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Fritz H. Cramer-Díez (*).—FIRST REPORT ON THE OCCURRENCE OF ACROTARCHS IN THE OVILLE FORMATION OF LEON, SPAIN.

The Oville Formation is essentially an alternation of coarse and fine grained clastics of Upper Middle Cambrian age which crops out in a series of tectonically determined parallel belts that run essentially East-West along the grain of the Cantabrian Mountains in the provinces of León and Oviedo. At the base of the formation the shales and siltstones dominate; at the top the quartzites and sandstones. These are of a greenish gray color and weather so easily that gullies generally are developed where they crop out. On account of megafossil evidence from the underlying Láncara Formation, and the apparent continuity of the section, at least the lower portion, and perhaps the entire formation as well, the Oville is thought to be Upper Middle Cambrian, «Acadian», in age.

Palynomorph assemblages have been discovered in the lower portion of the Oville Formation just below the containing wall of the highway from La Magdalena to Villablino (C-623), 60 m. to the South of the church of the former village of Láncara de Luna in the province of León.

Preliminary analysis shows a characteristic assemblage of acanthomorphs, herkomorphs, leiospheres and possibly some poorly preserved algae of a morphology similar to that of *Gloeocapsamorpha prisca*. No chitinozoans are present. The assemblage differs from Tremadocian, and perhaps slightly older, floras in that neither ooidians nor diacrodians are present. *Saharidia* which occurs below the Tremadocian ooidian and diacrodian floras in Tunisia, Algeria and Saudi Arabia, is also absent. This would point to a pre-Upper Cambrian age of the Oville assemblage, an age well in agreement with the one arrived at from megafossil evidence.

Except for perhaps the leiospheres and the micrhystridid, all acrotarchs are new. To keep the size of this note to a minimum, these new forms will be described at a later date. The names in parenthesis refer to the names which these taxa will receive; they

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