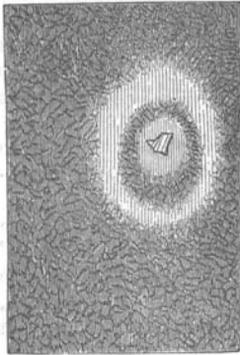


ON A PECULIAR FORM OF VARIEGATION IN CAMBRIAN SLATE.

SIR,—I send herewith a sketch of a rather unusual form of variegation occurring in a slab of Cambrian Slate. I observed it a short time back at Reading, but am not aware of the exact locality from whence the slate was obtained—probably, however, from the Penrhyn or Llanberis quarries. As it bears on the question of the causes that have induced the parti-colored banding of variegated rocks, you may perhaps give it a place in the *MAGAZINE*.

The ordinary form of variegation of Cambrian Slates consists of mechanical nuclei and layers of interbedded matter concentrically environed by pale green slate, the bleaching of which has been due to the abstraction of the greater part of the colouring oxides of iron.



Quarter Actual Size.

In a paper contributed to the Geological Society (*Quart. Journal of Geological Society*, Nov. 1868), and a communication which appeared in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* for March, 1868, I endeavoured to shew that this abstraction was independent of the mere mechanical washing-out in a soluble condition of the colouring oxides. The example represented in the accompanying engraving seems to support this view. Here we have not only a bleached zone immediately adjacent to the central nucleus, but a second concentric zone separated therefrom by an intervening band of unaltered slate. It is obvious that the positions of both the inner and outer pale zones have been determined in some way by the little mechanical nucleus, and if the discolorations were due to the mere solvent action of matter emanating from it, it seems impossible to account for the intervention of the unaltered zone entirely isolating the outer pale band from the inner zone and the central fragment of foreign matter.

GEO. MAW.

BENTHALL HALL, BROSELEY,
November, 1869.

SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE MR. JUKES.—Mr. Edward Hull, M.A., F.R.S., F.G.S., has been appointed Director of the Geological Survey of Ireland, and Professor of Geology in the Royal College of Science, Dublin, in the room of the late Mr. Jukes. Mr. Hull had not long before been chosen a District-Surveyor on the Geological Survey of Scotland.

ERRATUM.—A serious erratum occurred in our November Number (after it had been sent to press). In shifting the form, a *line of type*—belonging to the Obituary Notice of Dr. Rubidge—was removed by the printer from the foot of p. 527, and inserted at the foot of p. 525, entirely destroying the sense of both the Obituary Notice and of Mr. R. Craig's Letter.—EDIT.