

In conclusion, if H. B. W. should ever visit Bristol, I shall be happy to show him my *Potamides*, and elicit his opinion.

7, KING SQUARE, BRISTOL.

W. W. STODDART.

#### RUGBY SCHOOL NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

SIR,—In your kind notice of the Rugby School Natural History Society's Reports, there are one or two errors of some importance. Will you allow me to correct them? A quotation is made from a report very much out of date, and it is made to appear as if applicable to the present system. As it is, very nearly the whole school, and not one-tenth only, are at work at Natural Science, and have been so for five years. The central study is Chemistry, this is connected on the one side with Natural History, of which Botany and Geology are selected as types; and on the other side with Physics, that is, with us, with mechanics, and heat, and electricity.

Many of your readers would be interested, I think, in seeing how laborious young observers are in botany, and how much is found to provide them with original work.

I must disclaim the honour of being President. This post is most worthily filled by Mr. Kitchener, M.A., F.L.S., to whom the Society is greatly indebted.

JAMES M. WILSON.

RUGBY, May 8, 1869.

P.S.—One of my young geologists, Mr. H. C. Cholmondeley, tells us of a singular subsidence at Marton, near Northwich, on Lord Delawarr's property. About twelve years ago a circular area, sixty yards across, suddenly sank down, to a depth, as I understand, of a few yards. Two years ago a fresh subsidence took place, sufficient to submerge a poplar tree, which remained standing in the circular lake so formed. Last term the ground again sank, and the sinking was accompanied with much noise, and violent movement of the water. The water was cold. It is four miles to the nearest salt mine, and three to the nearest brine works. He is unable to assign any cause for the phenomena. Perhaps some of your Cheshire correspondents can enlighten us.—J.M.W.

#### THE GRAVELS OF LOPHAM FORD:

SIR,—I think it important that the phenomena at Lopham Ford should be fully discussed, on account of the light they are calculated to throw upon denudation. I am glad, therefore, that my esteemed friend has not allowed my reply to his query to pass without remark, for I hope the question he raises may induce Geologists to go and see for themselves and report to you. I should not have referred again to the subject, because I have said my say, and stand by my opinion. But Mr. S. V. Wood, jun., has kindly and spontaneously written to me, to tell me that he visited the spot with Mr. Harmer, while they were engaged in mapping the glacial deposits, and that he agrees with me that the gravel south of Lopham Ford is Middle Drift, and not a river-gravel.

O. FISHER.

P.S.—*Erratum* at p. 552, line 42, vol. v. 1868, for "Boulder-clay" read "London clay."

O.F.