

a wide circulation among non-professional classes, and created a popular interest in fossil remains. Numerous collectors and dilettantes read their "Quenstedt" over and over again, and tried to apply the same methods of arrangement to their particular collections. And the farmers of the neighbourhood were so well trained by Quenstedt not to overlook any of the fossil riches that might happen to be exposed in the course of field-cultivation, they became quite proficient in identifying the fossils and in recognising the individual zones by Quenstedt's designations.

Quenstedt gave little heed to the rights of priority, and on account of his neglect of the formal rules in palæontological science came into conflict with D'Orbigny. Neither did Quenstedt care to institute a close parallelism between the English and French Jurassic formations and those in Würtemberg; he merely indicated the correspondence of the main sub-divisions in Würtemberg with similar groups in the adjacent areas, and on principle refused to use the English terminology for the sequence of zones which he had established for the Swabian Jurassic system.

A much broader standpoint of palæontological investigation was assumed by the far-travelled Alcide d'Orbigny.<sup>1</sup> His great desire was to establish a universal stratigraphy upon the chronological basis supplied by palæontology. Not only in all parts of France, but also in the other countries of Europe and in North and South America, D'Orbigny thought the same sequence of fossil remains could be identified, and he argued that the age limits of the formations (Terrains) and stages of deposit could be determined over the whole surface of the earth by the universal occurrence of the same leading palæontological features.

According to D'Orbigny, each stage of deposit possesses its

<sup>1</sup> Alcide Dessaline d'Orbigny, born on the 6th September 1802, at Couëzon (Loire Inférieure), received his early education in La Rochelle, and devoted himself very early to zoological and palæontological studies. In 1826 he was sent to South America by the Museum in Paris, and brought back with him splendid collections of zoological, geological, geographical, ethnographical, historical, and archæological interest. The results of this journey were afterwards published in a comprehensive work. His later works deal with palæontological and stratigraphical subjects. In 1853 D'Orbigny was appointed Professor of Palæontology at the Museum in Paris, the Professorship being established especially for him; died on the 30th June 1857, at Pierresitte near Saint Denis.