

By another friendly critic a well-grounded objection has been raised to the proposed term 'Cambrian Ice-sheet,' on account of the risk of confusion with the common stratigraphical use of 'Cambrian.' It would, perhaps, be safer to fall back upon the phrase 'Welsh Ice-sheet' (with subdivision into 'North Welsh' and 'South Welsh' if found desirable).

As previously stated, my more immediate object is especially to urge the adoption of names for the (hypothetical?) ice-sheets of our sea-basins, for which I have recently felt the pressing necessity. On the terms proposed for the land-areas I do not at present lay much stress, though it would be convenient if these could be fixed at the same time.

G. W. LAMPLUGH.

TONBRIDGE.

April 6, 1901.

THE SODIUM OF THE SEA.

SIR,—I am extremely obliged to Mr. Fisher for his kindly notice of my communication concerning the "Sodium of the Sea," but feel at a loss how to reply, owing to uncertainty as to whether Mr. Fisher has considered and rejected De la Beche's articles on Granite and Elvan, Divisional Planes, and Mineral Veins and Faults; or, has possibly overlooked such an ancient authority.

In addition to all that De la Beche and Dr. Sorby have written, and since the last edition of the "Physics of the Earth's Crust," we have the additional fact that all the types of fluid inclusions found in granites may be matched in different quartz-veins, so that all the arguments based on the fluid inclusions in igneous magmas must be prepared to meet the cases of the veins. My object in writing was not so much to defend the sea-water hypothesis, as to remind geologists that it existed. Throughout my own early training I was never allowed to forget that the weakest link in a chain is the measure of its strength, and I knew full well that the slightest slip in fact or argument involved public castigation in the Transactions of the Devonshire Association. If any of the younger geologists in Devonshire erred in discipline our captain, William Pengelly, rarely failed to pipe all hands on deck to witness punishment. Mr. Fisher, I expect, will agree with me that in the present day it is considered of far more consequence that a theory should present a solid appearance than that each link should be tested, and if defective, rejected, not only by the purchaser but by the chainmaker himself.

A. R. HUNT.

FOXWORTHY, MORETONHAMPSTEAD.

May 7, 1901.

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS.

SIR,—I regret that I omitted to express my thanks in my paper, "Geological Notes on Central France," published in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE (February, 1901, p. 59), to the Directors, MM. Boule, Fabre, and Martel, for their kindness and consideration during the