

CORRESPONDENCE.

GEOLOGY OF DERBY, BURTON-ON-TRENT, Etc.

SIR,—Reading your review on the memoir of the Geological Survey, “The Geology of the Country between Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and Loughborough” (*GEOL. MAG.*, September, p. 416), I notice that your reviewer has misread a very ambiguous statement, but I am surprised that he did not take exception to his own reading. The memoir states under the heading of Limestone Shales (which, by the way, in other publications members of the Survey have been calling Pendleside Series): “Both the limestone and shales are thinning out in this neighbourhood, and from attaining a thickness of 5,000 feet in Derbyshire are not more than 500 feet at Breedon”; with a footnote which says that even “this thickness is calculated on the supposition that there is not much Limestone hidden by the Trias.” The Limestone Shales are stated to be 30 to 40 feet thick at Ticknall. Your reviewer, owing to the lack of capitals and general ambiguity, says the shales have thinned out from 5,000 feet in Derbyshire to some 500 feet at Breedon, when evidently the memoir means the whole Carboniferous Limestone and Pendleside Series. My chief object is to protest against the figures quoted for Derbyshire by the author of the memoir. I very gravely doubt that there are 3,000 feet of Limestone, and there certainly are not more than 800 to 1,000 feet of shales present in any continuous or unfaulted section.

Referring to the last paragraph on p. 75 of the second edition of the Survey memoir on North Derbyshire, which is quoted by Mr. Wedd on p. 9 of the Summary of Progress, 1904, I find the following:—“In the Mole-trap Mine 300 feet of shale were passed through before reaching the Limestone. The top of the shaft may be some 100 feet below the base of the Shale Grit, so that the Yoredale group will be here about 400 feet thick.” This locality is near Cromford. Why the discrepancies between different publications of the Survey?

WHEELTON HIND.

A REMARKABLE BONE FROM THE SUFFOLK CRAG.

SIR,—Will you permit me to ask whether any of your readers can tell what has become of the specimen of which I give a rough outline? I first saw it in 1865 in the extensive Crag collection of Mr. Whincopp at Woodbridge in Suffolk. It afterwards passed into the hands of Sir Joseph Prestwich, at whose house I again saw it in 1889, and then took the measurements from which my sketch is drawn.

I believe it used to be an adage of the Survey that “a note made at the time is worth a cartload of recollection.” This was it:—“Dec. 21, 1865, at Mr. Whincopp’s. The collection is large and unique. One of the most remarkable things is what he calls a ‘bludgeon.’ It is a piece of a fossil rib bone, and appears to have been mineralised in the Crag. It has been partially sawn across at both ends. The ends show incrustations of stalagmite, but stained ferruginous. The fractures look like those of recent bone, as if it had been broken off before it was mineralised.”

At a subsequent visit, February 9th, 1866, I noted: “The fracture