

these country gentlemen was partly to obtain a hunting-map, and partly to get the drainage of the fens marked out for reclamation purposes.¹ By the year 1840 the Survey had reached as far north as Preston and Hull, and from experience then gained it was decided to survey the six northern counties on the scale of 6 inches to a mile.

The initiation of the Geological Survey was due in no small measure to the enlightened policy of Colonel (afterwards Major-General) T. F. Colby (1784-1852), director-general of the Ordnance Survey.

Thus, in his Address of 1833, Murchison stated that

The encouragement which, at the suggestion of Colonel Colby, the Board of Ordnance has afforded to all the surveyors who, during their labours in the field, have kept a register of the mineral changes accompanying variations of outline in the land, is now producing the happiest results.

Mr. [J. R.] Wright has already given us² ample proof of this in the geological delineation of a tract of country around Ludlow, which, from repeated personal examination, I can testify to be a model of accuracy.

Mr. [Henry] McLauchlan [1791-1881], another of our Fellows attached to the Ordnance Survey, has, with equal success, illuminated a much larger surface of the Ordnance maps, comprehending the Forest of Dean and the central parts of Herefordshire.³ . . .

Our Society has further been most advantageously connected with the Ordnance Survey, by the appointment of Mr. De la Beche to affix geological colours to the maps of Devonshire, and portions of Somerset, Dorset, and Cornwall. . . .

The adoption of a fixed scale of colours by all English geologists is still an essential desideratum in this department; and I am happy to have it in my power to state that a systematic arrangement will shortly be submitted to you, after it has undergone the supervision of our Council and shall have met with the approval of the Board of Ordnance. This scale, being founded on the principle of employing

¹ 'The Ordnance Survey of the United Kingdom,' by Lieut.-Colonel T. P. White, 1886, p. 61.

² *Proc. Geol. Soc.* i. p. 387.

³ *Ibid.* p. 420.