

CORRESPONDENCE.

1.

SIR,—I have read with much interest Surgeon-Major Oldham's paper, in our January number, on the Saraswatī. The subject has been long one of interest to me; and I am glad to find my own conclusions on the subject borne out by his article. This, however, is not exhaustive. The contributions of various writers to our knowledge of such subjects are so scattered that scarce one man can know where to find them all. Very conclusive evidence on this subject was contributed to the "Imperial Gazetteer" by a writer whose name does not appear.

In ignorance of his work I published similar arguments and conclusions in the Bombay Natural History Society's Journal, some years later, and claimed them as my own (in private), until I came upon his article.

I have neither work in my camp to quote, but the pith of both arguments was as follows :

All bodies (including bodies of water) moving in the Northern Hemisphere at an angle to the Equator bear to the right, and conversely in the Southern Hemisphere to the left. Amongst others, rivers flowing through soil soft enough for erosion bear on their right banks.

This process would account for the Saraswatī working out of its own old eastern bed, and at last falling into that abandoned (for the same reason) by the Satlaj, as shown by Dr. Oldham.

But the zoology of the "five Rivers" furnishes a clinching proof. These now contain cetacean mammal, a highly aquatic reptile and a Cyprinoid fish, which belong to the Gangetic fauna, and not to that of any river that seeks the sea in the Peninsular Provinces of Bombay. They are the Gangetic porpoise (*Platahista*), the long-snouted fish-eating crocodile (*Gairalis*), and the Rohu fish (*Labeo Rohita*). And this fact, when added to Dr. Oldham's historical and geographical evidence, renders it almost impossible to doubt that the Saraswatī did really once communicate with the Gangetic system; and that it was the river's desertion of its old bed, and invasion of the Indus region, that brought into the waters of the latter three essentially Gangetic animals.

W. F. SINCLAIR, Bombay C.S.

To the Secretary of the Royal Asiatic Society.

2. THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE LATER ANDHRABHRITYAS.

By C. MABEL DUFF.

SIR,—In an article in the "Indian Antiquary," vol. xxi. p. 204, M. Senart has reconstructed the chronology of five of the later Andhra kings, on the strength of data drawn from the numismatic discoveries of Paṇḍit Bhagwānlāl Indrajī.

It is known from Rudradāman's inscription at Girnar that he was contemporary with one of the Śātakarṇi, and M. Senart, following Dr. Bühler (*Ind. Ant.* xii. p. 272) and Paṇḍit Bhagwānlāl (*Antiquarian Remains at Sopârâ and Padaṇa*), identifies this Śātakarṇi with Chaturapana Vāsishṭi-putra II., or his son Śrī Yajña Gautamīputra II., but the arguments for this identification rest on somewhat slender evidence.