

limestones that are quarried at Gebel Moqattam to the south-east of Cairo and elsewhere; some detailed quarry records are given on the authority of the late T. Barron, and a report on the chalky nummulitic limestones used as building stone in Upper Egypt is contributed by Mr. H. J. L. Beadnell. There are also notes on sand-lime bricks, portland cement, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ORIGIN OF THE BRITISH TRIAS.

SIR,—In the October number of this Magazine Mr. A. R. Horwood has given us a summary of the conclusions he has come to as a result of his researches into the origin of the British Trias. The paper as printed, being only an abstract of a longer paper read at the British Association, has no doubt suffered much in clearness as a result of condensation. In its present form, however, it is unsatisfactory, being composed in part of facts long known and now put forward none too clearly and by no means for the first time, and in part of more or less new statements requiring substantiation. I feel, and I daresay I voice the feelings of other readers too, that I should now like to hear the evidence on which some of these last-mentioned statements are based. I do not wish for the present to be understood as criticizing the conclusions, but merely as asking for a more explicit statement of the facts. I will take the points under Mr. Horwood's own numbers.

(3) If there is a general absence of delta bedding in the Bunter [see (9)], what then is the evidence that it is a delta? Is it its dactyloid form (6), and, if so, is this capable of being demonstrated on a map?

(9) Apart from the fact that beds which should theoretically have lain at 40° now lie horizontal, is there any other evidence of tilting through an angle of 45° in any part of the Trias?

(16) I am not very clear as to the author's meaning here, but I presume it is that the signs of wind erosion are confined to one level on the syenites and other older rocks. I would now ask how many cases of this wind erosion are known and to what extent they can be demonstrated to occur only at one horizon in the marls; also whether the opportunities for their observation are not very exceptional?

(20) What is the evidence that the supposed Bunter river came from North-West Scotland? I am aware that I may be displaying great ignorance of the literature of the subject in asking this question, but in that case a reference will set me right.

(21) What are the points of petrographical correspondence between the Bunter, Keuper, and modern delta formations? What bearing on this question has the immediately following statement that "the Leicestershire Trias shows signs of chemical action, the Nile delta of mechanical"?

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