

the French Revolution, devoted himself to the formation of a fine collection of minerals, and became associated with the leading mineralogists in London. He 'was employed to arrange and describe the mineralogical collections of Sir John St. Aubyn and Mr. Greville, and especially the collection of diamonds of Sir Abraham Hume, of which a description, illustrated with plates, was published in 1816.'¹ The mineral Bournonite was named after him. He returned to France at the Restoration under Louis XVIII. Although essentially a mineralogist, he recognised the value to the geologist of a study of conchology and other branches of zoology in the elucidation of fossil organic remains.

HUMPHRY DAVY, F.R.S. (1778-1829), was professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution, and secretary of the Royal Society. Early in life he had been apprenticed to a surgeon in his native town, Penzance, but was so attracted to the study of rocks and minerals as well as chemistry, that he 'paid much more attention to Philosophy than to Physic.' He was knighted in 1812, created a baronet in 1818, and elected president of the Royal Society in 1820.

JAMES FRANCK, M.D., of the Temple, was elected F.R.S. in 1821 (died 1843).

GEORGE BELLAS GREENOUGH, F.R.S. (1778-1855), of Parliament Street, was a man of fortune, who had studied mineralogy under Werner at Freiberg, and had travelled much. He formed a large collection of geological specimens, most of which are now in University College, London. He was M.P. for the borough of Gatton 1807-12. He was the first chairman, and in 1811 the first president, of the Society. He issued in 1819 [1820] his Geological Map of England and Wales, in six sheets. His bust by Westmacott is in the apartments of the Society.

RICHARD KNIGHT, of Foster Lane (died 1844).

JAMES LAIRD, M.D., of Basinghall Street, who died in 1840, was an excellent mineralogist, and rendered great service to the Society at its foundation, as the first secretary and afterwards as colleague of Leonard Horner in the secretariat. He was 'the intimate friend of Dr. Babington, with whom he passed much of his time, assisting him in his correspondence and occasionally aiding him in his profession. . . . Geology at this time had made comparatively little progress in England, and as the services of a pupil of

¹ Whewell, *Proc. Geol. Soc.* iii. p. 65.