

fore, only tend to confusion." The author next pointed out that palæontologically the Coal-measures of Kilkenny, Queen's County, Limerick, Clare, Kerry, etc., were similar to those of Coalbrookdale, Staffordshire, and other places in England.

Mr. W. Hellier Baily, F.G.S., gave a list of the fossils common to both the English and Irish Coal-measures.

Mr. Hull, F.R.S., briefly replied, and referred chiefly to the lower members of the Coal-measures in England, with which he compared the Irish coal.

The Secretary, Prof. McAlister, exhibited the skull of the grizzly bear (*Ursus ferox*), found in digging the Ulster Canal. This led to a discussion on fossil bears, after which the Society adjourned.

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

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#### RIVER TERRACES, ETC.

SIR,—I make no remarks on the obliging expressions at the end of the Rev. Mr. Bonney's letter (*GEOL. MAG.*, p. 526), but the beginning of his letter is of public and scientific interest. He says, "I certainly did not understand that Colonel Greenwood was speaking *solely* (Mr. Bonney's italics) of terraces in closed valleys. This, it appears to me, was by no means clearly brought out in his first letter. With regard to these, I can only say that, owing to the general correspondence between all these terraces that I have seen and those in the open valleys, it seems more natural to refer both to the same cause."

The difference between the two is this, that marine terraces (including those deposited in "fiords") cannot be formed without a *general* cause, that is, without a general subterranean upthrow of the *district*. Whereas inland terraces arise from a *local* cause, that is, flood and deposit caused by rain-water checked at a gorge, and when the gorge, by erosion, is widened and deepened, the alluvium being cut into two parallel terraces.

With regard to my first letter (*GEOL. MAG.*, April, 1871) "speaking *solely* of terraces in closed valleys," the first half of that letter is on marine terraces. The second half begins, "So far in reference to marine alluvial plains," and refers to the difference of the causes of marine and inland terraces. My letter exists in black and white. Has Mr. Bonney written his letter without referring to mine?

BROOKWOOD PARK, ALRESFORD,  
2 November, 1871.

GEORGE GREENWOOD, Colonel.

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#### ROYAL COAL COMMISSION.

SIR,—In the review of the Royal Coal Commission Report (*GEOL. MAG.*, p. 520, November, 1871) the reviewer has fallen into an error in stating that I reported to the Commissioners on South Staffordshire, East Worcestershire, and Shropshire. By reference to vol. i., p. 27, of the Report it will be found that Mr. John Hartley, of Tong Castle, Shropshire, reported upon South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. My report only refers to the county of Shropshire (*vide* p. 28),