

On December 2, 1808, it was decided that rooms be engaged by the Society for the reception of its cabinet and for the meetings of the Committees.

On March 3, 1809, it was notified that rooms were engaged, in the name of Mr. Horner, on the ground floor at No. 4, Garden Court, Temple.

The estimate of the cost of these rooms was as follows : Rent, 50*l.* ; window-tax, 1*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* ; house duty, 7*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* ; and Temple dues, 3*l.* (total, 61*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*). In addition, the cost of attendance 20*l.*, of coals for thirty weeks 11*l.* 5*s.*, and of candles for thirty weeks 5*l.* 5*s.*, made a total altogether of 97*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* The rooms were on lease for fourteen years, terminable at seven years. The sum of 63*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* was expended on furniture, and on June 2, 1809, the Committee of Trustees reported that the Society's collection had been removed to Garden Court, where it would be accessible at all hours to any member desirous of visiting it.<sup>1</sup>

In January 1808 the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., president of the Royal Society, expressed a wish to become an ordinary member of the Geological Society. He resigned, however, in February 1809, because in his opinion the Society had 'deviated from the principles which they entertained at their first establishment.'

It is difficult to understand the reasons for this opinion. The Geological Society had not then determined to publish its Transactions, while among the thirteen founders no less than six were at the time Fellows of the Royal Society, and one of them, Humphry Davy, was secretary of that Society. The only apparent cause of disapprobation was that the Geological Society when it ceased to be a club, and arranged to have a separate habitation, manifested in that way too independent an attitude towards the parent Society.<sup>2</sup>

The following records indicate as far as possible the state of the case, and the 'line of conduct which our then

<sup>1</sup> The sub-treasurer of the Middle Temple, Mr. J. W. Waldron, informs us that the building was pulled down in 1884.

<sup>2</sup> See 'Life of Sir Roderick I. Murchison,' by A. Geikie, i. 1875, p. 121.