

granites; these areas, which are quite bare except where covered by occasional clumps of grass, are remarkable in being quite fresh, showing no signs of weathering or any other kind of alteration. The absence of laterite on such surfaces has been explained by Mr. Morrow Campbell, who has paid much attention to the conditions under which rocks become kaolinized and lateritized in the tropics. This writer considers that crystalline rocks must be altered before they can be lateritized, and also that the alteration necessary, generally kaolinization, can be produced only when the rocks have been for a long time continuously in contact with vadose water, i.e. in the zone of permanent saturation.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the fresh surface rocks referred to above, not having been subjected to such conditions, remain unlateritized.

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AN UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF *TROCHILIOFORA*.

SIR,—I desire to draw attention to a band of Chalk in Sussex, about 10 feet thick, near the base of the zone of *Micraster coranguinum*, in which an undescribed Polyzoan belonging to the genus *Trochiliopora* is very common. As this fossil appears to be confined to the said band of Chalk, and also owing to its abundance, it has proved to be a very useful local zonal guide fossil. The exact position in which it occurs in the *Micraster coranguinum* zone is as follows:—

Lower fourth	of zone of	{	Strong <i>M. coranguinum</i> tabular flint band.
			Chalk, about 35 feet.
<i>Micraster</i>	of zone of	{	Chalk with <i>Trochiliopora</i> sp., 10 feet.
<i>coranguinum</i> .			Chalk, about 17 feet.
Chalk of zone of <i>Micraster cortestudinarium</i> .			

I propose to call the 10 feet of chalk referred to "the *Trochiliopora* bed"

The genus *Trochiliopora* has been described by Professor J. W. Gregory in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, 1909, p. 65, and also in the British Museum Catalogue of Cretaceous Bryozoa, vol. ii, p. 265. The species above referred to resembles *T. humei*, Gregory, but its body tapers to a much finer stem than the stout blunt stem of the latter species.

The *Trochiliopora* bed is rich in Polyzoa, it having yielded some rare and interesting forms.

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## GEOLOGY OF THE NINGI HILLS.

SIR,—Major Williams' paper on the geology of the Ningi Hills of Nigeria in the October number is very welcome. It indicates not

<sup>1</sup> Morrow Campbell, op. cit., p. 123.