

and the whole left for five days, except that it was occasionally pumped up to maintain the pressure, which dropped rather rapidly; in fact, on several occasions, namely at night, there can have been no pressure at all for some hours, as it was always necessary to have recourse to the bicycle pump in the morning. On being taken out after five days, the wood was found to be much harder, or rather, it was *tough*—I could make no impression on the wood by scratching with my finger-nail, but it had a hard *leathery* feeling when scratched. It was now allowed to dry by simple exposure to the air in my workshop, and in six days more appeared to be dry.

I should add that before hardening it as above described I had managed to cut one end of the wood flat, across the grain. The wood being dry, I now attempted to polish it by simple rubbing against a soft cloth, and obtained a fair polish, but, not having the necessary apparatus or skill to cut a section, I gave the specimen to the British Museum of Natural History, where it now is. Hoping that this description may be of use to others.

CHRISTIAN TINNE.

THE CHINE, WRECCLESHAM, FARNHAM.

January 6, 1916.

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WILLIAM SMITH'S MAPS.

SIR,—I am preparing a monograph on Smith's maps, etc., for the Yorkshire Geological Society, and am anxious to see a "Reduction of Smith's large Geological Map of England and Wales intended as an elementary map for those commencing the study of Geology, 1819", referred to in Phillips's *Memoirs of Smith*.

I find that Smith's large maps of 1815 often bear a signature and a number, such as "No. 66" or "a 33". If any readers of the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* possess copies of this large map, perhaps they would kindly inform me what number the map bears. It occurs under the "Section of Strata", which appears on the map to the east of the Humber estuary.

T. SHEPPARD.

THE MUSEUMS, HULL.

January 25, 1916.

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OBITUARY.

HERMANN GRAF ZU SOLMS-LAUBACH,

Sc.D., FOR. M. ROY. SOC., FOR. M. LINN. SOC., FOR. M. GEOL. SOC.

BORN DECEMBER 23, 1842.

DIED NOVEMBER 24, 1915.

COUNT SOLMS-LAUBACH was well known amongst men of science as a most distinguished botanist. His death was communicated to this country by Professor A. G. Nathorst, the Swedish Palæontologist of Stockholm.

Count Solms was born in 1842, and was in his 73rd year. He devoted his life wholly to science. He was Professor of Botany at Göttingen and afterwards at Strasburg, from which he retired a few years since.