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OBITUARY NOTICE OF ELKANAH BILLINGS, F.G.S.

Paleontologist to the Geological Survey of Canada.*

By J. F. WHITEAVES.

The founder of this journal, whose loss we have so recently had to deplore, was the second son of Mr. Bradish Billings, whose farm and dwelling were situated on the east bank of the Rideau River, in the township of Gloucester, some three miles distant from Bytown, or Ottawa as it is now called. About a hundred yards to the south of his residence, Mr. Billings built a bridge across the river, and the circumstance is commemorated by the name still borne by the little village which has recently sprung up around it.†

Including two who died in their infancy, there were nine children in all, but of these only two showed any very decided taste for natural history studies, viz. Bradish, the eldest, who died in 1872, having previously gained some reputation as a botanist and entomologist, and the subject of the present memoir. In answer to some inquiries as to the early history of the family, the youngest son, Mr. Charles Billings, writes as follows: "My father's maternal ancestors came from Wales and those on his father's side from England: the name Billings is of Saxon origin

* Altered slightly from a paper read before the Natural History Society of Montreal, on the 27th of November, 1876.

† Billings' Bridge.