

CORRESPONDENCE.

ARBUSCULITES ARGENTEA, MURRAY.

SIR.—Though unable to refer to Murray's description of this fossil, the quotations given from it by Mr. R. Etheridge, jun., in the June Number of the *MAGAZINE*, p. 269, recalled at once to my mind the characters of a somewhat similar fossil I discovered some years since in rocks of Lower Carboniferous age at Arsaig in Nova Scotia. On the shore at this place, near McAras Brook, there are exposed beds of a dark, Oolitic limestone, which, in places, are interpenetrated in all directions with bright glistening threads "resembling broken bits of silver-wire." These occur in curved fragments of about two or three lines in length and about one-tenth of a line in thickness; they are solid, and, so far as I can see, neither grooved nor branched, and in these respects they differ from the forms described by Murray.

The only other fossils visible in the same beds are very poorly preserved casts of *Producti*; their presence supports the opinion expressed by Mr. Etheridge that these glistening threads are merely the long spines of this Brachiopod; but if this is the case, it is very peculiar that, whilst the shells of the *Producti* have to a large extent disappeared, their spines should have been preserved in such great numbers and such perfect condition. On this supposition too, it is remarkable that similar spines (?) should not have been noticed in limestones in which *Producti* abound, for in the beds mentioned they are very conspicuous objects. Inclosed are two small pieces of the rock, showing these spines (?). On one is what appears to be the expanded base of attachment.

GEO. JENNINGS HINDE.

TORONTO, June, 21st, 1878.

AGE OF THE ROCKS OF MONTE GENEROSO.

SIR.—I have several times had the pleasure of ascending Monte Generoso, a mountain easy of access, which lies between the Lakes of Como and Lugano, and from which one of the finest views on the continent is obtainable. After winding up through chestnut woods from Mendisio for some four miles, the pathway ascends a somewhat steep incline in zigzags. The rocks here are remarkably white and dazzling and might be almost mistaken for chalk. For some 40 ft. or more below, they are coloured red, similar to the Red Chalk in Yorkshire.

On the last occasion of my visit, I met with a French geologist at M. Paston's Hotel near the summit, and from him I obtained some information about these rocks which had excited my curiosity, but not enough to satisfy me as to their position relative to English strata. He classed them as follows:—

JURA LOMBARD.

Majolique
Calcaire rouge
Calcaire grès
Calcaire noir

Conglomerat Marneux