

CORRESPONDENCE.

SIDESTRAND CHALK BLUFF.

SIR,—By last December, when I was again able to visit the recently exposed bluff at the base of the cliff at Sidestrand, it had been cut back substantially, and the top had risen out of reach over the greater part, and the length exposed was much greater. I estimated it from pacing (256 paces) as at least 150 yards long, and that was by no means a maximum, as at the west end, where it was about 20 feet high, it gradually receded from high-water mark and disappeared into the cliff without any suggestion of having come to an end.

This great length of unbroken chalk, the whole of which appeared to be capped with Crag beds, seems strongly in favour of its being *in situ* rather than an erratic.

Further, in last December, the Till, which under the Overstrand Hotel seems to be well above high-water mark, could be seen quite clearly to come down to about high-water mark at a little east of the Hotel, and then rise in a huge flat arch which came down again to about high-water mark a little west of the chalk, from which point it seemed to twist sharply up and pass over the chalk and the crag in a high arch.

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September, 1937.

WEALDEN PEBBLES IN THE VALLEY OF THE RIVER DARENT.

SIR,—In the course of collecting pebbles of metamorphic and other ancient rocks in the Folkestone Sands of Surrey and West Kent, the petrological examination of which is in progress, new sections in the higher gravels of the valley of the River Darent were observed, overlying the Westwood sandpits of the Titsey Estate Co., near Westerham. It was discovered that the smaller constituents of these gravels contain a remarkable proportion of indubitable Wealden rocks. The gravels lie at an altitude of about 450–500 feet O.D., and are doubtless associated with the well-known gravel at about 500 feet O.D. on the present watershed of the Darent at Limpsfield.

The discovery of pebbles derived from Wealden beds was unexpected. Topley, in “The Geology of the Weald” (*Mem. Geol. Surv.*, 1875), makes several explicit statements to the contrary, which seem to have been generally accepted to this day. For example, on page 295 it is stated “The gravels of the Darent . . . are important