

species all have pronounced lateral ribs, while, except in *S. paradoxus*, *S. daleidensis*, and *S. Trigeri*, the median fold is smooth. They also are uniformly ornamented with fine lamellæ of growth broken into papillæ.

The notes accumulated by Mr. Béclard in accomplishing this work, notes that naturally involve many species other than those occurring in Belgium, namely, all the Lower Devonian spirifers of the world, form the groundwork of his "Catalogue Synonymique," for which all students of Brachiopoda will feel profoundly grateful, while they will hope that the Brussels Museum will continue to produce work of this solid and enduring nature.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROFESSOR BONNEY AND THE "PARALLEL ROADS."

SIR,—I had some other points in Professor Bonney's "Ice-Work" marked for comment; but the author's Note in your last issue suggests the question, *cui bono*?

I took the liberty of pointing out that, in certain instances, his statements were extremely partial and one-sided—more like the work of an advocate than of a judge. Such "criticism," he retorts, is a "typical specimen of forensic advocacy!" This is not generally considered a very satisfactory or dignified style of reply. To me, indeed, the charge may be rather complimentary; while it may be the very thing to be complained of in regard to him, who claimed to be a "judge," setting forth fairly the facts and arguments on both sides.

The Professor represented the "dispute" regarding these Parallel Roads as still active, and one on which "authorities" are divided. Now, when this has been shown to be incorrect, he says he is "not afraid of being in a minority" (a different matter altogether of which there was no mention formerly), having seen the fading of too many "Brocken spectres"!

May I ask where is the "Brocken spectre" in this instance? If there be one such apparition which the present generation of geologists has seen "fading," it is that of a "great submergence" during the Glacial epoch, which Professor Bonney now vainly attempts to restore or reproduce on the cloudy "screen."

I am content to leave the matter as it stands to the "jury," by whom all "advocacy," whether open and avowed from the "bar," or more covert and disguised from the "bench," will be weighed and tested; and who will not fail to note when good and sufficient evidence is set aside, and other evidence asked for, simply because that which is produced is not in accord with the opinions of the presiding judge!

I desire, however, to part from Dr. Bonney with the same expression of respect which I have long felt towards him. I sincerely trust that during his present tour in the Alps, he will not be tempted, by desire for singularity, to forsake the "trodden paths," and wander into others that have been disused for nearly thirty years.

GLASGOW, 10th August.

DUGALD BELL.