

until the meeting in England in 1888. It has only accepted the groups numbered 4 (primordial fauna), 5 (second fauna), and 6 (third fauna); showing that the Congress was determined to have three systems, and not two as given by Mr. Hitchcock; and that the Geological map of Europe, for which the classification is made, is going on, according to M. Hauchecorne, without waiting for the determination of the names, but using only the numbers 4, 5 and 6.

It is to be regretted that an American geologist, against the decision of the Berlin Congress, has taken upon himself to anticipate and foreshadow what the Congress may accept as a solution; and more than that, has put aside all American claims of priority to name the great zone of the Primordial fauna. If Professor Hitchcock had said on his map and in the explanatory text that the colors and names were only provisionary (*provisoire*) as it is marked at the head of the "color-scale for the geological general map of Europe" (see at the end of Dr. Frazer's pamphlet on the International Congress at Berlin), it would have been more in accordance with the results arrived at by the Committee upon uniformity of nomenclature.

The following table expresses in a condensed way, easy to read, all the principal views entertained in regard to the classification of the Lower Palaeozoic rocks in Europe. All data refer to memoirs and works well known. A list of them is subjoined.

At the beginning, geologic methods were the first observers, like Sedgwick, Murchison, Emmons, and Brande had to make their way, with more or less of accuracy, in problems entirely new; and in using tools which had been tried, until then, only on the more recent formations. That some mistakes were made is certain, and it is a wonder that they are no more numerous; human passion, personal rivalry and jealousy, also added to the already very complicated question. But now, we can be more just and give credit where it is deserved. Priority of discoveries must stand first, and pass before anything else; and it is for us to correct the mistakes and injustice of our predecessors and contemporaries. If we do not do it now, it will remain for our successors to give due credit to all the great discoverers and classifiers of the history of our planet. It is simply a question of time.

The facts are now well exposed before the geologists of the