

now give the reasons for our opinion, all details being reserved for a paper in preparation.

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GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND AND WALES.
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BASE OF THE CARBONIFEROUS ROCKS IN TEESDALE.

SIR,—I have just opened Phillips' Geology of Yorkshire, Part 2, by chance at page 81: and the first words that caught my eye were "Widdybank" and "anomalous breccia."

This is the breccia which, on my visit to Teesdale, last October and November, I suggested to my companions, Messrs. Gunn and Clough, was the *base of the Carboniferous rocks*, for the reasons quoted by me in the *GEOL. MAG.* for February. From the use of the term "anomalous," it is clear that Phillips had noticed the peculiar character of the bed. It is somewhat strange that none of the geologists, as far as I know, who have written about the rocks in Teesdale, should have been struck with the possibility of the breccia being the base of the Carboniferous. They seem to have been too much taken up with the Whin Sill to think about that. Perhaps they did not see the Silurian-like dykes and pencil-beds below Cronkley; but if they did, they must have equally missed their suggestive character.

It is some satisfaction to us youngsters that the older geologists have left us something to discover.

J. R. DAKYNS.

KENDAL, *February 20th, 1877.*

"KAMES" AND DENUDATION.

SIR,—Mr. Mackintosh is quite right. I have not seen either the English or Welsh 'Eskers' he mentions, so that perhaps, as another critic of my paper has said, I am "not entitled to generalize." But at the same time I cannot help expressing my astonishment at being told that there are vast numbers of Kames, or similar gravelly mounds, whose shapes have nothing to do with denudation. Since many of these mounds were first exposed to atmospheric influences, not only have rivers cut their channels to great depths through the most compact rocks, but the hard metamorphic mountains of the Highlands have been so wasted that their flanks are usually draped with débris, which, spreading over the floors of the valleys, bury them deep under masses of angular rock fragments, which are frequently shaped into very good imitations of Kames by the action of streams running along the valleys, aided by torrents from the mountain-sides. I do not suppose that any one would maintain that the shapes of these mountains have nothing to do with denuding agencies. How is it then that the loose gravels of the Kames "sometimes on the summits of hills," as Mr. Mackintosh says, have withstood influences before which the solid hills literally "flow from form to form"?

That the Newport Kames do not enjoy such immunity from the action of the rain-fall, has been demonstrated during the recent excessively wet weather. All the mounds not protected by grass have water-courses cut in their sides, some of them of considerable