

## CHAPTER VI

EARLY GEOLOGICAL BOOKS. THE WOLLASTON MEDAL  
AND THE FATHER OF ENGLISH GEOLOGY. SEDG-  
WICK AND MURCHISON ON CAMBRIAN AND SILURIAN

GEOLOGY OF ENGLAND AND WALES BY CONYBEARE AND WILLIAM  
PHILLIPS—SCROPE—SOWERBY'S MINERAL CONCHOLOGY—JAMESON—  
BAKEWELL—BRANDE—GREENOUGH—URE—LYELL—MACCULLOCH—  
DE LA BECHE—JOHN PHILLIPS—LONDON UNIVERSITY—WOLLASTON  
MEDAL—SEDGWICK AND WILLIAM SMITH—SEDGWICK AND MURCHISON  
ON CAMBRIAN AND SILURIAN—DISCUSSIONS—GEOLOGICAL DINNERS—  
OTHER GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE progress of geology during the early years had been recorded mainly in the publications of the Geological Society; while the descriptions of English strata had been summarised by William Phillips, in his 'Selection of Facts from the best Authorities, arranged so as to form an Outline of the Geology of England and Wales' (1818). In the second edition of this book, published in 1822 by Conybeare and Phillips, the former author so amplified and enriched the work by his original observations, that it became a standard geological companion, and did more than any other independent work at that date to advance the study of geology in this country.<sup>1</sup>

In 1828 it was proposed by Sedgwick that he should join with Conybeare in the preparation of the second part of the 'Outlines of the Geology of England and Wales,' of which the first part only had been published in 1822, and in which none of the rocks below the Old Red Sandstone had been described. Conybeare gladly assented to the proposal, and drew up a plan, which unfortunately was

<sup>1</sup> *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* vol. xviii. p. xxxiii; and Whewell, 'History of the Inductive Sciences,' iii. 1837, p. 523.