

X.—BRIEF NOTICES.

1. THE HILS BASIN.—Dr. H. von Koenen discusses the disturbances of the Hils Basin in the *Jahresb. Niedersäch. geol. Ver. Hannover*, 1913. He describes it as “a basin due to compression, with uptilted margins, its interior being filled with essentially younger beds less strongly influenced by the pressure”.

2. WATERS OF KHARGA.—Mr. G. W. Grabham has published in the *Cairo Scientific Journal* (No. 61, vol. v, October, 1911) a paper dealing with the mechanics of wells, the choking of boreholes by deposition, and the exhaustion of strata. This is a reply to Mr. H. J. L. Beadnell's paper, and the whole discussion is interesting and instructive.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A SUPPOSED SUBMERGED FOREST IN SOUTH-WEST SCOTLAND.

SIR,—In your review of Mr. Clement Reid's book on submerged forests you cite the statement that in “Scotland the Neolithic deposits seem to be raised beaches instead of submerged forests”. There is what appears to be a submerged forest bed in a small creek called Brighthouse Bay, a little west of the estuary of the Dee on the coast of Galloway. It was incidentally noticed in a paper published by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in 1875. Some presumably large antlers of (red) deer were recorded as from the “submerged forest”. The district is outwardly much like that of South Devon, viz. with low-level beach-platforms, drowned valleys, and what seem to be submerged forest clays. The paper referred to is on the exploration of the Borneess Cave, and the mention of the submerged forest is on p. 11 of the reprint. The late Mr. A. J. Corrie and myself were solely responsible for the geological part of the report, and we were guided by the South Devon raised beaches in our identification. It is quite possible we were mistaken. Perhaps some of our readers may be acquainted with Brighthouse Bay.

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NOTE ON THE NAME 'CHARMOUTHIAN'.

SIR,—D'Orbigny in 1852 divided the Lias into three stages which he called respectively the Sinemurian, the Liassian, and the Toarcian, and in 1864 Mayer-Eymar proposed the name 'Charmouthian' to take the place of d'Orbigny's Liassian. As pointed out by Mr. W. D. Lang in this Magazine (1912, p. 284), this middle stage of d'Orbigny and Mayer-Eymar included more than has usually been assigned to the Middle Lias in England. I am not now concerned with the grouping of the zones, but with the form of the name which has been adopted by most French geologists in preference to the Pliensbachian of Opel.

The name is, of course, taken from the little town of Charmouth in Dorset, near which the Middle Lias is well exposed in the cliffs, but it is unfortunate that Mayer-Eymar should have tried to latinize such a name as Charmouth without making any inquiry as to its ancient form. It is a recognized custom or rule that when such names are