

## PLACOPARIA FROM THE SKIDDAW SLATES.

SIR,—As supplementary to the note published by Miss G. L. Elles in the March number of this Magazine (p. 141) recording the occurrence of *Placoparia* in the Skiddaw Slates, it may be of interest to mention that one of the three specimens in the Woodwardian Museum was correctly named and labelled as long ago as the year 1890, when it was collected by Mr. H. Kynaston, M.A., F.G.S., at Outerside during Professor Hughes' geological excursion to the Lake District. The second specimen, which was obtained at the same time and locality, was identified by me in 1895, when I was rearranging the collection, and was duly entered with the other in my manuscript catalogue of the fossils of the Skiddaw Slates in the Woodwardian Museum. The third specimen, as Miss Elles has mentioned, comes from Ellergill, and is a recent gift from Professor H. A. Nicholson, F.R.S.

F. R. COWPER REED.

WOODWARDIAN MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE.  
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MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAPS.—In our January number, p. 48, attention was drawn to the issue of several sheets of the General Geological Map of England and Wales (scale an inch to four miles), published by the Geological Survey. The fifteen sheets of the colour-printed edition have now all been issued; and (with the exception of the title-sheet, price 2s.) the price of each sheet is 2s. 6d. The total cost of the map is therefore £1 17s. It is to be hoped that some of the one-inch Geological Survey maps, such as that of "London and its Environs," which in the hand-coloured form costs no less than 30s., or that of the Isle of Wight, price 8s. 6d., may ere long be issued in the cheaper form.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—The vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. George Sharman, senior Palæontologist on the Geological Survey, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. F. L. Kitchin, M.A., Ph.D., as Assistant Palæontologist, under Mr. E. T. Newton, F.R.S., Palæontologist.

A LINER IN A DUSTSTORM.—The Castle Line mail steamer "Roslin Castle" arrived at Plymouth on February 22 more than two days later than usual, and Captain Travers reported an extraordinary experience. He stated that on Monday, February 14, the vessel met what appeared to be a dense fog, but it proved to be a sand-storm, the air being permeated with red sand from the Sahara Desert for over 900 miles. During this time the sun and stars were obscured, and no observations were possible until after Madeira was reached.—*Daily Mail.*