

is of the highest importance. Clearly the degree of probability ought not to be exaggerated. But precision is in itself no such exaggeration.

The very necessity of stating an opinion precisely and definitely, if at all, and of making it correspond throughout with all the surface facts so far as they have been observed, is a great incentive to careful thoroughness; and the work specially required for underground contours, both in the field and in the office, gives much more than ordinary value to a geological survey.

He asks further: "Whether I would advise the use of distinct plans on which to record the positions of the contours at the various depths, when ascertained." Of course the various depths can have each but one contour line, and naturally I would not recommend a separate map for every contour line; but perhaps some misprint or other slip has concealed the drift of the question.

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., 20 May, 1885.

• BENJ. SMITH LYMAN.

#### THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE JURASSIC SYSTEM.

SIR,—I had not intended to trouble you with any further remarks on this subject, but as part of Dr. Blanford's last letter has been repeated in the June Number of the *MAGAZINE* for the sake of correcting a typographical error, I may be allowed to answer the paragraph so reprinted.

I think Dr. Blanford fails to apprehend the object of my reference to the Lower Calcareous Grit. It was this,—he proposes to place the Coral Rag in the upper division and the Oxford Clay in the middle division of the Jurassic system; I reply that the lower member of the Coral Rag is so closely connected by its fossils with the Oxford Clay, that it would be unphilosophical to draw such an important line of separation below it.

I do not see what the Callovian has to do with this argument, but I had certainly not forgotten its existence, for I happened to mention it in my first letter (*GEOL. MAG.* 1884, p. 525) as forming the base of the Oxfordian.

My argument is simply this, that there is a greater palæontological change in passing from the Cornbrash to the Oxfordian than there is between the Oxfordian and the Coral Rag. The question of the lithological change is not worth further discussion; I quite admit that the point should be decided on palæontological grounds, but I do not agree with Dr. Blanford's method of handling the facts.

June 6th, 1885.

A. J. JUKES-BROWNE.

THE DARWIN MEMORIAL STATUE, the execution of which, in white marble, had been entrusted to Mr. Boehm, was unveiled by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales at the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, on Tuesday, 9th June, 1885, when Prof. Huxley, President of the Royal Society, delivered an address on behalf of the Darwin Memorial Committee, and handed over the care of the statue to the Trustees. The Prince of Wales replied on their behalf. The Archbishop of Canterbury and many other of the Trustees were present, and a large assemblage of scientific men and friends and admirers of Darwin filled the Great Hall.