

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROFESSOR VON BUBNOFF'S *GRUNDPROBLEME DER GEOLOGIE*.

SIR,—In reference to your review of Professor S. von Bubnoff's book, *Grundprobleme der Geologie* (pp. 522–3, *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, Nov.), and the opinion therein expressed that this excellent work should be translated into English, I may say that a translation by me has been in progress for some time, and will be published as early as possible next year.

G. W. TYRRELL.

THE UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW.
19th November, 1931.

THE GENETIC RELATIONSHIPS OF PEGMATITES, APLITES AND TIN VEINS.

SIR,—Under the above heading, in your issue of October, 1931, Dr. Derry, in discussing the distinction in texture between pegmatites and aprites, considers that during crystallization most of the water present in the magma follows one differentiate and forsakes the other, and he asks what is the cause. His comment, that “the study of physical chemistry fails to reveal reasons for a sharp separation of this sort”, does not do justice to theoretical chemistry, for that branch of science offers, in the form of the Distribution Laws, a very sound basis of explanation of the apportionment of constituents (solute) of the magma, including the minor and often economically valuable ones, between the various differentiation products (phases) as well as their persistence in the same.

Operation of those laws attends equilibrium tendency, and completeness or otherwise of the division of both solvent and solutes at their behest may be taken as some indication of how nearly equilibrium was attained. The distribution laws offer, for example, a facile explanation for the very wide (but usually uneconomic) distribution of gold in the Keewatin rocks, and their Algonian intrusives, of Northern Ontario.

H. C. BOYDELL.

TORONTO,
ONTARIO.
13th February, 1932.

THE TERM “ARVONIAN”.

SIR,—While sorting some old papers, I have come upon the letters which I received in reference to this question, in response to my suggestion of June, 1930, in this Magazine.

Only four persons wrote. Of these, two expressed strong approbation, and hoped that the term would be adopted. One