

that I had made an incorrect diagnosis of "a group of fossils, on which I had been so long at work," merely to show that the correction of the error was due to himself.

CHELTEMHAM, 4th Jan., 1876.

THOMAS WRIGHT, M.D.

UPPER BOULDER-CLAY OF THE N.W. OF ENGLAND.¹

SIR,—I am sorry that the very eminent glacialist, Mr. Kinahan, did not see a better specimen of the above deposit than that mentioned in his article.² I have been familiar with it, for many years, in the flat and low-lying districts of Shropshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, and West Cumberland. It is the best-defined, most persistently uniform in its character, and horizontally-continuous of any glacial deposit I have seen. It likewise contains the largest per-centage of flattened pebbles with parallel and perfectly-preserved striae. With regard to the drifts of the Isle of Man, I think they ought to be compared with the magnificent normal sections occurring on the opposite sea-coast of Cumberland, between Maryport and St. Bees, but especially between Ravenglass and Millom. For information on the above subjects, see *GEOL. MAG.* for Dec. 1870, June and July, 1871, and Sept. 1872. See also *Quart. Journal Geol. Soc.*, vol. xxv. p. 407; vol. xxviii. p. 388; and vol. xxx. p. 181.

D. MACKINTOSH.

¹ This letter has been accidentally held over.—*EDIT. GEOL. MAG.*

² *GEOL. MAG.* 1875, Decade II. Vol. II. p. 547.

THE SCARLE BORING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

SIR,—It may interest your readers to learn that this deep boring has at length entered the Coal-measures at a depth of 1,900 feet, after passing through strata from the Lower Lias downwards to the Coal-measures. The Permian beds were found of greater thickness than was expected, and for some time disappointed the expectations of those who hoped the Coal-measures would be reached at a less depth than has actually proved to be the case. The core which was sent to me last week by Mr. J. T. Boot, Mining Engineer, who has superintended the work, consists of grey fine-grained grit, slightly micaceous, containing carbonized plants, but too much rubbed for determination. It came from a depth of 1,906 feet. Judging from the lamination, the dip of the beds is moderate. The boring reflects great credit on the Diamond-Boring Company, and upon the adventurers, who, through much discouragement, have persevered; and it is to be hoped that ere the experiment is abandoned, an actual coal-seam will be pierced through.

I hope to be able to draw up a detailed account of this most interesting attempt to reach coal far beyond the district in which it is worked.

EDWARD HULL.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF IRELAND,

14, HUME STREET, DUBLIN, 17 Jan. 1876.

MISCELLANEOUS.—PROF. A. E. NORDENSKIÖLD AND THE SWEDISH EXPEDITION TO THE POLAR SEA. An Imperial ordinance was officially published at St. Petersburg, Jan. 1st, 1876, directing that the thanks of the Russian Government be conveyed to the Swedish Professor Nordenskiöld, for his exploration of the Polar Sea un to the Yenisei River.