

This does not change essentially the original limits ascribed to *Daimonelix*, for outside of Sioux County, where they occur in enormous numbers, they are found sparingly.

In its wider distribution this singular fossil is thought to be represented by a specimen found in Peissenberg, Germany, and described by Dr. Ludwig von Ammon, 'Geognostischen Jahresheften,' 1900, under the title Vorkommen von 'Steinschrauben' (*Dæmonhelix*) in der Oligocänen Molasse Oberbayerns.

ERWIN H. BARBOUR.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA,  
December, 1902.

#### CURRENT NOTES ON METEOROLOGY.

##### RAINFALL OF INDIA.

THE latest volume of the valuable series of 'Indian Meteorological Memoirs' (XIV., fol., Calcutta, 1902) is a compilation of the rainfall data for 457 Indian stations through the year 1900. In Volume III. of the 'Memoirs,' Appendix A, Blanford had previously given the monthly rainfalls for various periods ending with December, 1886. The present publication will for some years be the authority on Indian rainfall statistics. Considerable interest has always attached to the rainfall at Cherra Poonjee (as the spelling is in the report under consideration), in the Khasi Hills, north of the head of the Bay of Bengal, which has held the record for the heaviest annual precipitation. According to the latest average, carried through 1900, the mean annual rainfall at this station is 457.80 inches. A new subdivision into the northeast monsoon and the southwest monsoon rainfalls, coming respectively in December-April and May-November, will be found useful by students of special problems in connection with the climatology of India.

##### TORNADO AT GAINESVILLE, GA., JUNE 1, 1903.

In an account of the Gainesville tornado of June 1 last, published in the *Monthly Weather Review* for June, mention is made of two facts which show clearly the effect of the sudden expansion of the air in enclosed spaces. In one case the walls of a mill 'fell outward, and

the roof was lifted into the air and held suspended for several seconds.' The other concerned a standpipe, fifty feet off the ground, and about fifty feet high. This standpipe was about forty feet in diameter, and covered with a sheet-iron cupola. The latter, 'weighing several tons, was lifted bodily from the top of the standpipe, carried high into the air, and dropped about a hundred feet in front of the mill, killing several persons who had thus far escaped danger.'

##### WEATHER REPORTS FROM VESSELS AT SEA.

IN the same number of the *Review*, Professor A. G. McAdie notes that daily meteorological reports were received at San Francisco from the cable ship *Silvertown*, while this vessel was laying the American trans-Pacific cable. The first report was received when the vessel was 90 miles off shore, and the last when she was about 2,000 miles away. These reports proved of value in making the weather forecasts at San Francisco.

R. DEC. WARD.

##### THE MOSELEY EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION.

THE members of Mr. Alfred Moseley's commission have arrived in this country to study our educational system. The commission is informal in character, although it includes official delegates from various institutions. It is expected that about two months will be spent in visiting the chief educational centers of the country, attention being paid to the public school system and to higher education. The members of the commission, all of whom, except three who are expected later, have spent the past week in New York City, are as follows:

Arthur Anderson, J.P., Alderman, and Chairman of Technical Instruction Committee of the West Riding County Council. (Nominated by the County Councils Association.)

W. F. Ayerton, F.R.S., professor of physics in the Central Technical College, ex-President Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Thomas Barclay, LL.B., ex-President Paris Chamber of Commerce.