

never seen in this discussion (on climate) any reference to the planet Mars, he ought to have added, that it had *not* occurred to him to look out "Mars" in the index to "Climate and Time." O. F.

THE PILSEN PERMO-CARBONIFEROUS BEDS.

SIR,—In the extremely interesting paper on the Permo-Carboniferous beds of Bohemia which appears in the current number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, Dr. O. Feistmantel appears to rely very strongly on the announcement which he says was made by Dr. Anton Fritsch at the last meeting of the British Association that he considered the Nürschan Gas-coal horizon as a passage-bed from Carboniferous to Permian. Now when Dr. Fritsch exhibited his splendid series of specimens before the Geological Section, it was evident that he avoided carefully expressing any statement of opinion as to the exact age of the beds whence they came. A member then rose and asked Dr. Fritsch whether he considered the Pilsen Gas-coal series as Carboniferous or Permian, or whether he looked upon them as passage-beds. The only answer elicited from the cautious palæontologist was that it was not yet time to settle the matter, and that more work was required before the question was ripe for decision. In fact, he declined to give any clue as to what his views on the subject might be.

THE QUESTIONER HIMSELF.

8 March, 1877.

THE TERM "CHLORITIC MARL."

SIR,—In the review of Cambridgeshire Geology, by the Rev. T. G. Bonney, in your last Number, your reviewer takes exception to the use in that work of the term "Chloritic Marl" as applied to the Phosphatic Nodule-bed at the base of the Chalk-marl in Cambridgeshire and elsewhere. From this it would appear that there is some doubt about the proper use of the term, and I should be very glad to hear from your reviewer what he considers the true typical Chloritic Marl. The question of nomenclature is so important that I feel sure your readers will not regret the use of a small portion of your valuable space in clearing up a doubt which seems to exist on this subject.

H. GEORGE FORDHAM.

ODSEY, ROYSTON, March 5th, 1877.

OBITUARY.

JAMES SCOTT BOWERBANK, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S.,

PRESIDENT OF THE PALÆONTOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

BORN JULY 14, 1797. DIED MARCH 8, 1877.

It is with no ordinary feelings of regret that we record the loss of the Founder and President of the Palæontographical Society.

James Scott Bowerbank was born in Bishopgate, London, in 1797. He succeeded, in conjunction with his brother, to his father's distillery, in which business he was an active partner until 1847. From his youth he exhibited a strong attachment to Natural History pursuits, especially to Botany. When of age, he joined the Mathematical Society of Spitalfields, and remained a member until its incorporation with the Royal Astronomical Society in 1845. Here he