Cavallo. The lava issuing copiously from this enormous fissure flowed through the Fosso de la Vetrana, between the extremity of Monte Somma and the Observatory, into the cultivated country, and partly destroyed the villages of Massa di Somma and San Sebastiano. The author had succeeded in photographing in a most admirable manner various parts of the mountain after the eruption, including the crater itself; and the large series of views so taken were exhibited at the Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON BLOCKY ROCK SURFACES.

SIR,—While very much interested in Mr. Poulett Scrope's article in your last Number "On Blocky Rock Surfaces," I feel bound to state that the explanation there given of the *blocky* structure cannot apply to Scawfell, since the mountain is made up of *bedded* and altered ash, and certainly is not in any sense "the upper portion of a protruded mass which reached its present position in a state of igneo-aqueous liquefaction."

KESWICK, *July 9th.* J. CLIFTON WARD.

PALÆOZOIC ECHINODERMS WITH OVERLAPPING PLATES.

SIR,—In the July Number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, Mr. J. Young pointed out the resemblance between the plates of the Carboniferous genus *Archæocidaris*, McCoy, and the new *Calveria hystrix*, W. Thomson. Mr. Young further made some interesting remarks on the Carboniferous fossil.

In addition to *Archæocidaris*, another Palæozoic genus of Echinodermata possesses imbricating plates in its test. I refer to the genus *Lepidechinus*, Hall. In this the ambulacral plates imbricate from below upwards, those of the inter-ambulacral area from above downwards (Hall, Descr. New Sp. Crinoidea, Prelim. Notice. Albany, p. 18). Prof. Hall placed *Lepidechinus* as a subgenus of *Archæocidaris*, a reference which Mr. Young's observations would go some way to bear out. On the other hand, Messrs. Meek and Worthen have observed that only the marginal inter-ambulacral plates of the lower side of the test of *Lepidechinus* carry primary tubercles (Pal. Ill., vol, 2, p. 295), as do the same plates in *Perischodomus*, McCoy. Could it be shown that the latter also had imbricating plates, there would be grounds for the supposition that the two genera were indeed very closely related. *Lepidechinus* occurs in the Burlington Group (Carboniferous).

EDINBURGH, *July 9th*, 1873. R. ETHERIDGE, JUN.