

CHEVIOT PORPHYRITES IN THE BOULDER-CLAY OF EAST YORKSHIRE.

SIR,—I can confirm Mr. Stather's opinion¹ (expressed in the *Geological Magazine* for January, 1901) that the porphyrites of the East Yorkshire Boulder-clay were probably derived from the Cheviots. When I was stationed at Bridlington Quay on the Geological Survey, Mr. C. T. Clough, who mapped the Cheviots, came to the Quay in order to identify, if possible, the far-travelled erratics in the Boulder-clay. We examined the shore and cliffs from Bridlington Quay to Filey, and found a large number of porphyritic rocks, which Mr. Clough said might very well have come from the Cheviots.

J. R. DAKYNS.

SNOWDON VIEW, NANT GWYNNAN, BEDDGELEERT, CARNARVON.

February 11, 1901.

MUSEUM EXHIBITION CASES.

SIR,—The new Geological Museum now being erected here will have high windows and a long south aspect. The effect of this will be that the sun will fall suddenly on glazed cases and as suddenly pass off them, thus by the expansion and contraction of the air causing dust-carrying currents to force themselves through every chink. From this cause it costs about three times as much to keep cases and specimens clean on the side exposed to the sun as it does in the shaded part of a museum. This may be obviated by elastic diaphragms (which would hardly allow sufficient movement for such large cases as ours) or by small sliding shutters packed with cotton-wool something like Tyndall's respirators.

Can any of your readers refer us to museums in which such a system has been tried or give us any advice on the subject before our cases have been built?

T. MCKENNY HUGHES.

WOODWARDIAN MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE.

February 19, 1901.

OBITUARY.

JAMES BENNIE.

BORN SEPTEMBER 23, 1821.

DIED JANUARY 28, 1901.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. James Bennie, at the age of 79 years. For many years he was one of the fossil collectors of H.M. Geological Survey, and was well known to local geologists in the west of Scotland. In early life, before he joined the Survey, he was employed in a paper manufactory in Glasgow, where he devoted his leisure hours to the examination of the glacial, interglacial, and post-glacial deposits of the west of Scotland. He likewise collected fossils from the various Carboniferous horizons in that region. The results of his labours were published in the *Transactions of the Glasgow Geological Society*, and his glacial researches were communicated to Dr. Croll in 1867, as acknowledged in the "Life and Work" of that investigator. His Survey career, which commenced in 1869, was marked by his great

¹ See "The Sources and Distribution of the Far-Travelling Boulders of East Yorkshire," by J. W. Stather.