

apposite morality, and winds up with a touching peroration on the power of religion, and the labours of its missionaries, in contending with the elements of Indian dissolution. No wonder, moreover, that the shrewdest of London's bibliopoles should have been deceived into sharing such profitable romancing, when it is considered how this same learned Abbé Domenech has since culminated in his literary triumphs. Bent on the fulfilment of his promises of further revelations, he has secured the Emperor Napoleon III. as his latest publisher, and has issued, at Imperial cost, a magnificent folio of hieroglyphic and demotic chronicles of the New World; as gratifying, we doubt not, to the members of the *Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres* as the ethnology we have described must have proved to be to his fellow-members of the Parisian Ethnographic Society: for on inspection, this gorgeous imperial folio of Indian hieroglyphics turns out to be a series of facsimiles of a German child's drawing-book, be-sketched and be-scribbled in the usual style of nursery art, which some rogue has palmed on the credulous Abbé as a genuine Red Indian M.S., more valuable than all the contents of Lord Kingsborough's costly folios of Mexican picture-writing.

D. W.

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*New Species of Lower Silurian Fossils.* By E. Billings, F.G.S. (Montreal: November 21, 1861).

In this pamphlet, recently issued by the able palæontologist of the Geological Survey of Canada, the author describes and figures a very considerable number of new fossils from the Potsdam Group and some of the succeeding formations of the Lower Silurian strata. Until a comparatively recent period, the lowest subdivision of our fossiliferous rocks bore the name of the *Potsdam Sandstone*, and was looked upon as consisting wholly of arenaceous deposits, nearly destitute of organic remains—a few fucoids, including the doubtful *scolithus linearis*, some lingulæ, and the celebrated crustacean(?) tracks, making up the entire list of these. The subdivision in question is now known, however, to include also various beds of limestone with interstratified and underlying shales and dark slates, classed collectively under the name of the Potsdam Group, and referred to the horizon of Barrande's Primordial Zone. Whilst the sandstones, as in most strata, are but sparingly fossiliferous, the limestones, with their interstratified argillaceous beds, exhibit an unexpected abundance of organic forms. Amongst those now described