

sure of the original relative position of the bones. He showed that the Plas Heaton Cave was on a hill rising from the top of the plateau, while the Cefn, Brysgill, and Galtfennan Caves were in the gorge cut through that plateau, and therefore that the Plas Heaton Cave was probably formed, and might possibly have been first occupied at a much earlier period than the others. As it appeared to pass under that part of the hill which is overlapped by heavy drift, he thought it quite possible that this may have been a pre-Glacial cave, and that by-and-bye we may find evidence of a pre-Glacial fauna in it.

The Rev. W. S. Symonds mentioned that in some of the pot-holes in the roof of the Cefn cave he had procured silt containing remains of shells determined by Mr. Jeffreys to be marine.

Mr. Hughes explained that these shells had probably been washed in from the superficial marine drift of the district.

Mr. Dawkins, in reply, expressed his belief that though the excavations of the caves in question might have taken place at different periods, yet that their occupation was, geologically speaking, contemporaneous.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TERRACES OF NORWAY.

SIR,—As the translator of Professor Kjerulf's pamphlet, and a visitor to many of the terraces he describes, may I be allowed, in answer to Colonel Greenwood, to occupy half a dozen lines?

The terraces occupy the whole breadth of valleys, often very wide. The upper surface is almost level, save where a groove is cut by an existing stream. They end, as Kjerulf says, in an abrupt slope, often succeeded by another terrace.

I especially recommend travellers to go to Aardal, and ascend by loch and river to see the grandest imaginable fall—the Moik Pors. In their journey they will see the terrace formation on a very remarkable scale, and I hardly think they will agree with Colonel Greenwood. In fact, few geological problems have so patent a solution.

I shall at any time be happy to sketch out a route, embracing some of the more remarkable terraces, for any traveller proposing to visit them.

MARSHALL HALL.

NEW UNIVERSITY CLUB, *May 9, 1871.*

CONCRETIONARY STRUCTURE IN PLASTER.

SIR,—The reference in Notes and Queries of your April number (page 192), to concretionary structure in the plaster of old walls reminds me that years ago, when G. H. K. and myself were colleagues, I used frequently to note it, and he may perhaps remember seeing my rubbings and copies therefrom.

Some of the best of these were obtained in partly ruined buildings, affording a little occupation during showers, etc.

Unfortunately the whereabouts of drawings or notes is now unknown, but I can recollect that these markings were not at all uncommon, and were sometimes very perfect.

The little woodcut given in your April number may be, roughly, a fourth or a sixth of their usual scale, and they appeared to be best observable where partly sheltered, as if showing a certain stage or condition of development or depth of weathering, to which greater exposure was unfavourable, causing the removal of whole patches of the tracery.

The material seemed always to be ordinary mortar, composed of lime, sand, etc.; and upon old walls that had been "puttied," *i.e.*, covered with a thin layer of smoother, and more calcareous, material, they were specially well preserved, the harder laminæ relieved, so that the original surface would have served to print them from; they also occurred in rough plastering and in very old ruins, as well as much more modern structures, on damp-looking internal walls of churches, and such like situations; an almost invariable condition of their existence being some sort of plane-surface, more usually vertical than horizontal, originally given to the composition.

As a consequence of this last observation, probably originated the idea which I have often heard advanced, that the marks were due to the rotary motion of the plasterer's arm causing a mechanical distribution of coarser and finer particles of the plaster, but this is evidently not the case, the old marks of the plastering tool being sometimes seen sweeping in broad curves across the concretionary pattern.

The structure appears to result from segregation or crystallization, or a combination of both, set up among the silicious and calcareous materials of the plaster.

The concentric character of the pattern is frequently quite as perfect as any other concretionary structure, but has much less tendency to interruption by breaks and shifts than is to be observed in agates, etc., of which numerous examples occur in the beautiful plates adorning Mr. Ruskin's contributions to former numbers of your Journal.

It seems strange that I can hardly recall an instance of the occurrence of these markings on the "Chunam" walls of India, and I have never seen them, except in materials of which lime formed a considerable part, nor could I detect anything like signs of commencement, termination, or progressive production of the structure.

MURREE, PUNJAB,
May 1, 1871.

BENWYAN.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF TYPE SPECIMENS OF FOSSIL FISHES IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—The following additions to the Type Specimens of Fossil Fishes in the British Museum were purchased after the catalogue published in the May number of the *GEOL. MAG.*,