

in the Highland mountains being of such high antiquity as we have given it—first, that it could not have survived the subsequent deformation, as seen in the angles to which the Old Red Sandstone has been tilted; and second, that it can hardly have been longer exposed to dissection than since the latter part of Mesozoic time. Now if Professor Davis takes a geological map of Scotland and examines it, he will find two great faults running across Scotland: within these faults he will find the later Palæozoic rocks tilted and crushed at considerable angles, this being an area of faulting and corrugation; outside these faults, however, the later Palæozoic rocks lie at low angles, showing little evidence of disturbance, and we believe not enough to destroy the old marine peneplain. On these areas the later Palæozoic rocks, including both the Old Red Sandstone and the Carboniferous series, lay piled in their almost normal horizontal position, to the height of thousands of feet, and so preserving the old marine peneplain from the action of the subaerial forces which otherwise must have destroyed it; and presenting it as we see it at the present day. It was upon this cover of horizontal rocks, we believe, the river systems of the Highlands were first traced.

P. MACNAIR and J. REID.

THE STRUCTURE OF GLACIER-ICE.

SIR,—When at Chamonix on September 24, 1896, I visited the Glacier des Bossons. At the termination of the glacier, where the stream was flowing out, the ice was melting in a most interesting manner, which fully bears out the description and drawings of the structure of glacier-ice (by polarized light) given by Messrs. Deeley and Fletcher in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, 1895, pp. 152–162. The ice was disintegrating into separate pieces of irregular form, each an inch or thereabouts in diameter (there may have been larger and smaller pieces), and fitting exactly together, with interlocking projections and cavities, so that the structure reminded one of a toy dissected map. Here, then, we have the glacier-ice dissected for us by nature and its structure displayed to the naked eye, without the aid of a polariscope. As I had no polariscope with me I cannot say whether each piece consisted of a single crystal or of an aggregate of crystals.

BERNARD HOBSON.

P.S.—Perhaps by immersing blocks of glacier-ice in hot water the structure might be brought out artificially.

THE JUBILEE OF THE PALÆONTOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY: A SUGGESTION.

SIR,—On reading the interesting account of the work of the Palæontographical Society that appeared in your valuable Magazine, it occurred to me that the jubilee of this Society might well be commemorated in some way more useful and more permanent than the eating of a dinner. The practical proposal that I now beg to offer is the outcome of considerable use of the volumes issued by the Palæontographical Society; for that has led to the discovery