

I understand the writings of Dr. Wright and others, however, the beach in Scotland, although perhaps not everywhere of the same age, is certainly Neolithic (*sensu lato*). In any case, post-Glacial is very different from Mousterian, and the Patella Beach in Gower antedates even the latter period.

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THE LATER STAGES OF THE CYCLE OF EROSION.

SIR,—MR. C. H. Crickmay's paper on "The Later Stages of the Cycle of Erosion" (GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, July, 1933), mentions the scarcity of peneplains in progress of formation.

In Northern Rhodesia, which is essentially a plateau of about 4,000 feet altitude composed of Cambrian (?) sediments intruded by granite, peneplanation is still in progress, rainwash being the agent. Rhodesia is noted for its "dambo" topography; the dambos being treeless swampy stretches, sometimes quite narrow but usually wide near the stream sources. True dambos are seldom seen on main streams but exist on most tributaries and laterite often outcrops on their somewhat rectangular margins. Dambos appear often to follow structural lines and either enter the major streams at right angles or continue straight across them.

The larger streams usually follow the strike and joint systems of the rocks and represent the new system of erosion but dambos on the tributaries are mainly areas of deposition. Slopes are low, and in the rainy season silt is carried to the edge of the dambo, where it is caught by vegetation, the material passing through the bottle-necked outlets being mainly discoloured water.

Slight earthquake shocks are recorded and the plateau uplift is probably still in progress, the strain being taken up on the old fracture lines so often indicated by the dambos. As mountain building ceased in Lower Palaeozoic times and deposits of post-Mesozoic age are not extensive round South Africa, it may be assumed that peneplanation has been in progress in Rhodesia since the Karroo, with only a small proportion of the products of denudation reaching the ocean. The Rhodesian data indicate that peneplanation, contemporaneous with rejuvenation, can take place at moderate altitudes and that rainwash is a simpler explanation than river or marine erosion.

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