ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MOLYBDENITE IN LEICESTERSHIRE AND OF LINARITE IN CORNWALL.

To the Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

SIR,—During the late meeting of the British Association I happened to form one of the party which visited the Mount Sorrel Syenite (or granite) quarries. Some of the workmen brought us specimens of what they called *lead* on the stone. I bought a piece from one of the men, recognising in their *lead* the mineral Molybdenite, and since my return from Nottingham I have confirmed my opinion by the ordinary tests for Molybdenum.

I am not aware that the occurrence of Molybdenite at Mount Sorrel has been noticed hitherto; at all events, it is not mentioned either in Phillips' "Mineralogy" or in Bristow's "Glossary" as occurring there.

It will, perhaps, not be uninteresting to some of your readers to learn that the mineral Linarite has been found in Cornwall. I lately found a specimen at Huel Penrose, near this town,—a mine long noted for its beautiful specimens of Pyromorphite, Mimetesite, and Cerusite, and where Anglesite also occurs in small quantities.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

CLEMENT D. NEVE FOSTER.

HELSTON, CORNWALL,
17*th October*, 1866.

SIR J. F. W. HERSCHEL ON TIDAL CURRENTS.

To the Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

SIR,—As it might be too much to expect you (considering the great increase in the number of your contributors) for several months to come, to find room for a *full* reply to Mr. Maw's elaborate article,[1] I shall at present only direct the attention of your readers to what Sir J. F. W. Herschel says relative to the concentrated force of tidal currents in inlets, channels, and shallow seas; and to the great variety of effects which must result from the localization of currents by which they are made to assume the form of curving, eddying, revolving, re-acting, returning, connecting, bifurcating, joining, deflected, and reflected streams. In speaking of "the peculiar nature of the tidal undulation," the above great *dynamical* authority remarks: "The full effect of this power is only to be appreciated when we contemplate the rounded forms of hills, and the branching and sinuous valleys of a very large proportion of the surface of the land, where the action of the existing rivers, or any conceivable amount of atmospheric precipitation, is quite inadequate to have performed the work of excavation."[2] Sir Charles Lyell and Sir Roderick I. Murchison have likewise borne testimony to the denuding influence of marine currents.

D. MACKINTOSH.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

[1] GEOL. MAG., Oct. 1866.

[2] "Physical Geography," p. 91.