THE PEA-GRIT OF LECKHAMPTON HILL.

SIR,—In the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society just issued, there is a paper by my friend, Mr. Witchell, of Stroud, on "The Basement Beds of the Inferior Oolite of Gloucestershire."[1] The reasons for writing the paper are given under two heads, but I am only now concerned with the first. Mr. Witchell says:[2] 1. "That the beds called 'Pea-grit' in the Leckhampton section by Hugh Strickland, which name was adopted by Dr. Wright and the Geological Surveyors, included in that term—erroneously as I think—all the beds occurring between the Pea-grit proper, and the Cephalopoda bed of the sands, which beds are shown in some sections to be more than thirty feet in thickness."

Further on Mr. Witchell tells us that the "Pea-grit" and Basement Beds at Leckhampton Hill "are described as Pea-grit in the published works referring to them. Now, if Mr. Witchell will refer to the late Dr. Wright's paper,[3] "On the Palæontological and Stratigraphical Relations *of the so-called* Sands of the Inferior Oolite," he will find that in the section of Leckhampton Hill the lower beds of the Inferior Oolite are referred to as Pea-grit *and ferruginous oolite.*" That Dr. Wright was fully aware of beds of oolitic structure beneath the "Pea-grit," and which he recognized as distinct from the particular bed bearing that name, is shown by his section of Cleeve Hill,[4] in which he gives the following:—

	ft.	in.
Pea-grit	21	30
Coarse ferruginous oolite	22	5

EDWARD WETHERED.

NOTIDANUS AMALTHEI, OPPEL.

SIR,—During a recent examination of the fossil Vertebrates in the Whitby Museum, which I have been enabled to make through the kindness of Mr. Martin Simpson, I have been fortunate enough to meet with the Liassic tooth mentioned by Tate and Blake as referable to *Notidanus Amalthei*. This specimen, it will be remembered, was not forthcoming at the time of publication of my contribution to the Palæontology of the Notidanidæ (*antea*, p. 208), and it may therefore be interesting to add a brief note upon the features it presents.

The fossil consists merely of a single laterally-compressed cone, scarcely two millimetres in height, with a very minute denticulation at the base of one edge, and fixed upon a fragment of a root. The cone has an enamelled surface, and the one side is almost plane, while the other is strongly convex; and the appearance of the tooth is certainly suggestive of other cones having been broken away from the one that remains. There can be scarcely any doubt, indeed, that the specimen belongs to a Selachian genus, and it bears much

[1] Q.J.G.S. vol. xlii. part 3, No. 167, pp. 264—270. [2] *Ibid.* p. 264.
[3] *Ibid.* vol. xii. p. 295, 1856.
[4] Proc. Cotteswold Club, 1869, "Correlation of the Jurassic Rocks of the Côte d'Or and the Cotteswold Hills."

more resemblance to a dental fragment of *Notidanus* than the Swabian fossil described by Oppel, as far as the latter's figure will enable one to judge. It does not agree with the teeth of *Palæospinax* or any other Liassic Shark I have had the opportunity of studying, and Tate and Blake's determination is very possibly correct; but more satisfactory evidence must still be awaited before there is absolute certainty of the presence of *Notidanus* among the early Jurassic fauna.

A. Smith Woodward.

ENTOMOSTRACA IN THE RHÆTICS.

Sir,—In the Geological Magazine, May, 1886, p. 203, a slight error occurs in Mr. J. S. Gardner's interesting paper, in stating that "the valves of a species of *Cyclas* abound in the Rhætics." This should have been either *Candona* or possibly *Cypris*; the latter may be after all correct, as it is associated with the freshwater aquatic Moss, *Naiadites*. The supposed *Cyclas* has been determined to be *Estheria*, a brackish-water Crustacean, though Sowerby stated it to be *Cyclas*, when my work on Fossil Insects was published. In the Note (2) at the bottom the reference should have been not to the *Estheria* bed in particular, but to the Rhætics in general (in which the former is included), which may be considered to be junction or passage beds between the Trias and the Lias.

P. B. Brodie.

OBITUARY.

HARVEY BUCHANAN HOLL, M.D., F.G.S.

Born 28th September, 1820; Died 11th September, 1886.

This able geologist and palæontologist was son of the late William Holl, Esq., formerly of Worcester. After passing through Dr. Walter's School at Worcester, he entered the Medical College in Birmingham.

During this period of Harvey Holl's career, when he was only about 17 years of age, he became acquainted with Sir Henry de la Beche, and was invited by that distinguished geologist to accompany him in a geological reconnaissance through Devon and Cornwall. It was probably owing to this expedition (which extended over some six months) that young Holl became confirmed in his geological tastes, and for a time was led entirely to abandon his medical studies.

From the good opinion which Sir Henry de la Beche formed of Holl's work in the field, he recommended the youthful geologist to his friend Professor Rogers, of Philadelphia (who was seeking an assistant), and Harvey Holl started off to join his new chief and take a part in the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania. In this interesting region, Holl remained for about three years, and spent a year longer in the United States geologising on his own resources.

Upon his return to England, Holl entered as a student at St. George's Hospital, and successfully passed the Royal College of Surgeons in London. In 1859 he graduated as M.D. at King's College, Aberdeen.