

underneath the sea to the neighbourhood of Nevin, it would occupy the position assigned to the parent fault by the discussion of the earthquake phenomena.

The principal shock was preceded by an earth-sound, and followed by at least five shocks, originating apparently at the north-western extremity of the principal focus. In addition, six slight shocks and two earth-sounds were recorded by single observers; and, if these be included in the earthquake series, it follows that seismic action was gradually withdrawn from the extremities of the focus and ultimately confined to its central region.

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### CORRESPONDENCE.

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#### THE KEUPER BASEMENT BEDS.

SIR,—My recent paper in the *GEOL. MAG.* (April, 1904) on the Keuper of Devon recalls the difficulty of tracing horizons in those beds, which I have found in common with other workers in the field in former years. An illustration of this came before me when the British Association met at Bath in 1888. An excursion into the country some miles from Bath had been planned, and was carried out under the conduct of a well-known local ‘geologist.’ The sections that came under our observation included those of a rather deep cutting on a railway, which, as I understood, had not been long constructed. These sections were very fresh and of quite a mural character, the bare rock being exposed almost everywhere. Yet a strange error of observation was made by almost all the company present; all, I believe, except Professor Boyd Dawkins and myself. The attention of some forty or fifty people—not all amateurs, by any means—was called by the director to some irregularities of bedding in the massive Keuper sandstones, as indicating the line of unconformity between them and the Old Red Sandstone, by that overlap, which we know to be of frequent occurrence. It was nothing of the sort; for after most of the company had been hurried on, on account of the trains, Professor Boyd Dawkins and I made a careful observation of the true line of unconformity near the level of the railway-line. There the Keuper sandstones were seen lying horizontally upon the planed-off, upturned edges of Old Red sandstones and shales, furnishing as typical a case of normal unconformity as one could wish to see.

A. IRVING.

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

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**MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.**—We are glad to hear that the Museum of Practical Geology will not be closed in future during cleaning. So many people from the country are up in town this time of year that we are surprised that such a sensible concession has been so long delayed. The Museum in future will be open all the year round.