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where topographic conditions are combined with the right humidity. Many peat beds are crowded with successive generations of trees growing on and in the peat and producing thick deposits.

3. Examinations of existing and buried peat beds has shown that they consist in part of trees and other vegetation *in situ* and of some drift material which can be recognized by its conspicuous lack of tender parts. There seems to be no difficulty in recognizing buried forests as such, and attention is called to the fact that in many great forested swamps broken and overturned stems are well preserved, while the stumps which have remained exposed to atmospheric action have decayed. The bedding and conformable relations of the various members of the coal series eliminate the probability of landslides as a great factor in coal formation.

E. A. STEPHENSON

Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America. Vol. I, No. 4, and Vol. II, No. 1.

This is devoted largely to seismology but is of great interest to the geologist as well as the seismologist. No. 4 contains a good biographical sketch of Major C. E. Dutton, an article on "Earthquake Epicentres," one on "Displaced Objects in Earthquake Motion," and an excellent contribution on some Canadian post-glacial faults, also many notes on recent earthquakes.

No. 1 of Vol. II contains biographical notes on Professor George Davidson and Professor John Milne, seismologist. Mr. Reid's article on the choice of a seismograph is interesting and valuable. The greater part of this number is devoted to a discussion of destructive earthquakes in China.

E. A. S.