

in second-hand science. As it is, I content myself with remarking that the maxim "Verbum sat sapienti" has only a very limited application in scientific matters, for there a diet of words is both innutritious and flatulent. But as he evidently loves "wise saws" I will add another to his store, "Words are the counters of wise men and the money of fools."

T. G. BONNEY.

#### INTRUSIVE IGNEOUS ROCKS IN IRELAND.

SIR,—With reference to the interesting paper on "Intrusive, Tuff-like, Igneous Rocks and Breccias in Ireland," by Messrs. Kilroe and M'Henry, published in the August number of the Q.J.G.S., it is noteworthy that there are in the neighbourhood of Snowdon several instances of intrusive rocks of so fragmentary and brecciated a character as to resemble volcanic agglomerates. Such is the case in part with the diabase occurring in Cwm Llan, S.S.E. from the summit of Snowdon. Other instances of this character that I have observed are a small boss of brecciated diabase at the base of the felstone of Cribiau, near Bwlch Ehediad, and another, also of a fragmentary character, amidst the felsitic rocks on the south-east side of Llyn Gwynant. Somewhat similar too is the greenstone on Glyder Fawr, which Ramsay in his memoir on North Wales describes as a "great vesicular, rubbly-looking patch."

J. R. DAKYNS.

SNOWDON VIEW, NANT GWYNANT, BRDDGELERT.

October 10, 1901.

#### EBBING AND FLOWING WELLS AND SPRINGS.

SIR,—Some time back you were good enough to print a communication from me on the ebbing and flowing well between Buxton and Castleton in Derbyshire. In the *Illustrazione Popolare* of August 18th of this year is a paper on a phenomenon of the Lago di Garda of kindred character, of which I submit a substantial translation.

"The Lago di Garda is one of the largest lakes in Italy, admired for the fertility of the country that surrounds and for the beauty of the gardens that adorn its shores. There happens in these days a phenomenon that impresses the surrounding population; a flux of thirty centimetres of height every forty minutes is observed, according to the boatmen. Many newspaper readers wish to explain it as a result of volcanic action.

"The phenomenon may have a volcanic origin, since from the beginning of 1800 Count Bettoni, a studious naturalist, had to verify in the lake a species of flux and reflux, not perilous but irregular and inconstant; and not only is it in the Lago di Garda observed, but in the lake of Geneva the water rises and falls in a notable manner.

"The phenomenon cannot be attributed to the action of the sun and moon, since the action of these two stars should produce a rise and fall regularly as in the level of the sea.