

publication with the memoirs. Towards the cost of these Warburton and Greenough had in the first instance liberally supplied the funds ; and the united work of Bain and Owen formed the whole of part 4 of vol. vii. of the second series of *Transactions*, which was not issued until 1856. At that date the publication of *Transactions* ceased. Professor T. Rupert Jones, who, as assistant secretary, edited this last volume, became so interested in South African geology that he acquired a mastery of the literature, and came to be recognised as the authority in this country on questions relating to the subject.

Mantell in 1852 described the new genus *Telerpeton* from the Elgin sandstones, regarded at that time as wholly belonging to the Old Red Sandstone. Six years later Huxley described a new reptile, obtained by the Rev. George Gordon, minister of Birnie, near Elgin. This new form, named *Hyperodapedon Gordoni*, was so distinctly of Triassic affinities, that Murchison, who had advocated the Old Red Sandstone age of the Elgin strata, then suggested that there might be two groups of sandstone of distinct ages¹ ; and this has proved to be the case.

A number of new reptiles have since been obtained from the Triassic sandstones of Elgin, notably two new genera, closely allied to *Dicynodon*, and named *Gordonia* and *Geikia* ; and one new genus allied to *Pareiasaurus*, and named *Elginia*. These were described by Mr. E. T. Newton in a paper read before the Royal Society in 1892. It is a remarkable fact that he had not a particle of the bones to deal with, the whole having been dissolved away ; he had before him only the cavities in sandstone from which, after untold labour, he obtained casts in gutta-percha of various bones and skulls. It is interesting also to note the correspondence, pointed out by Mr. Newton, between the reptiles of Elgin and those of the Karoo Beds of South Africa described by Owen, and by Professor H. G. Seeley. Similar reptiles occur likewise in the Gondwana Beds of India, and near Archangel in Russia.

¹ *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xv. p. 436.