

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ROCKS OF SOUTH DEVON.

SIR,—In Professor Bonney's unfriendly criticism of my paper on the Devonian rocks of South Devon, in the October Number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, I am taxed with the commission of three faults among other failings, viz:—

- (1) The avoidance of certain apparently possible alternatives which my critic deems of importance.
- (2) The not having studied a Devonshire problem in "other fields than South Devon."
- (3) The having attempted a research with insufficient materials.

In reply to the first I may state that had I been able to discuss Prof. Bonney's South Devon paper, the points referred to by him would have been satisfactorily disposed of; but I was unable to discuss that paper for the following reason. In October, 1891, Prof. Bonney volunteered to me the statement that he did not mean to enter into any controversy on the subject (of the Devon schists) until his shield was struck by a knight of equal experience. Under the circumstances I had no option but to leave the Professor and his paper alone.

With respect to the second objection, it is evident that the affinities between two sets of Devonshire rocks can only be studied in Devonshire, and not elsewhere. My subject was much more restricted than my critic seems to suppose.

Respecting the charge of insufficiency of materials for research, Prof. Bonney is scarcely in a position to find fault, seeing that he dismissed the whole of the complicated Start headland with the cursory observation—"Two specimens from different parts of the Start headland call for no special remark" (Q.J.G.S. vol. xl. p. 15). Your readers will scarcely be able to realize the significance of this naive remark.

SOUTHWOOD, TORQUAY,
16th November, 1892.

A. R. HUNT.

GLACIAL GEOLOGY.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the papers by Mr. Mellard-Reade and Mr. Percy Kendall in your July and November issues. On the one hand we have the submergence theory proved up to the hilt, and on the other the glacier theory sustained with equal show of reason. Does it not strike the combatants that they may both be right and both be wrong? For at one time during the Pleistocene Period the land was certainly deeply submerged in the sea, whilst at another it was with equal certainty enveloped in ice.

There are one or two points in Mr. Kendall's paper to which I should like to refer. Soon after the late Dr. Carvill Lewis came to England, I had the pleasure of showing him the principal sections of Boulder-clay and sand in the Trent Basin, and I think I convinced him that even if there is "a commingling of the Drift" in some deposits in that area, there is also an equally marked absence of com-