

the consideration of these further achievements, however, would lead me beyond the limits to which this volume must be restricted.

Murchison, who had succeeded De la Beche in 1855 as Director-General of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, held that office until his death in 1871. To the last, he retained the erect military bearing of his youth, and even under the weight of threescore years and ten could walk a dozen of miles and keep a keen eye on all the topographical and geological features of the surrounding hills. Tall and dignified in manner, with much of the formal courtesy of an older time, he might seem to those who only casually met him to be proud or even haughty. But under this outer crust, which soon dropped away in friendly intercourse, there lay a friendly and helpful nature. Indomitable in his power of work, restless in his eager energy in the pursuit of his favourite science, full of sympathies for realms of knowledge outside of his own domain, wielding wide influence from his wealth and social position, he did what no other man of his time could do so well for the advance of science in England. And his death at the ripe age of seventy-nine left a blank in that country which has never since been quite filled.

Sedgwick was in many respects a contrast to Murchison. His powerful frame reminded one of the race of dalesmen from which he sprang. His eagle eyes seemed as if they must instantly pierce into the very heart of the stiffest geological problem. In his prime, he always made straight for the roughest