

measures from that formerly suggested by Prof. Phillips. He pointed out that marine and freshwater species of fish appeared to co-exist in the Carboniferous beds, and compared this with the analogous case of the Lake of Nicaragua, as described by the late Mr. Belt. Freshwater forms of sharks are not unknown in the Ganges and other rivers.

3. "On the Distribution of Boulders by other Agencies than that of Icebergs." By C. E. Austin, Esq., C.E., F.G.S. (a theoretical paper).

CORRESPONDENCE.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE NORTH DEVON SECTION.

SIR,—Permit me to make one or two additional notes to those contained in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for December on the North Devon Section.¹ Since they were written, the volume of Proceedings of the British Association for 1877 has come to hand, containing a short paper by Prof. G. Dewalque, "On the Devonian System in England and in Belgium,"² which is of much interest at the present time, as coming from so high an authority on the Devonian question as regards Belgium and its borders. M. Dewalque comes to the conclusion (1) that the North Devon series is perfectly continuous from Barnstaple to Linton; and (2) that "nowhere is there a reappearance of such identical rocks as to prove, by repetition of the series, the existence of a fault," so that Mr. Etheridge's views and those of observers who agree with him receive an important confirmation on this point.

M. Dewalque also concurs in the view that the Pilton and Barnstaple Beds are of Lower Carboniferous age, in fact representatives of the Carboniferous Limestone, in which case the underlying "Baggy and Marwood slates," with *Cucullæa*, must be the representatives of the Lower Carboniferous slate and Coom-hola Grit of the South of Ireland. I have just discovered that this view was for the first time advocated by the Rev. Professor Haughton, F.R.S., in a valuable paper on "The Evidence afforded by Fossil Plants as to the Boundary-Line between the Devonian and Carboniferous Rocks," published in 1856.³ The concurrence, therefore, of evidence and opinion on the age of these beds may, I think, be considered to have completely established the Carboniferous age of those beds hitherto generally considered as "Upper Devonian."⁴

On the other hand, the opinion of Professor Dewalque on the marine origin of the "Cornstone Group" of Hereford, will afford surprise in some quarters.

In conclusion, allow me to make a correction of a clerical error in my paper. For "it," p. 531, line 11 from top, read "this division."

EDWARD HULL.

DUBLIN, Dec. 14, 1878.

¹ "Possible Explanation of the North Devon Section," by Prof. E. Hull, *Geol. Mag.* December, 1878, p. 529.

² *Brit. Assoc. Rep. 1877, Trans. of Sections*, p. 69.

³ *Journ. Geol. Soc. Dublin*, vol. vi. p. 227.

⁴ "Siluria," 4th edit. p. 272. H. B. Woodward, "Geology of England and Wales," p. 69.