build up the rock, and by the inclusion of one mineral by another. Porphyritic felspars are recorded from several localities.

The author concludes that the rocks of Section V are nearly related to those described in the earlier part of the paper, and points out the close resemblance of the whole to the Charnockite Series of Southern India.

2. "Note on the Occurrence of Corundum as a Contact-Mineral at Pont-Paul, near Morlaix (Finistère)." By A. K. Coomára-Swámy, Esq., B.Sc., F.L.S., F.G.S.

The intrusive granite of Pont-Paul, near Morlaix, contains highly altered fragments of sedimentary rock. The minerals found in them are biotite, muscovite, corundum (first recorded by Professor Barrois in 1887), plagioclase, andalusite, pyrite, magnetite, sillimanite, green spinel, and zircon. The corundum forms sharply idiomorphic tabular hexagonal crystals, striated and slightly stepped on the basal plane, and blue in colour. Iron-oxide is a constant inclusion. The inclusions have probably been to some extent injected with felspathic material. The original sediment was probably poor in silica and rich in alumina, and there has been sufficient molecular freedom for the formation of well-shaped crystals of corundum, comparatively free from inclusions. Sillimanite and zircon are the only other minerals which exhibit crystalline form.

CORRESPONDENCE.

YORKSHIRE BOULDERS.

Sir,—The value of Mr. Stather's paper on the sources and distribution of Yorkshire boulders (p. 17), which is very great, is not enhanced by the concluding paragraph. The Scandinavian Ice-sheet seems to affect some geologists as King Charles' head did Mr. Dick. May I then ask Mr. Stather two questions:—(1) What route did the Scandinavian Ice-sheet take when it anticipated the Norsemen by invading England? (2) What caused it to retreat before the advance of the British Ice-sheet? It was no doubt very polite to give place to the 'weaker vessel,' but as the British hill districts are smaller than and to the south of the Scandinavian, I should have thought nature would not have allowed courtesy to supersede law.

T. G. Bonney.

OBITUARY.

FREDERICK WILLIAM EGAN, B.A.

Born July 31, 1836. Died January 6, 1901.

Mr. Egan was born in Dublin on July 31st, 1836, and was the third son of the late Mr. W. J. Egan, of Rockville, Dundrum. Receiving his early education at Mr. Flynn's school in Harcourt Street, he entered Trinity College, where in due course he took

his degree of B.A. and a diploma in Engineering. Commencing professional life as a railway engineer, he did considerable work in connection with the Great Northern, Great Southern, and Dublin. Wicklow, and Wexford Railways, then in course of construction, In 1868 he quitted the somewhat desultory employment of railway engineer for a more permanent position on the staff of the Geological Survey of Ireland, being appointed assistant geologist on the nomination of the late Professor Jukes, F.R.S. In 1890 he was promoted to the grade of geologist on the recommendation of the present Director-General of the Survey, Sir A. Geikie, D.C.L., F.R.S. His work was always characterized by the great care he bestowed on it, no details being too insignificant for his attention, and while he did not seek fame as an independent essayist, his contributions to the Official Memoirs and other reports furnish a mass of information which has often proved of considerable economic value. In the Summer of 1899 he met with an unfortunate accident, being violently thrown off a car while travelling in the execution of his duties, and sustained severe injuries, from which he never fully recovered. Some six months ago his complaint assumed a malignant form, which terminated in his death, after a long period of much suffering, on the 6th January. In personal character Mr. Egan was one of the kindliest and most lovable of men, and beyond the circle of his own family and immediate friends none will regret his loss more than his colleagues of the Geological Survey, to whom he was much endeared by his unfailing amiability, obligingness, and thorough good-nature.—*Irish Times*, January 11th.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Director-General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom.—The announcement has just reached us (January 15th) that Sir Archibald Geikie has intimated his intention to retire from the post of Director-General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, an office which he has so ably filled for the past twenty years, on March 1st next. In 1855, at the age of 20, Sir A. Geikie became an Assistant on the Geological Survey of Scotland, and he was made Director for Scotland in 1867. In 1881 he was appointed to succeed Sir Andrew Ramsay as Director-General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom. He has seen forty-six years' service, but is now only in his 66th year. (See his life, Geol. Mag. 1890, p. 49.) Early in March he will be entertained by his friends at a complimentary dinner. All who wish to attend should communicate with Mr. F. W. Rudler, Museum of Practical Geology, 28, Jermyn Street, London, S.W.—We rejoice to learn that Sir A. Geikie has no intention of retiring from active participation in geological work, and that neither his hammer nor his pen are to be laid aside for some years to come.