

Forbes, from an examination of the Mollusca, and by Prof. Haeckel after studying the Radiolaria, gave his reasons for supposing that it is in reality more modern than these authors supposed, and may be referred to the Pliocene or Pleistocene.

Though *Cystechinus crassus* possessed plates of greater thickness than those of the previously described species, the ambulacra were apetaloid, and the author concluded that though an inhabitant of seas of less depth than those in which the modern forms occur, it may be fairly considered to have been a dweller in deep seas, and to indicate that the Radiolarian deposit is a true deep-sea ooze.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### A PALÆONTOLOGICAL RECORD.

SIR,—Now that Palæontology has become so complex a science, and new species are from day to day described in various parts of the world, is it not desirable that some International Record of them should be published at stated intervals?

We would suggest that the matter be taken up by the International Geological Congress; and if this be adopted, every one who describes a new species of fossil should send in the name and full references to the work in which it was published and figured, with accounts of the locality, geological horizon and biological order of the species.

In this way we should have an authentic register of new species, that would be of great value to all students of Palæontology; and, in short, “facilitate the preparation of that general list of all described fossils which is at present one of the greatest desiderata in geological science.”<sup>1</sup>

RUDOLF SCHÄFER.

HORACE B. WOODWARD.

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## OBITUARY

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### HENRY WILLIAM BRISTOW, F.R.S., F.G.S.,

Late Director of the Geological Survey of England and Wales.

BORN, MAY 17, 1817. DIED, JUNE 14, 1889.

THE name of H. W. BRISTOW will always be associated with the history of the Geological Survey, on which he served for a period of forty-six years. During the first few years of the official existence of the Survey, De la Beche had to depend to a large extent on voluntary or temporary assistance, but gradually he gathered around him a permanent staff of field-geologists and of others occupied in museum-work. Among those attached to the Survey in these early days were John Phillips, Ramsay and Aveline. In 1842 Mr. Bristow, then nearly twenty-five years of age, was appointed an Assistant Geologist, and during the next few years [Sir Warrington] Smyth, Baily, Edward Forbes, Jukes, Selwyn and others joined the staff, whose headquarters were then situated in Craig's Court.

<sup>1</sup> See Address to the Geol. Soc. 1889, by W. T. Blanford.