

This great memoir, 'Observations on some of the Strata between the Chalk and the Oxford Oolite, in the South-east of England,' was published before the close of 1836.¹ It filled nearly three hundred pages and was accompanied by seventeen plates. It embodied observations dating in publication from 1824, and it had been read on June 15, 1827. To all subsequent workers it has proved to be a mine of carefully recorded facts on the stratigraphy and palæontology of the Upper Secondary formations.

Attention was given by the Council in 1835 to the indexing of geological literature, and in 1836 they reported that Mr. Lonsdale had

'prepared a catalogue of Papers or Memoirs on Geology, alphabetically arranged according to the names of places, with a similar catalogue arranged according to the names of fossils, and a third catalogue of Memoirs on Theoretical Geology, arranged according to the names of the authors; and that these catalogues are accompanied by references so as to form a complete index to all the volumes of *Transactions*, *Journals*, and other works—Geological or Miscellaneous—contained in the Library.'

In 1837 it was reported that 'Since the last anniversary alphabetical catalogues of every geological map, section, plan, diagram, and view, scattered through the works in the Library, have been prepared, the value of which, as affording increased facilities of reference, is too obvious to be insisted upon.'

Lonsdale during his term of office as curator 'performed nearly the whole of the scientific duties which were formerly discharged in great measure by our honorary secretaries'; he also devoted himself with 'unwearied zeal and discriminating skill' to arranging and naming the specimens.² Precision and neatness were among his characteristics, and these were exhibited in his handwriting on the tablets to which the fossils were affixed. It is not,

¹ *Trans. Geol. Soc.*, ser. 2, vol. iv. p. 103.

² See Murchison, Address, 1843.