

incorrect, and Mr. Warren caused to bear a responsibility which there is no need for him to shoulder, I beg to state that the paper to which I refer will be found in *Science Progress*, No. 44, April, 1917, pp. 597–603. It is entitled “Scratches on Flints”, and was written by me.

On p. 247 (paragraph 6) of Mr. Warren’s paper a description is given of a large flake, the bulb of which is “cross-cut by the éraillure which was formerly supposed to be the exclusive character of the human blow”. Who is the unfortunate person who has been responsible for making such a palpably absurd statement as this? Perhaps Mr. Warren can supply me with the needed information, but whoever made such a statement must be singularly devoid of even a rudimentary knowledge of flint fracture. Mr. Warren’s paper is, in my judgment, not calculated to help towards the solution of the serious archæological problems it purports to discuss.

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#### THE GLACIATION OF IRELAND.

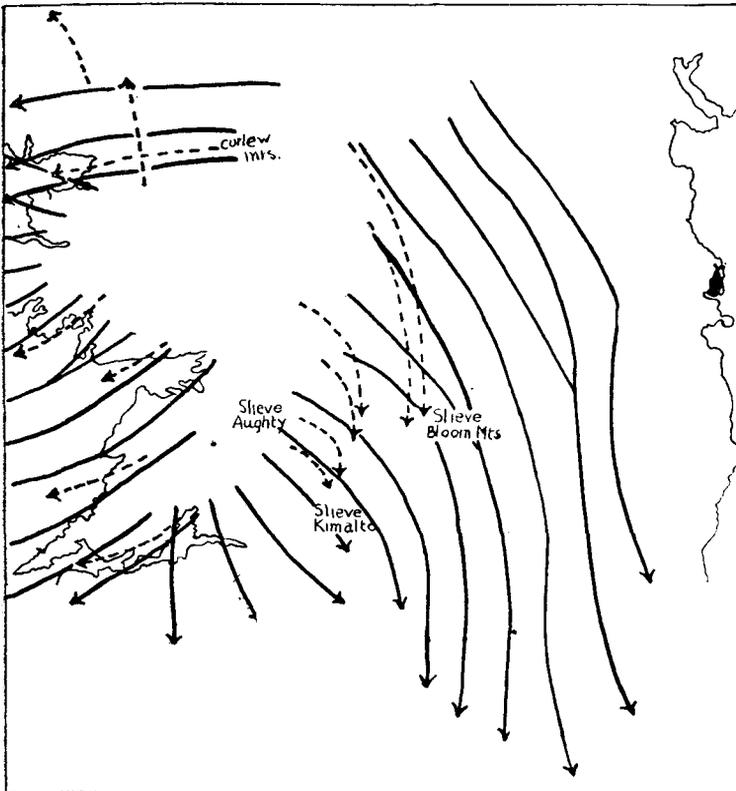
SIR,—I accept Professor Gregory’s implied reproof of my habit of “regarding views that” I “do not accept as simple mistakes”, and plead in mitigation of any penalty that my article in the February GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE is only the second time in twenty years that I have indulged in public controversy. I should be greatly interested if Professor Gregory would suggest any logical method by which I could indicate my dissent from opinions with which I disagree without regarding their author as mistaken.

As to the general subject of the glaciation of Ireland, I am perfectly content to leave such of your readers as are interested to compare my criticism with what Professor Gregory deems an adequate answer.

There is, however, one point which raises wider issues than those of Irish Geology. In answer to my observation that the Roscrea esker is not at the northern end of the mountains, but a few miles south-west of the southern end, he retorts that “They” (the Roscrea, Clonaslee, Mount Mellick, and Maryboro’ eskers) “are part of one crescentic series around the northern end of the range. Moreover, the term Slieve Bloom Mountains is sometimes used (e.g. Phillips [*sic*] *Atlas of Comparative Geography*, and the map used in Carvell [meaning Carvill] Lewis’ *Glac. Geol. Gt. B. and I.*, 1894, opp. p. 83) to include the geological continuation of the range south-west of the Roscrea Gap”.

To make good this extended use of the name Professor Gregory does not appeal to his own map or to any authoritative map of Ireland, neither to Griffith’s nor the beautiful layered maps of the Ordnance Survey, but to Carvill Lewis’s little “track-chart” on the scale of 31·5 miles to 1 inch, in which—apparently to meet the exigencies of space—the lettering of “Slieve” begins about 5 miles south-west of Roscrea, and, actually, to a half-crown school atlas!

I now come to what strikes me as a matter of great gravity. In my previous communication I uttered a protest against a small portion of a map in W. B. Wright's *Quaternary Ice Age*, being enlarged up to the full breadth of a quarto page, and pointed out that the enlargement had been so badly done by the artist (a charitable assumption) that though the arrows indicating the ice-flow are stated to be "added from the map by Mr. Wright", some had been "swung round through angles of 20-40 degrees". Judge



of my surprise to learn that the whole work was deliberately done by Professor Gregory himself. He says: "Eleven out of the thirteen lines follow the originals precisely; the two easternmost are rather generalized to show the movement east of Lough Ree, and trend rather farther to the west than the nearest corresponding of Mr. Wright's lines."

May I be permitted again to use the obnoxious word "mistake"? Professor Gregory is mistaken, wholly mistaken, in supposing that only two of the lines were "rather generalized". Every

one of the lines in the Shannon Basin, making six in all, have been deflected, five of them considerably and one through an angle of 45 degrees, so as profoundly to modify the interpretation. The two "rather generalized" have been generalized to such effect that the arrow which should pass down the *east* side of the Slieve Bloom Mountains is carried down the *west*. The figure on p. 190 shows Wright's arrows by the full lines and Professor Gregory's version by broken lines. The superposition was done by photographic projections from a lantern slide in use here.

These may seem small matters, but it would strike at the very root of our confidence in scientific statement of fact if an author were permitted without protest to take any liberties he might choose with the work of another author and describe the result as "after W. B. Wright" or "added from the map of Mr. Wright".

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#### THE NOMENCLATURE OF PETROLOGY.

SIR,—Dr. Arthur Holmes, in his useful little book with the above title, disapproves of the term *syenoid*, which I have used as a contraction of feldspathoid-syenite, giving as his reason that the suffix *-oid* has been used in other senses, as in granitoid, trachytoid, pegmatoid (Evans), and dacitoid (Lacroix). The matter is a very trivial one, but in the present involved condition of petrographic nomenclature no proposal for simplification should be dismissed without fair consideration, and the very examples that Dr. Holmes quotes show that he has not considered the matter fully. Of the four terms that he quotes, the last two are of later introduction than mine, so that I might at least claim the right of priority. This is true, too, of Lacroix's revival of "basanitoid"; and I cannot recall any other instance of a rock name in current use that ends in *-oid*. Then granitoid and trachytoid are adjectives, and should correctly be written granitoidal and trachytoidal, just like conchoidal and saccharoidal. But a more important consideration is just that *every* familiar suffix is used in various senses, and the ubiquitous *-ite*, for example, serves for rocks, minerals, fossils, meteorites, alloys, chemicals, official drugs, patent medicines, and a great variety of commercial products. I think, then, that Dr. Holmes' objection is not a very well-reasoned one.

The reason why it seems desirable to have a single word in place of the double-barrelled "feldspathoid-syenite" is pretty obvious. In the first place these rocks are quite as distinct from the syenites as are—let us say—the monzonites, and they have therefore an equal claim to a distinctive name. In the second place, nepheline-syenite is long enough already, and when further mineralogical qualifications have to be added the name becomes unwieldy. A dreadful example of this is Dr. H. A. Brouwer's "ægirienamphiboolbiotietnepheliensyenietporphyr".