

the Nobility and Gentry; and the opposite coast of France. By William Smith, Mineral Surveyor." The map consists of fifteen sheets on the scale of five miles to an inch ( $\frac{1}{316800}$ ), and measures 8 feet 9 inches in height by 6 feet 2 inches in width. It was accompanied with a quarto memoir or explanation of 50 pages.

While Smith's map was in preparation another large geological map of England and Wales was independently constructed by George Bellas Greenough (1778-1855), an able geologist and a caustic critic of his contemporaries and predecessors.<sup>1</sup> This map was published in 1819. In the memoir which accompanied it the author states that though he knew, as early as 1804, that Smith had begun a similar work, he had been led to believe that the design was abandoned. Accordingly he undertook the task in 1808, and having been encouraged by the Geological Society, of which he was President, to complete it on the scale of eleven miles to an inch ( $\frac{1}{896960}$ ), he proceeded with it, and the map as prepared by him had been more than a year in the hands of the engraver when Smith's map appeared in 1815. Greenough's is a better piece of engraving, and in some respects is more detailed, especially as regards the formations older than the Coal. It shows how much information as to English stratigraphy had become available, partly

<sup>1</sup> His qualities are characteristically exhibited in the volume which he published in 1819 entitled *A Critical Examination of the First Principles of Geology*. Every school of writers comes in there for its share of his pungent criticism, and he shows his wide acquaintance with the literature of the science. He was one of the founders of the Geological Society, and as long as he lived was one of its most respected and influential members.