

of Jameson, and likewise of the distinguished literary men connected with the *Edinburgh Review*, and thus for many years he was led to contribute to that journal essays on the progress of geological science. Fitton practised medicine for eight years at Northampton, until in 1820 he married 'a most amiable lady, who brought to him the means of a comfortable existence.' The physician now became wholly converted into a geologist. To his special researches on the Cretaceous and other formations further reference will be made; but it should be mentioned that 'he opened his house during his presidency to all the Fellows at evening *soirées*, when his cheerful and joyous countenance and kind manner encouraged many a beginner. . . . Dr. Fitton, as well as his predecessor, Mr. Greenough, held these agreeable scientific *conversazioni* on Sunday evenings.'

It was also remarked by Murchison that 'one of the claims of Dr. Fitton on the gratitude of geologists is, that after having been the secretary of the Society during some years of his life, no sooner did he attain the honour of our chair, than he established the publication of those *Proceedings* which are the true synopsis of our labours, and have been imitated by the Royal Society and most of the scientific societies in the metropolis.'¹

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The publication of the *Proceedings of the Geological Society* was commenced in 1827, and the first number (including accounts of meetings from November 1826) was prefaced by the statement that

The Council of the Geological Society, being desirous of communicating to the Fellows, as promptly as may be, an account of the Proceedings of the Society during the intervals which must necessarily elapse between the appearance of the several parts of the *Transactions*, has made arrangements for distributing to the Fellows who reside in London and its vicinity, the abstracts of the papers read

¹ *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xviii. 1862, pp. xxxii &c.