

DR. WHEELTON HIND'S CARBONIFEROUS LAMELLIBRANCHIATA.—
PART I. INTRODUCTION (PALÆONTOGRAPHICAL VOLUME, 1896).

SIR,—Under the heading of “General Sequence of the Carboniferous Rocks,” which embraces analyses or divisions of some of the coalfields in Britain, reference is made to the succession of the rocks in the Coal-measures in Somersetshire, or the southern part of the Bristol Coalfield. Under the general term Coal-measures, in the division “UPPER,” are placed—(1) The *Radstock and Farringdon Series*; (2) The *New Rock and Vobster Series*: both these are classed as belonging to the *Upper Group of Coals*.

The *Radstock and Farringdon Series* are undoubtedly members of the *Upper Coal-measures*, and of the uppermost division in Somersetshire; but the *New Rock and Vobster Series*, or coals, are in the *lowest* part of the *Lower Coal-measures*,—the two series being separated by *nearly 2000 feet* of the well-known “*Pennant Sandstone*,” so that the term *Upper* is here most misleading. Between the lines *Radstock and Farringdon Series*, should be inserted the “*MIDDLE or PENNANT SERIES, or Sandstones*” (2000 feet thick). The term “*Millstone Grit*” has no value here, unless the *New Rock and Vobster Series* (coals) are inserted below the *Pennant* and above the *Millstone Grit*, in the *Somersetshire* portion of the *Bristol Coalfield*, the northern and southern areas forming one continuous field. We can hardly understand how the northern and important division of the *Bristol and Somerset Coalfield* was omitted in the sequence. The entire basin is 26 miles from north to south, and 8 to 10 miles from west to east, but continuous and almost unbroken, the sequence being the same in either case, the Carboniferous Limestones and coal shales being highly fossiliferous. The *Bristol Coalfield* is the most typical and perfect in stratigraphical succession of any of the coalfields in Britain. I draw Dr. Wheelton Hind's attention to this very important omission in order that he may make his monograph upon the fossils of the British Carboniferous rocks for the Palæontographical Society as complete and accurate as possible, and that he may be induced to look carefully into the true succession of the different areas that will come under his examination.

R. ETHERIDGE.

OBITUARY.

DAVID ROBERTSON, LL.D., F.L.S., F.G.S.

BORN NOVEMBER 28, 1806.

DIED NOVEMBER 20, 1896.

DAVID ROBERTSON, once upon a time the little herd-boy of a Lanarkshire moorland farm, by-and-by the successful Glasgow merchant, and then for thirty or forty years the keen, shrewd, patient observer, bent on the acquisition and furtherance of “natural knowledge,” has passed away, after a life that has still been “too short for friendship,” although so greatly prolonged. He was born in 1806, November 28 of the Old Style; he died in 1896, November 20 of the New Style, and therefore just within three