

2·357 for lithium light, the degree of accuracy being about 0·002. More accurate values are anticipated when better prisms have been prepared, but the results so far obtained suffice to show that the double refraction and colour dispersion are remarkably large in amount.—Arthur Russell: Notes on the Minerals and Mineral Localities of Shropshire. The occurrences of thirty-two species, excluding rock-forming minerals, were described. Calcite was obtained at Snailbeach Mine, Minsterley, in splendid crystals of varied habit, among others being large, pale mauve, rhombohedra twinned on *c* (111), and opaque, white, prismatic crystals twinned on *r* (100). Very large crystals of barytes and fine crystals of calcite came from Wotherton Mine, Chirbury. The occurrence of pyromorphite and witherite at several localities was noted.—Dr. Emil Hatschek exhibited a series of specimens and lantern slides illustrative of some reactions in gels. An inorganic gel (silicic acid) was used, and the compounds resulting from the diffusion in it of several solutions were shown; there is a tendency to banding in the upper part of the precipitate, while spherulitic growths were obtained in nearly every case. Mr. W. Campbell Smith exhibited a spherulitic dolerite from Vryheid, Natal; the rock was interesting on account of the size and beauty of the spherulites, which were revealed on weathered surfaces.

III.—ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

March 19, 1912.—S. F. Harmer, Esq., M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S.,
Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. T. H. Withers, F.G.S., read a paper, communicated by Dr. W. T. Calman, F.Z.S., on “Some early Fossil Cirripedes of the genus *Scalpellum*”.

Attention was drawn to the form of the carina of the geologically older species of *Scalpellum*, and it was shown that the earliest forms known resembled more closely the carina of *Pollicipes*, from which *Scalpellum* is considered to be derived. An almost complete capitulum of the Albian *Scalpellum arcuatum* was described, together with some scales of the peduncle, and a restoration was given. This specimen was important because, with the exception of a few detached valves found in the Aptian (Lower Greensand), it was the oldest known fossil Cirripede that could with certainty be referred to the genus *Scalpellum*, *sensu lato*. *S. arcuatum* was considered to be an ancestral form of the group of almost exclusively deep-sea species, which Dr. P. P. C. Hoek had separated as a sub-genus under the name *Arcoscalpellum*, and its relationship to other species was discussed. *S. trilineatum* was also redescribed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A HUMAN SKELETON IN GLACIAL DEPOSITS NEAR IPSWICH.

SIR,—My attention has been drawn to two communications¹ in the April Number of your Magazine dealing with the human skeleton I discovered here in October of last year.

¹ See GEOL. MAG., April, 1912, pp. 164 and 187.

The points raised by your correspondent, Professor McKenny Hughes, F.R.S., as to the impossibility of being able to recognize after a period of years where ground had been disturbed by a grave having been dug, and his statement that the material which occurred over the bones was not Boulder-clay, are very important and call for the fullest investigation. Your other contributor, Mr. George Slater, F.G.S., who quotes very fully the reports of Mr. W. Whitaker, F.R.S., Mr. John E. Marr, F.R.S., Professor A. Keith, and those of us who saw the bones removed, makes a curious omission in that he gives no detailed reference to the report which he himself gave me in reference to the section in Messrs. Bolton and Laughlin's pit where the skeleton was found.

This report, dated October 21, 1911, and signed by Mr. Slater, is before me as I write, and contains the following paragraphs:—

"As the bones had been removed and a 'nitch' cut down from the top of the pit to a depth of about 4 feet a clear section was shown, but of course there was no means of ascertaining the exact condition of the material removed. *Judging from the section now exposed this portion of the pit varies in no way from other parts of the section, and shows a clear and undisturbed section of weathered Boulder-clay over the calcareous sands in which the remains were found.*

"There is no reason to doubt that the sands and gravels are derived from glacial material, containing as they do derived Jurassic material, and the Boulder-clay is part of the large sheet exposed so well in the neighbouring pit further to the east of Henley Road."

This lucid statement was the result of a very careful examination of the section by Mr. Slater, who has known and visited this pit for years. Yet I find he states on p. 165 of your Magazine that "The general section on this side of the pit [the side on which the skeleton was found] is extremely unsatisfactory", and I am left wondering as to why the section under discussion has so suddenly presented itself to him in such an unsatisfactory aspect.

I also notice that on p. 166 he states that the plateau half a mile to the east of the site where the remains were found "reaches a height of about 160 feet" and that this "gives a gradient of roughly *fifty feet* in half a mile" (the italics are mine). This, however, is incorrect, as my friend Mr. Henry Miller, M.I.C.E., County Surveyor for East Suffolk, has lately taken the levels for me, and these show that the surface of the ground above the spot where the bones occurred lies at a level of 129·01 O.D., and the highest point to the east, half a mile away, is 155·24 O.D.

Thus the gradient in half a mile is roughly 26 feet, not 50 feet as stated by Mr. Slater.

J. REID MOIR.

12 ST. EDMUND'S ROAD, IPSWICH.
April 10, 1912.