

The book is abundantly provided with indexes (over thirty pages). In many cases the French spelling of geographical names is rather disconcerting to English readers, who may find a difficulty in running down familiar names in this guise. And finally, it may be asked, why will French publishers insist on putting the table of contents at the end of the volume instead of at the beginning, which is surely its natural place?

The authorities concerned are greatly to be congratulated on the production of this invaluable work.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LATERITE.

SIR,—I have seen the correspondence in your Magazine, Vol. LXX, by H. B. Maufe (p. 144, March, 1933), J. B. Scrivenor (p. 191, April, 1933), and P. Lake (p. 240, May, 1933) on the subject of Buchanan's Laterite.

It may therefore interest you to know that Dr. L. L. Fermor, Director of the Geological Survey of India, has instructed me to visit the places which Buchanan mentions in his travels of 1800–1.

I will make this investigation in November and endeavour to clear up the whole question so as to give those geologists who are familiar with the Malay Peninsula and elsewhere data for correct judgment.

CYRIL S. FOX.

THE ELEVATION OF THE MARQUESAS ISLANDS.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space to correct an error that has found its way into my paper on the "Geology of the Marquesas Islands" (Bernice P. Bishop Mus., *Bull.* 68). On page 20 I described as limestone an outcrop of white rock at an altitude of 1,300 feet on the island of Nukahiva. I did not myself visit the outcrop, but it was described to me by Lieut.-Col. H. J. Kelsall, a member of the scientific staff of the "St. George" Expedition, who passed by it. Colonel Kelsall did not collect a specimen, as he had previously brought me many samples of white materials only to have them rejected as decomposition products of lava. Later, however, he brought me a specimen, purporting to come from the outcrop, given to him by a resident of many years' standing, Père Siméon Delmas. Immediately on receiving this I tested it with acid, when it effervesced freely, and on my return home I found it to be a fine-grained foraminiferal limestone, exactly resembling chalk.

Recently I heard from Mr. A. M. Adamson, of the Pacific Entomological Survey, that he too had noticed the white rock and had received a specimen of it from Père Siméon, as well as others collected