

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1896.

THE JURASSIC FORMATION ON THE ATLANTIC COAST.*

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THE absence of all Jurassic strata in the eastern part of the United States has been generally regarded as a settled point in geology for half a century or more. The reason for this vacancy has also been one of the problems geologists have had to deal with, since the formations above and below are well represented. Until a comparatively modern date, this supposed absence of Jurassic deposits was thought to be true, also, for the rest of this country. I well remember the parting advice given me by an eminent professor of geology with whom I studied in Germany:† “The first thing you should do on your return to America is—look for the Jurassic formation. I am sure it is there, full of fossils.” This advice I followed, and on my first visit to the Rocky Mountains, in 1868, I found this formation near Lake Como, Wyoming, well developed, and containing an abundance of typical fossils. As this locality is now a famous one, I have brought here a colored drawing that shows the characteristic variegated strata of the Como Bluff, from which so many remains of

* Abstract of Communication made to the National Academy of Sciences, New York meeting, November 18, 1896.

† Ferdinand Roemer, whose researches here had already added much to our knowledge of the geology and paleontology of this country.