

junction, as a transporting, not an excavating agent, as proved by the soundings at the lower end of the lake.

Lago Sella and Lago Orsino are shallow tarns which come under the same category as Lago Lucendro.

Lago d'Elvio, draining into the Lago Maggiore, is due to reversal of drainage by a landslip.

These lakes, then, owe their origin, when they are rock-basins, to the presence of lines of weakness, along which in many cases solution has taken place, while in some shallow tarns ice may have removed detached fragments; but in no case has a lake been found which can reasonably be assigned to ice-excavation independent of rock-structure.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ICE OR WATER.

SIR,—Professor Bonney's review of Sir Henry Howorth's new book in your June number just received leaves some of us in a fog. We gather that he thinks the author has seriously damaged some of the positions taken up by the extreme Glacialists, by whom we presume he means Mr. James Geikie and his followers. We gather, on the other hand, that he thinks Sir Henry Howorth's book an extravagant presentation of the other side, and contrasts Scylla with Charybdis. He apparently feels himself to be in a safe harbour, free from the perils on either side. This does not help us, however, very much. What is now felt to be the important matter, especially by the younger men, is to know where the moderate Glacialist can stand, and as Professor Bonney has himself written a book on the Ice Age, we turned expectantly to his review for some help in this matter, instead of which we get some jokes and some generalities, among which we find it difficult to quite understand how the problem now stands, and how far it has been solved or otherwise by the author. I know nothing that would be more welcome to a large number of puzzled young geologists than a frank statement of his own views in your pages by one who has taught them so much as Professor Bonney. Will he tell us where he thinks they may safely stand, and what limitations he would put on the glacial theory as generally taught by its advocates?

A PERPLEXED F.G.S.

LETON, HEREFORDSHIRE,
June 19th, 1905.

OBITUARY.

W. T. BLANFORD, C.I.E., LL.D., F.R.S.

BORN OCTOBER 7, 1832.

DIED JUNE 23, 1905.

As this number is passing for press, we have, with deep regret, to record the sad news of the death of another distinguished geologist and contemporary, Dr. W. T. Blanford, Treasurer, since 1895, of the Geological Society, and a past President (1888-90). He died, after a very brief illness, at his residence, 72, Bedford Gardens, Campden Hill, W., 23rd June, 1905, in his 73rd year.¹

¹ See Life and Portrait, *GEOL. MAG.*, January, 1905, pp. 1-15.