

CORRESPONDENCE.

‘DEUTOZOIC.’

SIR,—I can extract no other meaning from Mr. Goodchild’s defence of the term ‘Deutozoic’ than this: that when next I am in a geological difficulty—say, about the age of the earth—I should refer the question to any eminent Professor of Theology, and submit to his decision.
T. G. BONNEY.

CREEP-FOLDING IN VALLEY BOTTOMS.

SIR,—When I read in “*Water*,” vol. vi, p. 491, an account of a paper by Professor Boyd Dawkins dealing with the effect of relaxation of pressure in causing folds in the rocks at the bottom of valleys I thought I had come across what was no more than a reporter’s error, repeated in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, December, 1904, p. 618. Since, however, an almost identical statement appears in the Proceedings of the Manchester Lit. and Phil. Soc., vol. xlix, p. 8, I presume that it correctly represents Professor Dawkins’s views on the subject.

The folding in the strata at the bottom of the Don and Derwent Valleys is held by the author to be “analogous in every particular” to ‘creep’ in coal-workings; and he goes on to say: “This may be studied in any coal-pit where there is a superincumbent pressure, say, of more than 1,000 feet.” Now, the maximum pressure available at the Howden and Derwent dams is due to no more than 900 feet; moreover, this maximum pressure is only reached at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the valley, and is increasingly reduced as the latter is approached.

It cannot be contended that the removal of “at least 9,700 feet” of rock from above the site of the dams has had anything to do with the folding in the valley bottom, and yet it is difficult to see for what other purpose these figures are introduced except to lend support to the theory.

There is not the slightest evidence to show that the Derwent Valley was ever deeper than it is now; but if Professor Dawkins’s figures mean anything they imply a *valley 9,700 feet deep with the stream on its present bed.*
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OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR JOSEPH P. O’REILLY, C.E., M.R.I.A.

BORN JULY 11, 1829.

DIED JANUARY 6, 1905.

By the death of Joseph P. O’Reilly, lately Professor of Mining and Mineralogy at the Royal College of Science, Dublin, yet another link with the older generation of Irish geologists and archæologists has been severed, as also the ties of friendship which existed