

must be considered the origin of all the living floras of the globe ; for in the fossil-flora of Sagor are found plants representative of forms now found in Australia, North America and Mexico, California, Chili, India and the East Indian islands, Europe, Africa, Norfolk Island, and New Zealand. Examples of all these were cited.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

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A GEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE WORLD.

SIR,—The want of a tolerably detailed large-scale map of the world, coloured geologically for students and geologists generally, has often occurred to me, and I venture to direct attention to it in your columns. In the present imperfect but advancing state of our knowledge the publication of such a map, or of a geological atlas of the world, would be worse than useless ; but surely one such map might well be displayed in the galleries of the Natural History Museum, or in some other similar national institution. The Jermyn Street collections being exclusively British, the Natural History Museum would seem the more appropriate place for it ; and, as beautiful special diagrams of the anatomy of animals are now being prepared there, no difficulty should arise in its preparation. If made in several sheets mounted on canvas, these might be separately replaced by better ones as our knowledge increases ; and the adoption of the system of colouring agreed upon by the International Congress would serve to familiarize us in England with that code of the future. We might well have far more detail than in Ami Boné's map, and, in fact, I see no reason why, where our knowledge is full, we should not have more detail than in other less known parts of the map ; but orographical matter had, perhaps, better be sparingly introduced. Such a map is exhibited in the museum at Brussels, and would, I should think, add much to the educational interest of our national collection here.

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FOSSIL BIRDS.

SIR,—My friend Dr. Woodward in his interesting paper on Wingless Birds in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, Dec. III. Vol. II. No 7, p. 308, alludes to the discovery of fossil feathers of birds in some places abroad, both in Jurassic and Tertiary strata, but he does not mention any as occurring in England. It may be interesting to the readers of the MAGAZINE to know that a small feather is recorded by Mr. J. S. Gardner, from the Tertiary Plant-beds at Bournemouth, and I have two portions of feathers from the Eocene Bembridge Limestone at Gurnet Bay, near Cowes, Isle of Wight ; which has yielded to the researches of Mr. A'Court Smith so many remarkable Insect-remains, Arachnids, Crustacea and Plants, and of which I have a fine series. Remains of Birds are almost as a matter of course unusually rare in any fossiliferous rocks, and generally occur, as might be expected, in fluvial or lacustrine deposits, and feathers seem to be still more so. Those in my collection are only fragmentary, merely the upper end of a very small feather ; but perhaps Mr. Smith may have more entire examples, though I am not aware of any others having been met with in any older formations in this country.

P. B. BRODIE, F.G.S.

[To the foregoing should be added the following species :

*Pelagornis Barretti* (Seeley). Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. Aug. 1866.

*Enaliornis Barretti*. Seeley, Index to Fossil Remains, etc., 1869, Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Nov. 1876, pl. xxvi.-xxvii.

H. W.]