

BADEN POWELL AND CHARNWOOD FOREST.

SIR,—The posthumous paper in your March number, by Baden Powell, appears out of date. More than half of its material had appeared in print before it was written in 1859; and the few new points it contains have been told over and over again during the last decennary. But what I wanted especially to note was a correction of the opening statement in the article, "That the Geology of Charnwood Forest was first systematically investigated by Professors Sedgwick, Whewell, and Airy in 1833." Your readers will find in the *Annals of Philosophy*, Jan., 1824, an elaborate memoir, with a good geological map and woodcuts, by William Phillips and S. Luck Kent, "Observations on the Rocks of Mount Sorrel, Charnwood Forest, and Grooby." This memoir is 20 pages long, and excepting the antiquated nomenclature, is as sound in its principles, accurate in its details and classification of the rocks, as are any of the recent *Memoirs of Charnwood Forest*, the *Geological Survey*, Mr. Jukes, or the recently published memoir by Professor Ansted.

From another remark in Mr. Baden Powell's paper, anyone would suppose that the district of Charnwood Forest had been a neglected field, whereas for many years past, and remarkably so of late, the local geologists of Leicester, of whom I am proud to be one, have explored every yard of its area, and are well acquainted with every geological feature to be found about its rocks. Their labours may not find a place in the *Quarterly Journal of the London Geological Society*, but they are to be found in the memoirs and transactions of several local societies.

JOHN PLANT.

PEEL PARK, SALFORD,
5TH FEBRUARY, 1868.

CLASSIFICATION OF GRAPTOLITES.

SIR,—I must ask you for leave to say a few words in reply to Dr. Nicholson's in your last.

1. The Graptolites have been supposed to be related to the Ctenostomatous Polyzoa—the Ctenostomata have corneous polyparies like the Graptolites. Dr. Nicholson dismisses the question of their Ctenostomatous affinity, because the Polyzoa "as a rule" have Calcareous tests; a "summary" process indeed. Dr. Nicholson has yet to make the acquaintance of the Ctenostomata, for the "free and corneous Polyzoa," of whose existence he is "*perfectly aware*," are a novel group of real or imaginary animals very different from the fixed Polyzoa to which Busk gave the name.

2. Dr. Nicholson changed his views *after* I pointed out, in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, his errors, and his progress in knowledge followed step by step my corrections. Your readers will form their own estimate of that "honesty" which accepts these corrections and publishes them without acknowledgment.

3. I ventured to suggest that somehow Dr. Nicholson had confounded gonophore with gonotheca, but such an error was so gross and so fundamental, that I suggested it with diffidence. Now Dr.