CORRESPONDENCE.

THE 'YOREDALE' ROCKS OF NORTH DERBYSHIRE.

SIR,—I was pleased to see in your last issue Mr. J. A. Howe's protest against the application of the term 'Yoredale' to the series of rocks which are found between the Millstone Grits Series and the Massif of North Derbyshire.

The name 'Yoredale' was first used geologically by Phillips in his "Geology of Yorkshire," pt. ii, pp. 36–7, and he leaves no doubt as to the character of the group of rocks to which he applied the term. "We shall choose as a general standard of reference for this complex series of rocks, that district where this character of complexity is the greatest. The upper end of Wensleydale is adopted. The total thickness of the Upper Limestone Series in this situation is about one thousand feet, and it consists of the following groups—constituting what I term *the Yoredale Series*." Hereafter follows the succession of the beds from the Main Limestone to the shales below the Hardraw Scar Limestone of that district, a series having perfectly definite lithological and palæontological characters, and anyone who has visited the vale of the river Ure will have been delighted with the 'country' selected as the 'type.'

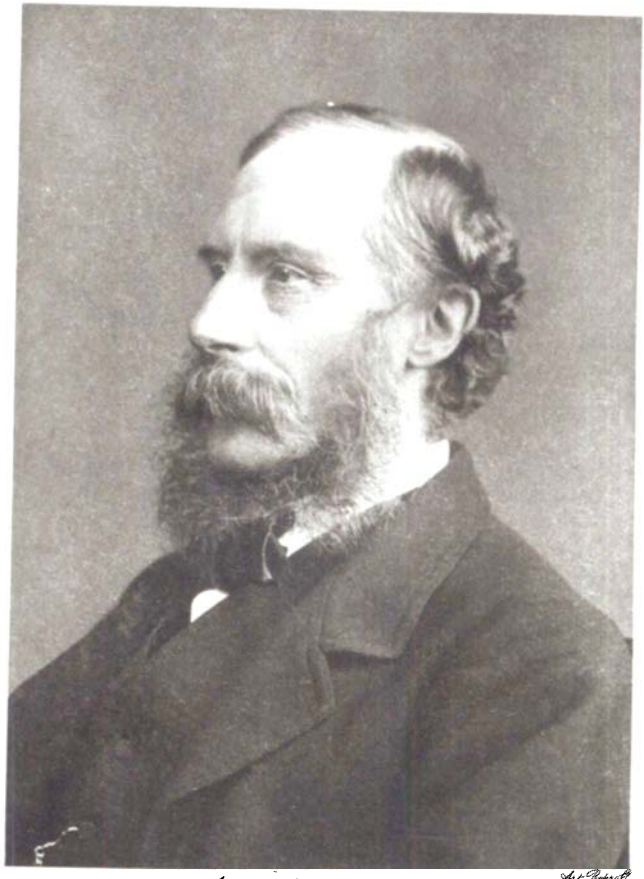
Unfortunately for students, however, Phillips also described, as belonging in part to the Yoredale Series, another and widely different development of rocks, whose position had evidently puzzled him greatly, for their description, with peculiar inconsistency on the author's part, comes under the heading "Millstone Grit Series in Craven" (p. 72). It is this development whose correlative occurs in the Peak District, but which is totally unrepresented in the Yoredale area, and which, for that reason, it is wrong to denominate 'Yoredales.' Farey's term, 'the limestone-shales,' although by no means an ideal name for the group, has right of priority, and at any rate possessed the negative virtue of causing no confusion or misconception as to the character or position of the measures; nor did it commit the user to any theories.

The series under discussion is a very important one, whose thickness in places is 1500 feet; it gives to the localities of its development surface features which are totally different to those of the typical Yoredale country; it contains a characteristic fauna; and it is worth a distinctive name.

Familiarity with both types leads me to commend the wisdom of selecting such a name as 'Pendleside Series' for this group, and I believe the distinction thus marked cannot fail to be of service to workers in the science.

JOHN T. STOBBS.

DUNELIN, BASFORD PARK, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
21*st July*, 1904.



Very truly Yours
W. H. Hudleston