

limited? and is Dr. Spencer justified in saying that I converted the correspondence into an academic disputation?

Because in my second letter I still denied that Professor Hull had given any good reason for regarding the declivity as a feature of subaerial origin, this denial is construed by Dr. Spencer into a flat denial of all Professor Hull's evidence. His desire apparently is that Professor Hull and himself should pose as martyrs for a new faith, and he hurls a defiance at any individual, council, or president of any learned society in the universe who should venture to doubt or deny his interpretation of the facts!

So long as Dr. Spencer maintains such an attitude it is impossible to argue with him. I am deeply interested in the history of this submerged portion of the European continent, and I look forward to Professor Hull's promised consideration of it, when he will doubtless answer my questions, for he is always a courteous opponent.

I have supposed that the position of the great declivity and its general course were determined by marine erosion (just as the present coastline has been), and, further, that the platform between the modern and the ancient coastlines was formed subsequently at the expense of the ancient continent. Both platform and declivity may have been afterwards modified by subaerial agencies, and this may have been the penultimate phase in their history, but this order of events is not that indicated by Professor Hull. A. J. JUKES-BROWNE.

WILLIAM COLCHESTER, J.P., F.G.S. This well-known geologist, so long connected as Chairman with Messrs. Lawes' Chemical Manure Company, of the Manganese Bronze and Brass Company, and Senior Partner in Messrs. Colchester and Ball's Chemical Manure Manufactory, who had attained to the advanced age of 85 years, died at his residence, Burwell Hall, Cambridgeshire, on the 16th November, 1898. We shall give an obituary of Mr. Colchester in our March Number.

HENRY ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D., D.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., Regius Professor of Natural History, Aberdeen University, since 1882,—who had previously held the Chairs of Natural History at Toronto, Dublin, and St. Andrews; many years Swiney Lecturer in Geology in the British Museum (Natural History); the well-known author of a "Manual of Palæontology," and many other important geological publications,—died, after a short illness, at his residence, Newthorpe, Queen's Road, Aberdeen, on the night of the 19th January, at the age of 55 years. His ability as a writer and lecturer, but still more his geniality and kindness of heart, attracted to him a large and attached circle of friends, who will long mourn his loss. We hope to give a suitable notice of Professor Nicholson's life and work in the March number of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.—ED. GEOL. MAG.