

ON THE DISCOVERY OF OPHIURA WETHERELLI AT HERNE BAY.

To the Editor of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

DEAR SIR,—During a recent visit to Herne Bay I was fortunate enough to obtain some specimens of a pretty little Star-fish—*Ophiura Wetherelli*, of Forbes, from what I suppose to be the basement-bed of the London clay; and as this species appears to have been only hitherto obtained from the upper beds of the London clay at Hampstead and Highgate, or in still higher beds at Barton, as mentioned by Professor Forbes (Pal. Soc. Mon., page 33), a notice of its occurrence at a lower level in the Tertiary series may possibly be interesting to some of your readers.

My specimens of *Ophiura* were imbedded in a block of hard ferruginous sandstone in association with numerous specimens of *Cardium Laytoni*, which formed a layer several inches in thickness, and with which indeed they were so closely intermingled as to render their extraction, in anything but a fragmentary condition, a matter of extreme difficulty.

The block of sandstone appeared to have fallen from a bed of sand, which would answer to group 2 in Mr. Prestwich's 'Section near Herne Bay' (Quar. Jour. Geol. Soc., vol. vi. p. 265), and the place on the shore must be about a mile and half east of Herne Bay, and about midway between the rise of the sand-beds from beneath the London clay and a break or ravine in the cliffs a little further to the eastward.—Yours truly,

C. J. A. MEYER.

CLAPHAM COMMON: Oct. 17, 1865.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTES ON THE FOSSIL MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA.

By GERARD KREFT, Esq., Curator of the Australian Museum, Sydney.

(Extracted from the 'Australasian,' August 4, 1865.)

I believe that the late Sir Thomas Mitchell was the first discoverer of fossil remains of mammals in Australia, and they were obtained in the caves of Wellington Valley, New South Wales. Some of these fossils were deposited in the Australian Museum, at Sydney, and others handed over by Sir Thomas to the Geological Society of London.

Professor Owen, who examined them at the explorer's request, states that they belong to the following genera:—

1. *Macropus atlas*. O. Larger than the largest known existing species.
2. *Macropus titan*. O. As large as the preceding, but differing chiefly in the smaller size of the permanent spurious molar.
3. *Macropus*, spec. Not determined by the learned professor, from want of skeletons of existing species of kangaroo.
4. *Macropus*, spec. Another undetermined kangaroo.
5. *Hypsiprymnus*, spec. Not determined.
6. *Hypsiprymnus*, spec. Not determined.
- 7 and 8. *Phalangista*. Two as yet undetermined species. Professor Owen