

SIR RODERICK MURCHISON ON THE RECENT GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN MORAYSHIRE.

AT a meeting of the Geological Society of London, held on the 15th December 1858, Part III. of a paper by Sir Roderick Murchison, on 'The Geological Structure of the North of Scotland,' was read.

Referring to his previous memoir for an account of the triple division of the Old Red Sandstone of Caithness and the Orkney Islands, Sir Roderick showed how the chief member of the group in those tracts diminished in its range southwards into Ross-shire, and how, when traceable through Inverness and Nairn, it was scarcely to be recognised in Morayshire, but re-appeared, with its characteristic ichthyolites, in Banffshire (Dipple, Tynet, and Gamrie). He then prefaced his description of the ascending order of the strata belonging to this group in Morayshire by a sketch of the successive labours of geologists in that district; pointing out how, in 1828, the sandstones and conglomerates of this tract had been shown by Professor Sedgwick and himself to constitute, together with the inferior Red Sandstone and conglomerate, one natural geological assemblage; that in 1839 the late Dr. Malcolmson made the important additional discovery of fossil fishes, in conjunction with Lady Gordon Cumming; and also read a valuable memoir on the structure of the tract, before the Geological Society, of which, to his the author's regret, an abstract only had been published (*Proc. Geol. Soc.* vol. iii. p. 141). Sir Roderick revisited the district in the autumn of 1840, and made sections in the environs of Forres and Elgin. Subsequently, Mr. P. Duff of Elgin published a 'Sketch of the Geology of