

THE BAGSHOT SANDS.

SIR,—Mr. Irving commences an article in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* for March (p. 111) with the following statement: “The chief object of this paper is to describe an unmapped outlier of Bagshot Sand.” I have no desire here to raise the question of the age of the beds he has described in that article, especially as that subject was fully discussed on a paper read by Mr. Irving before the Geological Society in January last. But I wish to point out that, unless I have greatly misunderstood Mr. Irving’s account of the geographical position of the outlier which he describes, the Bagshot Sand in question is neither *unmapped* nor does it form an *outlier*. In the Survey Map the Lower Bagshot Beds are represented as extending from the main mass westwards, between Barkham and Bearwood Park, including part of the latter, and sending off spurs to the southward, one of which “is crossed by the main road from Arborfield Cross to Wokingham,” exactly as described by Mr. Irving. The only difference appears to be that Mr. Irving gives the beds a rather greater northerly extension than the Map. Moreover, the beds are not only mapped, they are also described. In the “Memoirs of the Geological Survey,” vol. iv. page 314, we find the following:—“About three-quarters of a mile N.N.W. of Barkham, near Wokingham, there is light-brown fine micaceous glauconiferous sand, with thin layers of pipe-clay towards the top, about 12 feet thick, over a pebble-bed in whitish micaceous sand.” This may possibly have been a description of the “Barkham Pit” described by Mr. Irving on p. 112. It agrees well enough in position, and the pit is said (p. 113) to have been “re-opened only last winter, after having been disused for years.” It is true we find no mention of these beds in the list of outliers given in the memoir (*loc. cit.* p. 316); but, as I have stated above, the Survey considers that the sands are connected with the main mass.

It would seem, therefore, that in the alleged new outlier of Bagshot Sands, with which he has lately been puzzling those who are interested in Bagshot geology, Mr. Irving has only discovered an old friend.

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PALÆONTOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

SIR,—The volume for the year 1886, price one guinea, containing: (1) *Stigmaria feoides*, by Prof. W. C. Williamson, with 15 plates; (2) Fossil Sponges, Part I. by Dr. G. J. Hinde, with 8 plates; (3) Jurassic Gasteropoda, Part I. No. 1, by Mr. W. H. Hudleston; (4) Inferior Oolite Ammonites, Part I. by Mr. G. S. Buckman, with 6 plates; (5) Pleistocene Mammalia, Part VI. by Prof. W. Boyd Dawkins, with 7 plates, is now with the binder, and will be issued to the Members toward the close of the present month.

The volume for 1887, of which nearly all the plates are ready, will be placed in the printer’s hands at once, and will be distributed before the end of the year.

The new Monographs, on the Fossil Sponges, the Stromatoporoids, the Jurassic Gasteropoda, and the Inferior Oolite Ammonites, will require many plates for their illustration, and will be very costly. It would be a considerable aid to the Society if Members would mention these Monographs to those of their friends who are interested in such subjects, and if they would try to bring in new Subscribers.

25, GRANVILLE PARK, LEWISHAM,
LONDON, 7th March, 1887.

THOS. WILTSHIRE,
Secretary.