

The annual general meetings were held for many years at 1 P.M., and the dinner at 6 P.M.

The years and places of dining were as follows :

- 1835-46 : Crown and Anchor, Strand (see p. 133).
- 1847-50 : Willis's Rooms, 26 King Street, St. James's Square.
- 1851-52 : Thatched House Tavern, St. James's Street.
- 1853-60 : Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen Street.

During subsequent years the dinners have been held at Willis's Rooms, at the Criterion, &c. Buckland, when he journeyed to London to attend the meetings of the Society, was accustomed to stay at the Salopian Coffee House and Tavern, Charing Cross—a house noted for good dinners and wines.

The delays that arose in the publication of papers were referred to by Lyell in his address of 1836. They were due to 'a desire to print all papers containing original and valuable matter in the order in which they were presented ; but many have been sent to us in so unfinished a state as to retard the printing of the rest, and, as the science advances rapidly, and new facts pour in daily, the authors even of the most finished memoirs soon require to make additions and corrections, and thus the evil is continually augmenting. The Council have, therefore, resolved, for the future, to print at once those memoirs which are in the most complete state, without waiting for others which are imperfect.'

Writing on June 1 of the same year, Lyell remarked that :

'Fitton is at last, we believe, at the point of being delivered of the Green Sand paper, on which occasion we trust that the shock of an earthquake may not throw down our museum. I always made up my mind it would be a posthumous production.'

On September 19, he added :¹

'I hear that Fitton's "Greensand" is printed, but still he is polishing it.'

¹ 'Life, Letters, and Journals,' vol. i. 1881, p. 467.