

It was further resolved that Mr. Aikin, Dr. Babington, Mr. Greenough, Dr. Laird, and Mr. Pepys be a Committee to draw up rules for the regulation of the Society, and instructions to the honorary members to accompany the notice of their election, to be submitted to the Society at their next meeting.

The following were the first communications brought before the Society :—

Mr. Knight produced to the meeting a piece of Rowley Rag, and an artificial body having the characters of that stone, which he had obtained by the fusion and slow cooling of a portion of the same mass of rock—the result of experiments which he conducted some years since, and analogous to those of Mr. Gregory Watt. [He was the son of James Watt, the engineer, and made observations on basalt (*Phil. Trans.* 1804, p. 279), having melted a mass of Rowley Rag, and noticed the development of spherulitic structure.<sup>1</sup>]

Count de Bournon exhibited several specimens illustrative of the varieties of compact felspar—from its purest and characteristic state, when it has a waxy fracture, is semi-transparent and fusible, to that where it is more or less mixed with argile, or loses its distinctive appearances from decomposition.

On January 1, 1808, it was decided that there be two vice-presidents. The Committee appointed to draw up the regulations of the Society, and instructions to the honorary members to accompany the notice of their election, presented the following statement, which was adopted :—

### GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Established November 13, 1807.

#### SECTION I.—OF ITS OBJECTS.

This Society is instituted for the purpose of making geologists acquainted with each other, of stimulating their zeal, of inducing them to adopt one nomenclature, of facilitating the communication of new facts, and of contributing

<sup>1</sup> These experiments were a continuation of those by Sir James Hall, the founder of experimental geology (p. 142). See 'The Founders of Geology,' by Sir A. Geikie, 2nd ed. p. 317.