CORRESPONDENCE.

NOTES ON CHELONIA.

Sir,—In the interesting "Notes on Chelonia from the Purbeck, Wealden, and London-clay," by Messrs. Lydekker and Boulenger, in the May Number of this Magazine, the authors refer to the generic identity of the plastron named by Prof. Sir R. Owen *Platemys Bullockii*, supposed to have been obtained from the London-clay at Sheppey, and the plastra of the same author's genus *Pleurosternon* from the Purbecks. In regard to which will you allow me to state, that when arranging the fossil Chelonia, some fourteen or fifteen years ago, in the Museum cases at Bloomsbury, I observed that the structural characters of the plastra of *Platemys Bullockii* and of *Pleurosternon* were the same, and that the two genera must be merged into one. This conclusion was further confirmed by a closer examination of the matrix adherent to the former, which proved it to have been derived from the Purbecks, and not as stated from the London clay. The specimen has ever since been exhibited in the Museum cases with the following label attached, "*Pleurosternon* (*Platemys*) *Bullockii*, Owen, Purbeck beds, Swanage."

Though the locality is not positively known, there can be little doubt that the specimen was found in the "Isle" of Purbeck, and in the neighbourhood of Swanage. Prof. Rütimeyer's remarks upon the same subject were, I am sorry to admit, unknown to me until very recently.

Wm. Davies.

THE LIZARD SERPENTINES.

Sir,—It appeared to me that, in regard to the existence of felspar in the Rill serpentine,[1] lately in dispute between Mr. Teall and myself, the evidence of a chemical analysis of the rock would do much to clear up the question. Through the kindness of Dr. S. Rideal, a partial analysis of this serpentine has been made in the Chemical Laboratory at University College with the following results in two cases:—

	I.	II.
SiO_2	42·70	42·63
Al_2O_3	14·79	14·05
Fe_2O_3	8·77	8·55
CaO	3·05	3·22
MgO	17·08	18·68
	86·39	87·13

The water, alkalies, etc., were not estimated, as I had said that probably the silica, alumina, and magnesia would suffice for my purpose. At first sight this analysis appears conclusive in favour of Mr. Teall's contention, that there is felspar in the rock. It is the analysis of a picrite, so far as such a variable rock can be said to have a typical analysis. Indeed, the proportion of alumina is large even for a picrite. But I still feel perplexed, for on consideration of the analysis it appears to me to "prove too much." Suppose the alumina all present in the felspar, and that to be anorthite; for

[1] See Geol. Mag. Feb. 1887, p. 69, and March, 1887, p. 137.