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# XLIX. Notice relative to the theory of the winds

John Dalton D.C.L. F.R.S.

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hibit that perfectly transparent and colourless siliceous envelope; it is therefore proved by this circumstance that a great mass of such siliceous envelopes might also be produced by the *decomposition of the plants, or in the moist way*; and also that the mountain masses, which consist more or less of such siliceous envelopes, might not always be regarded as being produced by the action of heat at the bottom of the sea\*. Brébisson tries to bring the *Diatomeæ* into two divisions, viz. the proper *Diatomeæ*, which exhibit a siliceous envelope, and the *Desmidiæ*, which are without a siliceous coating and entirely reduceable to carbon. In the more perfect plants, the epidermis of which is penetrated by a siliceous envelope, it would at least be improper to make such divisions; in this case, however, they may be of some use.

In a recent memoir Mohl† has again declared himself against the animal nature of the *Bacillariæ*. "I admit," says he, "that the doubt which was raised respecting their vegetable nature is not yet removed; their animal nature however has been as little proved, and we find evident transitions from them to vegetables, &c.

[To be continued.]

XLIX. *Notice relative to the Theory of the Winds.* By JOHN DALTON, D.C.L., F.R.S.

To Richard Taylor, Esq.

DEAR FRIEND,

Manchester, Sept. 5th, 1837.

I PUBLISHED a theory of the *Trade Winds*, &c., as Mr. Dove has published‡,—it was forty-four years ago, as may be seen in my *Meteorology*, 1793 and 1834. It was first published by G. Hadley, Esq., in 1735, as I afterwards learnt. It is astonishing to find how the true theory should have stood out so long.

JOHN DALTON.

L. *Proceedings of Learned Societies.*

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

A LETTER addressed to C. Lyell, Esq. was then read from Dr. McClelland, who has been associated with Mr. Griffith in the scientific deputation sent under Dr. Wallich into Upper Assam to investigate the natural history of the country where the tea-plant is found growing

\* Ehrenberg's opinion is that these masses owe their origin to the action of volcanic heat on the bottom of the sea. Vide *Scientific Memoirs*, vol. i. p. 400.—W. F.

† On the Symmetry of Plants. Tübingen, 1836, in December. (Published as an Inaugural Dissertation.)

‡ See our last and present Numbers.