APPENDIX

CHARTER

OF THE

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

The Charter is engrossed on two parchments, to which is attached an impression in wax of the Great Seal of King George IV., preserved in a tin box. Both are edged with an engraved border of scrollwork in the style of the eighteenth century, with medallion portraits of King George III. and Queen Charlotte at the sides, and the Royal Arms and those of Mecklenburg at the top. The first is further adorned with a large portrait of King George III. in his youth, enclosed in the initial letter G. The stamps amount to 50%. The Charter is, it is believed, now for the first time correctly printed. There are several versions both printed and in manuscript, all made about the time the Charter was granted, and all differing from the original and from each other. The inaccuracies are slight and do not affect the sense of the Charter, but it is curious that these copies should have been issued without anyone apparently taking the trouble to collate them with the original. In the Charter, as now printed, the original has been followed exactly both as to capital letters and stops.]

George the fourth by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King Defender of the Faith To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas The Reverend William Buckland Bachelor in Divinity Arthur Aikin Esquire John Bostock Doctor of Physic George Bellas Greenough Esquire Henry Warburton Esquire and several others of our loving Subjects being desirous of forming a Society for investigating the Mineral structure of the Earth and having for promoting such investigation expended considerable sums of money in the purchase and collection of books maps specimens and other objects and in the publication of various works the said William Buckland Arthur Aikin