

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## JUKES ON RIVER VALLEYS, S. W. CORK.

SIR.—In reply to Mr. A. J. Jukes-Browne's letter in the *GEOL. MAG.* for May, 1879, I would point out that the apparent discrepancy between the statements in "Valleys and their Relations, etc.," and in the "Geology of Ireland," is easily explained. In the first, the statement refers to the formation of valleys in any country and in any kind of rocks; while in the second, the statement refers solely to the valleys of S. W. Cork. Such a general statement as the first would not refer to a peculiar country like S. W. Cork, where the Carboniferous slate rocks are as hard and are as capable of resisting denudation as the Old Red Sandstone, while if Coal-measures once existed in the synclinal troughs, they probably were also indurated and similar to the rocks that form the hills immediately north of the Black Water Valley and hills elsewhere in South Ireland.

Jukes distinctly states that the Carboniferous slate was once covered by limestones, while subsequently he relies on the soft nature of the limestone to expedite the formation of his valleys.

I cannot exactly see why this theory has a claim to be called "well considered." When put forward, it was founded on suppositions that were then questioned, and which have since been shown to have been too hastily arrived at. It also ignores all faults and dislocations of strata in the different areas mentioned, while originally it totally ignored ice-action. It was only an afterthought, to bridge over the last, that the statement "a glacier is only a frozen river" was introduced; but this does not meet the objection, as the actions of moving frozen and unfrozen waters are very different.

I do not for a moment presume to say that in no place could rains and rivers produce the effects described; but as the theory was founded in a country and on suppositions which were afterwards found to be erroneous, I think I am justified in saying the general theory "falls to the ground."

G. H. KINAHAN.

FERNs, *May 13*, 1879.

## DEVON GEOLOGY.

SIR.—From the Rev. H. H. Winwood's letter, *GEOL. MAG.* May, 1879, it would appear that my statement casts a slur on the Devonshire Amateur Geologists; for this I am extremely sorry, as such was never my intention, the remarks being intended solely to refer to a paper which I believe has been given much more importance to than it merits. I can assure Amateurs that I look on them with great respect, and I sincerely wish there were more of them in Ireland, as they are the only safeguard against the overwhelming vagaries and egotism of the "Trained Geologists"; and I would have much more respect for them if sometimes they were more independent, as they often allow their well-worked-out results to be snuffed out by individuals whose only claim to be heard is that they are officials.

I regret I cannot accept my friend's hospitable challenge for