania—No expedition for the specific object "of investigating the Pleistocene Glacial remains has been "undertaken, but incidental observations bearing on the "subject have been made by several travellers who were "visiting the country in pursuit of other objects . . . . "etc."

The actual state of affairs is that this subject has been largely written upon by all our Government geologists and most of our outstanding geological observers. In the Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania for 1916, Dr. W. N. Benson, at the end of his paper on the geological features of the Cradle Mountain district, at page 40, published a "Bibliography of Pleistocene Glaciation in Tasmania," containing 45 references. Of these, twelve (viz., references Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 25, 33, 35, 43, 44, and 45) are detailed and extended accounts of the glacial phenomena within the area described, the remainder being references to the occurrence of such phenomena. Also, it is far from the truth to suggest that these observations were made by "travellers who were visiting the country in pursuit of other "objects." Only nine of the references (viz. Nos. 4, 7, 14, 15, 24, 25, 28, 29, and 41) were written by gentlemen who were not domiciled Tasmanians. In the recently published R. M. Johnston Memorial volume one paper by the late Mr. Johnston on the Pleistocene Glacial Epoch extends over 80 pages.

For the sake of completeness, and for the benefit of anyone studying this subject, I should like to add the following references to Professor Benson's bibliography:—

10. 1893. R. M. Johnston. "The Glacial Epoch of Australasia," Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas., 1893, republished R. M. Johnston Memorial volume, 1921, pp. 16-96.
- 19a. 1894. E. J. Dunn. Proc. Roy. Soc. Vict. (new series), Vol. VI. (1894), pp. 133-138.

46. 1916. W. N. Benson. "Notes on the Geology of the Cradle Mountain District," Pap. and Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas, 1916, pp. 34-40.
47. 1918. Hartwell Conder. "The Tin Field of North Dundas," Geol. Surv. Tas. Bull. No. 26, pp. 8, 9, and 26.
48. 1918. A. McIntosh Reid. "The North Pieman, Huskisson, and Stirling Valley Mining Fields," Geol. Surv. Tas. Bull. No. 28, pp. 15-18.
49. 1919. A. McIntosh Reid. "The Mining Fields of Moina, Mt. Claude, and Lorinna," Geol. Surv. Tas. Bull. No. 29, pp. 10, 21, and 43.
50. 1919. A. McIntosh Reid. "The Mt. Pelion Mineral District," Geol. Surv. Tas. Bull. No. 30, pp. 14-17.
51. 1919. Griffith Taylor. "Climatic Cycles." American Geographical Review, Dec., 1919, pp. 292-3.
52. 1920. A. McIntosh Reid. "Osmiridium in Tasmania," Geol. Surv. Tas. Bull. No. 32, pp. 69, 83, and plans.
53. 1920. W. Howchin. "Past Glacial Action in Australia," Official Year Book of Comm. of Aust., No. 13, p. 1,133.