

THE MASSES IN THE CROMER DRIFT.

SIR,—Sir Charles Lyell was misinformed as to his pinnacle at Sherringham having disappeared in 1864, for my first visit to the Cromer coast was in August of that year, and I saw it and drew it in my note book. I also well recollect it.

The woodcut of it first appeared in a paper by Sir Charles in the *Phil. Mag* for May, 1840 (p. 367), where he says that chalk flints are *scattered somewhat irregularly through it*. This is not the character of the chalk itself, but is exactly that of the reconstructed chalk (moraine), which forms hills flanking the Lincolnshire Wold. Although this part of his description was omitted by Sir Charles in subsequent publications, his cut in all of them shows the pinnacle as having from base to summit on the left side, and part of the way up from the base on the right side, numerous angular stones—presumably these scattered flints—distributed through it.

I must leave Mr. T. M. Reade's other objections to be answered by the general case shown in the Memoir on the Newer Pliocene Period, which from my having pointed out therein the great error into which he had fallen as to the elevations in Norfolk, and the consequent failure of such inferences as he drew from it, gave rise to this correspondence.

SEARLES V. WOOD.

14th August, 1883.

 OBITUARY.

WILLIAM MOLYNEUX, F.G.S.,

BORN MAY 22nd, 1824; DIED OCTOBER 24th, 1882.

WILLIAM MOLYNEUX, the subject of our present Memoir, was born at Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire, a village on the banks of the Isis, where he received his first instruction. At an early age he was taken into the establishment of His Grace the Archbishop of York, where his education was advanced by Miss Harcourt, a sister of the Archbishop. He developed a taste for poetry and in 1853 published a volume of poems and some other works of a similar nature. In 1855 Mr. Thomas Jackson (private secretary to the late Duchess) obtained him employment under the late Duke of Sutherland, at Trentham, Staffordshire, where he resided six years. He wrote a Guide to "Trentham and its Gardens" in 1857, and commenced with Mr. Garner, F.L.S., his geological studies, and with that gentleman and Dr. Barnard Davis, F.R.S., he assisted in the exploration of several Romano-British Barrows.

A paper was read before the North Staffordshire Field Club, in 1866, by Mr. Molyneux, "On the Gravel Beds of Trentham Park," with an account of the fossils collected by Mr. Molyneux, drawn up by the late Mr. J. W. Salter, A.L.S., F.G.S. In 1859, Messrs. Garner and Molyneux communicated a paper to the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Aberdeen, "On the Distribution of Organic Remains in the North Staffordshire Coal-field," which was highly commended by Sir Philip Grey-Egerton, Bart. In 1860 Mr. Molyneux, communicated a paper to the Meeting of the