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XXXIII.—Description of Clinteria Hoffmeisteri, a new species of the family Cetoniadæ, from North India

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distinguished by Professor Owen as characteristic of the Miocene or of the Drift*, it is sufficient that his eye at once recognized it as a fossil form. I was careful to ascertain the exact details of the spot wherein it was imbedded. The pit was near the top of one of the highest hills in Kent, on or near which was no diluvium whatever, and a vegetable soil of hardly appreciable thickness. There was no fissure, nor would any disturbance of the bed have been noticed without very close inspection. That inspection however showed that there had been some displacement, which, though the two walls were then so close that the blade of a knife could not be inserted, had doubtless once yawned, and thus enabled this mammalian fossil of the tertiary beds to lodge deep down in what it might be hard to persuade many was not solid undisturbed chalk. It was middle chalk on each side of the line, so that the amount of relative displacement could not be ascertained. The tooth was found about twenty feet from the present surface.

I have thus endeavoured to call the attention of observers to some of the conditions which should be borne in mind by those who, in investigating the chalk formation, geologically or palæontologically, would avoid the danger of making the "labyrinth" of their fellow-labourers more "dense" by the accumulation of "false facts."

XXXIII.—*Description of Clinteria Hoffmeisteri, a new species of the family Cetoniadæ, from North India.* By ADAM WHITE, F.L.S., Assistant Zool. Dep. British Museum.

CETONIA (CLINTERIA) HOFFMEISTERI.

C. viridescenti-fusca supra obscura, subtus nitida; pilosa; thorace albo-marginato, lineaque media alba; scutello albo; elytris albo-marginatis margine interna linea alba, ramulos 2 aut 3 emittente, vitta submarginali rubra, et linea subinterrupta subobliqua mediana; margine suturæ postica vitta alba interrupta; pygidio albo, brunneo marginato.

Hab. in India. Mus. Brit. et "E. India House." Dr. Horsfield.

Head cupreous; antennæ reddish; legs and the under parts of a dark purplish coppery red, without spots, clothed with longish ochrey gray hairs; the hairs similar in colour on the upper

as, though they are shivered, the strata have not been dislocated and do not therefore affect the present point. They are of course evidence of some powerful agitation, which was probably the same which, in other spots, produced these faults.

* Brit. Foss. Mammals, pp. 383, 392.

parts, but shorter and giving a yellowish gray tinge to the white parts.

The figure represents the insect magnified twice its natural size. I might have given a more elaborate description ; but as there did not occur to me in its examination any very remarkable difference in structure between this and the allied species mentioned beneath, the above may suffice.

In general form and look this species has considerable resemblance to *C. spilota*, Hope, Gray's Zool. Misc. p. 25, of which the *C. himalayensis* figured by Gory and Percheron may be considered a local variety, and perhaps *C. Hoffmeisteri*, White, also the *C. confinis*, Hope, Zool. Misc. 25, Gory and Perch. t. 77. f. 5, Burm. Handb. iii. p. 304 ; but its shortness, hairiness, markings and other characters specified above, will at once distinguish it ; and better still the accompanying woodcut, carefully drawn by Mr. William Wing from the Museum specimen, will at once establish the difference.

Dr. W. Hoffmeister, in memory of whom this very distinct and charming species of *Cetonia* is named, passed through London on his way to India. His amiability, earnestness and intelligence would have soon, had he lived, gained him a reputation like that of his uncle Prof. Lichtenstein of Berlin. In India he was attached as physician to the suite of Prince Waldemar of Prussia, and at the battle of Ferozeshah was killed while attending on the prince, who insisted on sharing with Lord Hardinge the honourable danger of advancing in front of the line to encourage the British troops. Dr. Hoffmeister was much attached to the study of insects, and seemed well acquainted with the European forms. In his letters to his friends from the East Indies, published after his death by Dr. A. Hoffmeister, he has given good proof of his powers, his shrewd observations and his affectionate disposition.

In the next number of the 'Annals' will be given a continuation of remarks on, and additions to, "the list of Cetoniadous insects in the collection of the British Museum."