

of France, should not be met with in this country; and it is to be hoped that careful search will bring some of them to light to fill up the vacant spaces in our lists of species. The following are the species of Terebratulidæ, identified by M. D'Orbigny in France, and by Mr. T. Davidson in England, from Neocomian and Greensand strata.

Lower Neocomian.—*Terebratula tamarindus*, *T. pseudo-jurensis*, *T. prælonga*, *T. faba*,* *T. Moreana*, *T. Carteroniana*,† *T. Collinaria*,† *T. Marcousana*, *T. semistriata*, *T. hippopus*, *Terebratella oblonga*, *T. reticulata*, *T. Neocomiensis*, *Terebratulina biauriculata*, *Terebrirostra Neocomiensis*.

Upper Neocomian or Urgonian.—*Terebratula hippopus*, *T. diphyoides*, *T. Moutoniana*, *T. sella*.

Aptian.—*Terebratula Moutoniana*, *T. sella*, *Terebratella Asteriana*.

Lower Greensand (England).—*Terebratula tamarindus*, *T. prælonga*, *T. Celtica*, *T. sella*, *Terebratella oblonga*, to which I now add *T. Moutoniana* and *T. depressa*.

FOSSIL BIRDS.

BY THE EDITOR.

The wonderful remains of the Archæopteryx, recently acquired for the British Museum, have naturally drawn attention to a much-neglected department of palæontology; and it will therefore not only be interesting, but useful also to the advance of science, to pass under review, at the present time, the state of our knowledge of the former existence of birds during past geological ages. The early authors, for the most part, speak not of fossil bird-remains properly so called, but in reality of mere incrustations by "petrifying springs," of the fanciful tracery of dendritic markings, or the imagined resemblances of oddly-formed stones. Thus Albertus Magnus, in his book 'De Mineralibus,' printed in 1495, describes a fossil nest, with eggs, on the branch of a tree. This might or might not be a true fossil, but our recent discoveries of fossil birds and reptiles' eggs, and the knowledge we have now of delicate objects truly fossilized, such as insects, fruits, flowers, and feathers, renders it possible that some of the old records of such may have had a foundation of truth, and gives a probability that some at least may be brought within the capacity of belief as actual facts.

With this view, we shall quote from the old authors all the passages known to us, commenting on them as occasion may require; and in thus working up the bibliography of fossil ornithology and arranging

* The shell to which M. D'Orbigny has erroneously applied Sowerby's name of *T. faba*, is identical with the *T. Celtica* of Morris. The *T. faba* of Sowerby is merely a variety of *T. bispicata* confined to Upper Greensand strata.

† *T. Carteroniana* and *T. Collinaria* appear to have been regarded in this country as forms of *T. sella*.

the whole of our knowledge of the subject, as far as we have the power to do so, we shall be able to separate facts from fictions, and give a solid basis for further investigations in the future study of ornithological palæontology.

The first record of any allusion to petrified bird-remains is by ALBERTUS MAGNUS, in 1495. His remarks evidently refer to those incrustations by calcareous springs which we should never now dream of associating with true fossils. Still, it is necessary for our purpose to record these, that the true may be separated from the doubtful; while moreover these instances, if at all reliable, will serve the good purpose of illustrating the conditions under which true fossil ornithic relics may have been produced in the former geological ages of our earth. Such records are not to be cast aside as useless, for more reasons even than these. The following is the account given by this naturalist Bishop of Ratisbon in his 'Liber de Mineralibus,' published at Venice:—

"In our time there was discovered in the Danish Sea, near the city of Lubeck, a big branch of a tree, whereon a nest of birds was found, and small woodpeckers in the nest, all converted into stone of a reddish colour; the which cannot be otherwise explained than that the tree, at the time when the nest was in it, was rooted up by a storm, and the birds, drowned in the water, were afterwards, by the effects of local circumstances, entirely converted into stone. There is also in Gothia a spring, respecting which tradition states that everything that is immersed in its water is converted into stone. The Emperor Frederick, wishing to ascertain the truth of this, ordered some sealed parchments to be put therein; these having been kept there for a few days, the half of the skin, and the seals that is, the part submerged in the well, was changed into stone, the other part still remaining as it was. It is also positively stated by trustworthy people that the water-drops, which are dashed here and there by the force of the spring, are converted into as many stones as there are drops; the water itself however is not changed into stone, but continues to flow. We witness also the formation of crystals in the most elevated mountains perpetually covered with snow, which phenomenon cannot be ascribed to any other cause than to the virtue of the minerals which exist in those places. From all which we see that it is very difficult to determine the place of generation of stones, the more so as they are formed not from a single but from many elements, and not under any special but under every climate; and what seems more marvellous, they are generated as well in the bodies of animals as in the clouds, and their formation in all of these places renders it scarcely possible to reduce them to the same common matter. But as we cannot doubt that for a body of a compound nature there must be a generative cause, so it must be thence inferred that every kind has its peculiar place of generation, outside of which it decays and corrupts."

"Aliquando namque tempore nostro in mari Danico juxta civitatem Lubi-

sensem inventus est ramus magnus arboris, in quo erat nidus avium : et aves pice in nido : et converse in lapides erant parvi in nido parum declinantes ad rubedinem quod aliter esse non potuit nisi quod procellis vel undis evulsa arbor tempore quo in ea fuit nidus et aves in aquam ceciderunt : et postea, per virtutem loci in quo jacebat, in lapidem universa conversa sunt. Est autem fons in Gothia : de quo verissime traditur, quod omnia que merguntur in ipsum in lapidem convertit : in tantum, quod ad eum misit Imperator Fredericus cirotecam sigillatam ut probaret veritatem, que cum per aliquot dies medietas corii et medietas sigilli mersa erat in fonte : medietas corii et medietas sigilli conversa sunt in lapidem, altera medietate corio manente. Refertur et veraciter a fidedignis quod gutte que ex impetu casus ejusdem fontis sparguntur, super ripam fontis convertuntur in lapidem guttarum quantitatem habentes : cum tamen aqua que sic fluit non convertatur in lapidem : sed fluit continue. Videmus etiam oculis generari cristallos in montibus altissimis : qui sunt perpetuarum nivium : quod iterum esse non potest nisi per virtutem minerallium que est in locis illis. Ex quibus omnibus videtur non posse certum aliquid tradi de loco generationis lapidum : cum nec in uno tamen elemento : sed in pluribus nec etiam in uno tamen climate sed in omnibus. Et quod his mirabilius videtur, in corporibus animalium generantur et in nubibus, que omnia loca difficile videtur, valde ad unam materiam in communi reducere : cum tamen hoc sit necessarium, eo quod non dubitamus ejusdem corporis mixti secundum genus etiam unum secundum genus esse generativum. Oportet enim quod omnium generatorum sit locus aliquis sue generationis, extra quem corrumpuntur et destruantur.*

The next earliest author is GEORGIUS AGRICOLA (1546), in whose work, 'De Natura Fossilium,' lib. x. p. 370,† he says :—

"Like the wood of the blackthorn, but not the same, is a fissile stone at the base of the mountain Melibocus, or, as it is now called, Hercynium, near Eisleben, Mannesfeld, Hostedt; it is black, bituminous, and full of brass, and when extracted from the pits it is first spread on the field, and being thus accumulated forms a heap. Afterwards the lower part of the heap is surrounded with twigs, wherein likewise some of the same stones are thrown, and then the twigs are set on fire; the stones which are at the top of the twigs take fire, and communicate it to the others close by, and these kindle the rest. This faculty of being easily ignited is a common characteristic of bitumen and sulphur. However, they show but small veins of pure and black bitumen, and while burning they emit a smell like that yielded by bituminous coals when blazing. When, at the time they are burning, some rain falls on them, they burn brisker and soften quicker. Likewise, when the smoke which rises upwards is cast by the wind on to standing water, there is quickly a sort of bituminous matter to be perceived on the surface, all of which sufficiently proves that these stones are bituminous. The stones

* ALBERTUS MAGNUS, 'De Mineralibus,' lib. i. p. 3. tract. f. cap. vii., edit. 1495.

† The works of Agricola are—'De Ortu et Causis Subterraneorum,' lib. v. 'De Natura eorum quæ effluunt ex Terra,' lib. viii. 'De Natura Fossilium,' lib. x. 'De Veteribus et Novis Metallis,' lib. ii. 'Bermannus, sive de Re Metallica Dialogus.' 'Interpretatio Germanica Vocum Rei Metallicæ, addito Indice sæcundissimo.'—Basileæ, edit. 1546.

of this kind met with in the forest of Hercynium are sometimes covered with a crust of sparkling gold-coloured pyrites. They represent also now and then figures of animals, as for instance, of kinds of fishes: Flat-fish, Pikes, Perches; of the bird-kind: cocks, hens; sometimes also salamanders. Nay, even an image of a bearded Roman pontiff, wearing on his head the three-storied crown (tiara), has been discovered, and which has been seen by many. Besides this, the image of the Holy Virgin also, holding the baby in her arms. There appear also sometimes in *Chattis* species of fish of this sort of incrustations.

"Lastly, at Anneberg, on digging the Thomashirn pit, a bituminous ore has been discovered, which, thrown on to live coals, burned and yielded a smell like wild garlic, and finally was reduced to ashes, containing but very little silver."

The following is a transcript of the original text:—

"Spino similis, si non idem, est lapis fissilis ad radices Meliboci montis, sive, ut nunc vocant, ad Hercynium effossus Eislebæ, Mannesfeldi, Hostedæ: is niger, bituminosus, ærosus, primum ex puteis extractus in aream effunditur, atque ita ex ista coacervatione oritur tumulus. Deinde inferior tumuli pars circumdatur sarmentis, in quæ similiter injiciuntur id genus lapides; tum sarmentis admoto igni accensis, ignem etiam concipiunt lapides super ea conjecti. Hi proximis quibusque impertiunt ignem: atque omnino omnes qui jam ardent, eis proxime adjunctis, ut autem facile ignem concipere signum sit bitumini commune cum sulfure: tamen parvæ puri et nigri bituminis venæ interdum ejusmodi lapides distinguunt: et, cum ardent, talem odorem emittunt qualem carbones bituminosi cum fragrant emittere solent. Præterea si quando in ardentibus mediocri pluvia decidit, magis ardent, et citius mollescunt: quinetiam ubi ventus fumum qui sursum fertur, in proximam aquam stantem dejecerit, mox in ea innatare aliquid instar liquidi bituminis licet cernere, quod vel nigrum est, vel fuscum, vel purpureum: quæ omnia satis declarant eos lapides esse bituminosos. Atque id genus lapidum, ad Hercynium nemus inventum, crustæ interdum scintillis pyritæ aurei coloris adhærentibus. Et discurrentibus exprimunt varias animantium species, ut in genere piscium passeris marinos, lucios, percas: in avium gallos gallinaceos, nonnunquam salamandras. Imo pontificis Romani barbati, et triplicem coronam in capite habentis, effigies reperta est, quam multi viderunt. Præterea beatæ Virginis puerum in manibus gestantis. Reperiuntur etiam in Chattis interdum species piscium in istius generis crustis. Nuper etiam Annebergi, cum ageretur Thomashirni cuniculus, effossa est cadmia bituminosa, quæ in prunas conjecta ardet, ac olet allium sylvestre et tandem in cinere abit, parve vero argenti in se continet."

The work which, so far as we know, follows in sequence, is the 'De Thermis ANDRÆ BACCII, Elpidiani, Civis Romani, apud Sextum Quintum Pontificem Maximum Medici, Libri Septem, Opus Locupletissimum, non solum Medicis necessarium, verum etiam studiosis variarum rerum naturæ perutile, etc., Venetiis, 1588,' p. 274; in which, discoursing "on the nature of the salt growing in TRANSYLVANIA," he says, "Of the nature of rock-salt and bay-salt,

* Also in edit. Patavii, 1711, lib. v. cap. iv. p. 157 (word for word).

which seem to grow and increase from moisture and springs, we have already sufficient information conveyed to us by Vernherus; we may, nevertheless, add here some facts deserving of notice which we have retained in our recollection. Amongst others, whilst the salt destroys common iron, there have been iron-implements and wood discovered after having been left for years in it. In a certain place there was a hen found which, together with her eggs, had been buried in salt and was thus preserved, and is still exhibited uncorrupted."

The Latin text is given below:—

"*Salis Natura quæ vegetatur et crescit in TRANSYLVANIA.*—Salis vero scissilis ac montani naturam ex humore aut succo id genus aliquo vegetari, ac crescere, satis quidem fidem facit idem Vernherus; nec minus ex nostris præclari aliqui testes, qui multa mihi hac in parte memorata digna retulere, quæ referam. Inter alia vulgare fere dum sal exciditur, relicta elapsis annis instrumenta ferrea, ac ligna in eis reperiri. Quodam loco gallina cum ipsis ovis incubans reperta est, quæ eo obducta sale servata est, ac incorrupta etiam nunc ostenditur. Jam magna ex eis fodinis carbonum vis erui solet cum sale et vetustissimæ roboris trabes. Sal gemmeus, qui lucidior est omni sale, cum in fundo reperitur, indicium fodientibus est inferius nullum esse salem, aut impuram terram, ceu matricem reperiri. Abundat et vicina Polonia hujus generis nativo sale saxeo in syncero tamen, ac magis solido."

The quotation which follows is from the work of JOH. DAN. MAJORIS, Phil. et Med. D., 'Dissertatio Epistolica de Cancris et Serpentibus Petrefactis, ad Don. D. Philippum Jacobum Sachs à Lewenheim. Medicum in Rep. Patria Vratislaviensi, cui accessit Responsoria Dissertatio Historico-Medica ejusdem Philippi Jacobi Sachs à Lewenheim. Phil. et Med. D. et Collegii Naturæ Curiosorum Collegæ de Miranda Lapidium Natura,' p. 38. — Jenæ, 1664:—

"In the meantime we are certain that not only crabs (river- and sea-crabs), but also serpents, lizards, sea-urchins, star-fishes, scallops, cockles, oysters, shell-fish, clams, limpets, tellens and turbines, and vertebræ and spines of fishes, as well as *beaks of birds* and parts of other animals, as, for instance, teeth, nails, vertebræ, skulls, etc., through natural as well as artificial causes, are often encountered in the depths of the mountains and in the most hidden recesses of the earth, where neither man nor any other animal could ever penetrate; nay, they are sometimes discovered even in the very middle of marbles, that show not the slightest fissure, their bodies, either previously petrified or in their natural state, having been, so to say, buried in the abyss of the earth, at the occurrence of the Deluge or by some other cause, and which remaining there have acquired the hardness of stone, as might easily occur through the infiltration of saline springs penetrating through every portion of the earth. We observe also on ancient walls nitrous water oozing through and coagulating into white icicles of a conical form."

The original runs—

"Credamus interim non caneros solum, sive marinos, sive fluviatiles, sed

angues etiam, lacertos, echinos, stellas pisces, pectines, cochleas, ostreas, conchas, chamas, mitulos, tellinas, turbines, pisciumque vertebrae aut spinas, necnon *rostra avium* aut aliorum animalium partes, dentes videl. ungulas, vertebrae, crania, et alia, tam a natura quam arte petita, in intimis saepe montium visceribus, aliisque profundis terrarum latebris, quo nulla unquam gens, nullum unquam animal aliud facile penetrare posse videtur, immo in mediis interdum marmorum, in nullas rimas hiantium, corporibus, sive petrefacta jam, sive pristinam naturam utcumque servantia, eatenus reperta esse, quatenus talia, ut verbo dixerim, voragine terræ fuerint obruta, sive occasione Diluvii, sive casu alio; ibidemque per plurimos annos subsisterint, donec destructa sensim obnoxia etiam reddita Rigori Lapidifico, qui facile tandem supervenire ipsis potuit ob transsudentes passim Salinos, per Terram Succos, haud aliter, atque in muris antiquioribus Aquam nitrosam transudare, ipsamque in Stiria albas et conos coagulari conspiciamus," etc.

JOH. DAN. MAJORIS, Phil. et Med. D., 'Dissertatio Epistolica de Cancris et Serpentina Petrefactis, ad Don. D. Philippum Jacobum Sachs à Lewenheimb. Medicum in Rep. Patria Vratislaviensi, cui accessit Responsoria Dissertatio Historico-Medica ejusdem Philippi Jacobi Sachs à Lewenheimb. Phil. et Med. D. et Collegii Naturæ Curiosorum Collegæ de Miranda Lapidium Natura,' p. 38.—Jenæ, 1664.

Joh. Weilhard Valvasor, in his 'Ehre des Herzogthums Crain' (Lanbach, 1689), says, "Near Landspreis, on the mountain, I discovered in a ditch many sea-shells, which had acquired a stony hardness, or rather which were converted into stone; also a *bird's nest* together with a small bird sitting on eggs; which all together was transformed into hard stone by the lapidiferous spirit."

We extract the original passage from Theil 1 of this work, p. 478.

"Bey Landspreis, über dem Berge, bin ich in einem Graben auch vieler Meer-Muscheln ansichtig geworden, die eine steinerne Härteigkeit gewonnen, oder vielmehr die Stein-Art selbst angenommen; ingleichen eines Vogel-Nestes, mit einem kleinem auf den Eyern sitzenden Vogel; welches alles miteinander der Stein-machende *Spiritus* zum harten Stein gemacht."

Like all other books of its age, Peter Wolfart's 'Vale Hanoviæ et Salve Cassellæ' (1707) has a very long title,* and more of a dilettante than a philosophic aspect. *Medicinæ Doctor* Wolfart has, however, something to say, and we will therefore let him say it in his own words (p. 12, etc.).

"§ IV. In order to enable every and any one the better to understand our *figures*, and to avoid confusion of them, we think it advisable, for the interest of the work, not to notice obscure or futile opinions about the origin of the specimens,—abundant as such opinions are, according to the fertility of the genius of every writer,—

* 'Vale Hanoviæ et Salve Cassellæ dictum. Cujus Occasione Inventæ quædam Hanovica utrisque Dilectissimis suis Popularibus Communicare, se suaque Studia de Meliori Commendare, atque prioribus benevolam sui memoriam relinquere voluit. PETRUS WOLFART, Med. Doct., in Illustri Schola Patria Anatomie hætenus et Philosophiæ Experimentalis Professor, nec non utriusque Hanoviæ Physicus Ordinarius, nunc vero Physicus Aulicus Hasso-Castellanus, cum ad Stationem suam novam capessendam, Abitionem paratet. Anno Christi, 1707, die 18 Aprilis, Francfort ad Mœnnun.'

and to separate the whole into two distinct classes; ascribing to one those which seem to be mere playthings of Nature, and to the other those due to the universal deluge, by which, according to what we learn from the sacred Scriptures (Gen. vii. 19), the whole earth was drowned and the highest mountains covered with water.

“ § V. In the first class we will arrange all those fossil bodies which represent various superficial images,—figures of ants, beetles, peacocks, fishes and other animals, and which, it seems, had been already frequently observed in the time of Pliny, who refers to them in his H. N. lib. 37. Athanase Kirchner seems to have been the first to observe them in marble, jasper, and agate-stone. Very interesting is what Pliny says (l. c.) about an agate belonging to king Pyrrhus, on which Nature has sculptured the figure of Apollo with his cithara, attended by the nine Muses, and on which, by a certain tracery of stains, the instruments of all the Muses were reproduced. See ‘Disputatio M. Jo. Jacobi Lungershausen,’ held at Jena, about the figured imitations of nature, showing many beautiful phenomena of agates.

“ § VI. Those marbles, which are very elegantly coloured, represent to our fancy various figures, as may be seen in many very curious specimens; they are, therefore, largely dug in our neighbouring principality of Idstein, where they adorn sacred as well as profane buildings, from the pavement to the roof. Not less interesting, and not yielding in interest to the above, whether we look at the most elegant pictures they produce, or whether we consider them as a plentiful supply of coloured marble, are the specimens which were lately communicated to us by a friend from the principality of Diz, and which we may recommend as particularly deserving the notice of our readers, the first three, fig. 1, 2, and 3, drawn correctly from the originals. The fig. 1 represents an entire human head, together with all other parts of the body, not inelegantly drawn. The fig. 2 represents a head of an OWL (see Pl. XXII. Fig. 1, *nobis*); and the fig. 3 a view of a country, which is but a mere play (artifice) of nature. With regard to the latter it may perhaps not be unsuitable to compare what D. D. Behrens in his ‘Hercynia Curiosa,’ p. 134, titl. xiii. says, about the quarry called the ‘map-stone.’ It is as follows:—‘This stone is found in the quarries of the villages Petersdorff and Rudigers- or Riddigers- Dorff belonging to the Count Stollberg’s estates at Hohestein or Neustadt, and the name of ‘map-stone’ was given to it because the veins of this stone bear in the most part the appearance of rivers as traced on maps.’ ”

The original runs thus:—

“ § IV. Quo vero eo melius hæc nostra figurata ab omnibus ac singulis intelligi queant et ut omnis eo facilius inter illa evitetur confusio; operæ pretium facturos nos putamus, si relictis aliis spinosis et futilibus circa illorum productionem oberrantibus opinionibus, cum hic quilibet suo videatur abundare ingenio, ea dispecamus in duplicem classem, alia adscribendo mero accidentali NATURÆ LUSUI, alia e contra a DILUVIO illo UNIVERSALI,

quo totam terram obrutam omnesque ejus excelsos montes aquis opertos fuisse, ex paginis sacris edocemur, Gen. vii. v. xix., derivando.

“§ V. Priori classi assignamus omnia ac singula illa corpora fossilia, quæ varias figuras, ut formicæ, scarabei, pavonis, piscium aliorumque animalium superficietenus tantum nobis exhibent, quod quidem frequentissime in lapidibus observari suo jam tempore docuit Plinius, H. N. l. 37. Præprimis huic negotio parere videntur Athanasio Kircheri Marmor, Jaspis et Achates. Memorabile sane est quod de Achate refert Plinius, l. c., quod videlicet Pyrrhoni Regi fuerit Achates, cui natura inculpserit Apollinem cum Cythara stipantibus novem Musis, certo Macularum ducta ita depictis ut simul instrumentum cujusvis Musæ emergeret. Vide Disput. M. Jo. Jacobi Lungershausen Jenæ habita de Imitamentis naturæ circa figuras, plura eaque egregia Achatis phænomena exhibens.

“§ VI. Marmora quoque elegantissime esse colorata variasque Phantasias nostræ obtrudere figuras, videre licet in variis speciminibus quæ passim ad curiosos transmittuntur, et adeo copiose quidem in vicino nobis Principatu Idsteinensi eruntur, ut illic ædes sacræ et profanæ iisdem a pavimento ad verticem usque splendescant. Minime vero his cedunt, sive frequenter in illis spectemus occurrentem elegantissimam picturam, sive uberrimum varie coloratum marmorum proventum, illa specimina quæ nuper nobis a singulari quodam amico ex Principatu Dizensi communicate sunt, et ex quibus Lectoris admiratione præprimis digna indicamus tria illa que fig. 1, 2, et 3, graphicæ et ad vivum delineata exhibent. Ex quibus fig. 1, integrum caput humanum cum aliis corporis humani partibus haud inele-ganter repræsentat, fig. 2, caput ULULÆ, et fig. 3, Tabulas Regionum miro sane NATURÆ artificio sistit. Cum tertio non incongrue fortassis conferendum quod D. D. Behrens nobis describit in Hercynia sua curiosa, p. 134, tit. xiii., ‘Von dem Steinbruch der Land-Karten-Stein genant,’ hunc in modum: ‘Dieser Steinbruch ist nahe bei denen uns benachbarten in den Hoch-Gräfflichen Stollbergischen Amt Hohestein oder Neustadt gelegenen Dörfern Petersdorf und Rudiges- oder Riddiges-Dorff genant anzutreffen, und hat den Namen daher bekommen, weilen die Adern dieses Steines in grossen Stücken, wie die Flüsse in denen Land-Karten ein Ansehen haben.’”

We really seem to have the record of a true fossil, although the statement is mixed up with the wonderful tales of Agricola and Albinus, in the ‘Piscium et Querelæ et Vindicis, expositæ a JOHANNÆ JACOPO SCHEUCHZERO, Med. D. Acad. Leopoldin. et Soc. Reg. Anglicæ ac Prussicæ Membro,’ pp. 14, 15.—Tiguri, 1708. See figure in plate ii. (copied in Pl. XXII. Fig. 2, *nobis*).

We had rather, however, the Doctor should speak for himself.

“Behold also, a tail of a bird, or a remige-feather, in the fissile stone of Oeningen, the only specimen hitherto known of the remains of the winged kingdom except the gallinaceous bird quoted by Agricola in his Foss. 4. x. p. 371, in concurrence with the image of a bearded Roman Pontiff, wearing on his head the triple crown; the existence of which latter is however questionable, the more so, as in the public Records of Eisleben no mention is made about it, according to Cl. Don. Gothofr. Mylii Memorab. Saxon. Subterr. p. 5; yet it must have been so, as the stone not long after the Reformation, about the year 1539, was presented, first to Luther, and then to Francis I., King of

France. Moreover, according to Albinus, p. 105, it is said, that the image of the Pontiff was adorned with a triple crown, and the pontifical robes were of tissue made of gold-like and purple thread, and the human eyes, ears, and nostrils, distinctly shown; the figure of the Pontiff sitting in a splendid chair, raising his right hand, on which even a jewel (*St. Peter's ring*) could be observed.*

The original text is:—

“ Ecce enim CAUDÆ avis vel REMIGEM pennam in Lapide fissili Onin-
genſi conſpicuam, unicum, quod hactenus fit cognitum ex Volucrium Regno
ſuperſtes monumentum. Excipite Gallum Gallinaceum, cujus meminit
Agric. 4, x. *Foss.* p. 371, juxta Pontificiis Romani barbati et triplicem coronam
in capite habentes effigiem, de cujus tamen exiſtentia merito dubitatur, quan-
doquidem in Actis Publici Eiſlebiensibus ne minima quidem fiat mentio,
teſte Cl. Dn. *Gothofr., Mylio Memorab. Saxon. Subterræn.* p. 5, fieri autem
deuiſſet Lapidis et non longe poſt Reformationem, anno nimirum 1539
eruti, dono dati primum *Luthero* poſtea Francisco I. Galliarum Regi;
præſertim ſi, quod *Albinis* ſcribit p. 105, *Pontificiis effigies* ad fuit
ornata triplici corona et veſte Pontificiali, aureis quaſi filis et purpura con-
texta, os, oculos, et nares hominis, referens, in ſella ſplendida ſedens, de-
nique dextram manum ſublevans, inquam tanquam gemmam contemplans
intuebatur.”

It is difficult to know what Mylius (1709) means in the following passage:—

“ I am bound to mention alſo that in the ſame quarry (Illmenau), a few years ago, a model has been diſcovered, which preſented a HEN very diſtinctly reproduced, and which is the more remarkable as even the inteſtines of the hen were imprinted.”

He follows theſe remarks with others about fiſh-remains, which are more likely to have been true foſſils:—

“ Ich muſs auch ferner mitberühren, daſſ eben in dieſem Wercke, vor wenigen Jahren noch, eine Niere, in welcher eine Henne ganz deutlich abgebildet war; gefunden worden, ſo um deſſwillen *remarquabel*, daſſ dieſes Bergwerck dieſe Henne in ſeinen innerſten Eingeweide expri-
miret.”†

Buttner, in his ‘*Rudera Diluvii Teſtes*’ (1710), ſays that “near Lubeck, there was once diſcovered a petrified branch of a tree, together with a bird’s neſt. A petrified twig, very nicely formed, is alſo ſhown in the Muſeum of Arts at Florence.”

Further on is another paſſage:—“To this happy circumſtance (*i. e.* a communication from the Paſtor Webel) I owe alſo a confirmed aſſurance reſpecting a bird’s neſt diſcovered *there* (*i. e.* near Kindelbrück, in Thuringia), together with four or five white eggs (like quails’ eggs), and a ſtone four yards round,‡ which was very firm, and a *figure* of which was ſhown to me by another friend, as repreſented on plate xxi. fig. vi.” (ſee Pl. XXII. Fig. 3, *nobis*).

* In the Britiſh Muſeum copy the plate containing the figure of the bird from *Caingæ* is wanting.

† Mylius, ‘*Memorabilium Saxonie Subterraneæ*,’ Leipzig, 1709, p. 47.

‡ Literally, “4 *Ellen ſtarck*.”

We give the text of these passages :—

“Bei Lubeck wurde einst ein versteinter Ast mit einem Vogel-Nest gefunden. Ein versteinter Zweig, gar artig proportionirt, wird in der Kunstkammer zu Florenz gewiesen,” p. 187.

“Eben bei diesem glücklichen Zuspruch bekomme nochmahlige Versicherung, wegen eines daselbst gefundenen Vogel-Nests, darinnen 4 oder 5 weisse Eyer, als Wachtel-Eyer, und ein Stein der 4 Ellen starck und sehr feste gewesen gelegen, welches mir von einem andern Freunde vorgebildet worden als Tab. xxi. weiset.” [M. D. S. Buttner's 'Rudera Diluvii Testes,' p. 218, pl. xxi. fig. 6.—Leipzig, 1710.]

“I cannot present now,” says M. Hermann, in his 'Maslographia'* (1711), “all the figures which I possess on my polished pyramids, squares, and other big stones, but I will, nevertheless, give a few of them, plate xiii., from R. 12 to 17, as they are in a polished state.” It is unfortunate for us M. Hermann could not do all he evidently wished, but for our purpose he has done quite enough, and we copy his fig. 17 (in our Pl. XXII. Fig. 3), as it has been referred to amongst the statements of bird-remains.

Hermann also gives in tab. xi. fig. 99 another figure, which we also copy, describing it in his text as “a white stone with the neck of a goose” (see our Plate XXII. Fig. 3).

“Fig. 99. Lapis albus cum collo anserino. Ganss-Hals.”

(To be continued.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

Homo sapiens versus Pithecius indocilis.

SIR,—Page 392 of your periodical for October, contains an allusion to the Andaman Islanders. The subjoined extracts from the 'Friend of India,' † of the 6th August last, may perhaps tend to show that their degraded condition is more to be attributed to the circumstances attending their mode of existence (*toto orbe divisos*) than to any natural deficiency of intellect in them; that their apparent low condition, relatively to the rest of mankind, is owing to deficiencies which are more acquired from the circumstances which have surrounded them hitherto than inherent in themselves.

W. T. N.

EXTRACTS.—“Never, we venture to say, has the Government of India published such remarkable documents as a Report by Lieutenant-Colonel Tytler, with a narrative, by the Rev. Henry Corbyn, of attempts to civilize the pigmies who inhabit the Andaman Islands.” . . . “Mr. Corbyn declares he has unquestionable proof that the Andamanese, who are ‘most imitative and possessed of extraordinary memory and quick intelligence, may soon acquire our language;’ and he speaks of ‘the submissive and

* The title of this work is,—“Maslographia, oder Beschreibung des Schlesischen Massel, im Oelfs-Bernstädtischen Fürstenthum mit seinen Schauwürdigkeiten. Von Leonhard David Hermann. Brieg. 1711.”

† One of the first newspapers in the East.