

and Geology,' by Louis Agassiz, corrected, enlarged, and edited by H. E. Strickland. This elaborate work was more complete than anything of the kind previously attempted, and it owed a very great deal to the care and labour expended upon it by Strickland.

Hugh Edwin Strickland (1811-53), distinguished as a naturalist, was an enthusiastic worker at geology, more especially in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire.¹ With James Buckman (1814-84) he augmented and revised in 1845 a new edition of Murchison's 'Outline of the Geology of the Neighbourhood of Cheltenham,' originally published in 1834. With W. J. Hamilton he explored the geology of the eastern shores of the Mediterranean and parts of Asia Minor. In 1850 he was appointed Deputy Reader in Geology at Oxford, during the illness of Buckland, and at the same time the mineralogical duties were separated and Mr. Nevil Story Maskelyne was appointed Reader in Mineralogy. After attending the Hull meeting of the British Association in 1853, Strickland went alone to examine cuttings on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway between Retford and Gainsborough, where he was unfortunately struck down and killed by a train: a mournful ending to a promising career.

In 1844 Robert Chambers became a Fellow of the Society. During the same year there was published an anonymous work on the 'Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation;' a work in which the sincere desire of the author (to use his own words) 'was to give the true view of the history of nature, with as little vexatious collision as possible with existing beliefs, whether philosophical or religious.' Needless to say, it not only created a sensation, and went through four editions in seven months, but it also raised a storm of opposition. The author agreed with Lyell in attributing the changes exhibited in the geological formations to the ordinary forces of nature, and 'he was inclined to deduce from this that the organic, like the

¹ See 'Memoirs of Hugh Edwin Strickland,' by Sir William Jardine, Bart., 1858, pp. ccvii-ccxxvii.