

It may therefore be worth while for me to appeal to the second edition of my "Descriptions of Volcanos," published so long ago as 1848, as showing, that although in my earlier publications I had been led by the authority of Professor Buckland to attribute the formation of valleys to catastrophic action, such as the Noachian Deluge, I had for many years abandoned that hypothesis.

This circumstance might of itself have been considered a tacit acknowledgment on my part of the value of Mr. Scrope's earlier contributions to Geology, but I was glad of the opportunity afforded by the publication of my recent paper "On the Antiquity of the Volcanos of Auvergne," of more distinctly recognizing the claims of the author alluded to, to the merit of having been the first of our countrymen who clearly pointed out the evidence afforded by the valleys of that volcanic district, as to the erosive agency of rivers continued during long periods of time.

CHARLES DAUBENY.

Oxford, May 5th, 1866.

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THE LONGMYND AND ITS VALLEYS.

*To the Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.*

SIR,—I have just read Mr. Mackintosh's paper in the April number, as well as his letter in the May number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

I am well acquainted with the Longmynd and its valleys, and I am still of the same opinion that I formed more than twenty years ago, as to the origin of those deep valleys, locally called "gutters." I feel not the slightest doubt that they were cut by running brooks. I know of no better locality to which I would refer for so good an example, to show the result of long-continued wear by running water, than the Longmynd with its deep valleys. If the brooks that now run in these valleys have the power to furrow even their bottoms, they require only time to cut down a thousand feet. I believe that the action of the sea could in no way excavate those valleys or any similar ones.

I may add, that after many years of constant observation in the field, on a subject I have always been particularly interested in, I feel now convinced that an immense amount of denudation is due to causes subaërial, and not to the action of the sea.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

W. TALBOT AVELINE.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GREAT BRITAIN,  
EDEN MOUNT, KENDAL, 7th May, 1866.

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A DENUDING AGENT.

*To the Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.*

SIR,—I have all my life been a diligent explorer of little brooks, in search, I must confess, of beauty rather than fossils. I have often been struck with the steady, and by no means unsuccessful, co-oper-