

curator of the Scarborough Museum, in whose house William Smith and his wife resided in 1826 and for a considerable time afterwards. Smith's costume was thus depicted by W. C. Williamson :

'The drab knee-breeches and grey worsted stockings, the deep waistcoat, with its pockets well furnished with snuff and the dark coat, with its rounded outline and somewhat Quakerish cut, are all clearly present to my memory.'¹

He has told also how Murchison and his wife paid a visit to Scarborough in 1826 and were conducted along the Yorkshire coast as far as Saltburn by William Smith and John Williamson: a good preparation for Murchison in regard to his subsequent work at Brora in Sutherland, to which region he afterwards proceeded.

W. C. Williamson's early interest in geology was greatly stirred by the 'Illustrations of the Geology of Yorkshire. Part I. The Yorkshire Coast' by John Phillips, published in 1829; and this led him to study the distribution of the organic remains. In memoirs read before the Geological Society in May 1834 and November 1836,² he drew attention to the horizons and ranges of many of the Liassic and Lower Oolitic fossils in Yorkshire. In the first paper he sought to show that the subdivisions in the Lias were characterised by certain species of Ammonites and other distinguishing fossils. In the second paper he dealt with the organic remains in the Oolitic series, and especially with the fossil plants of the Estuarine strata, thereby laying the foundations of the palæo-botanical knowledge for which he was subsequently distinguished. In his 'Reminiscences'³ he has mentioned that 'almost simultaneously with the receipt of my second memoir, a short but carefully prepared paper by Mr. Louis Hunton, a hitherto unknown author, was forwarded to the Society and shortly

¹ 'Reminiscences of a Yorkshire Naturalist,' by W. C. Williamson, edited by his wife, 1896, pp. 13, &c.

² *Trans. Geol. Soc.* ser. 2, v. p. 223.

³ Williamson, *op. cit.* p. 37.