

## THE WOLLASTON MEDAL AND DONATION FUND.

On December 10, 1828, less than a fortnight prior to his decease, the Council received the following communication from Dr. William Hyde Wollaston<sup>1</sup> :—

Dorset Street, December 8, 1828.

I have this day invested one thousand pounds three per cent. reduced Bank annuities in the joint names of myself and the Geological Society of London, in trust, that the said trustees shall during my life pay to me the dividends on the said stock ; and after my decease, that the said Society, as surviving trustee, shall apply the said dividends in promoting researches concerning the mineral structure of the earth ; or in rewarding those by whom such researches may hereafter be made, or in such other manner as shall appear to the Council of the said Society for the time being, conducive to the interests of the Society in particular, or of the science of Geology in general ; such latter application, however, of the dividends to the purposes of science will, in my opinion, be most creditable to the Council. And I hereby empower the Council of the said Society, in furtherance of the above declared objects of this trust, to apply the said dividends in aiding or rewarding the researches of any individual or individuals, of any country ; saving only that no member of the Council for the time being shall be entitled to receive or partake of such aid or reward.

And I hereby enjoin the said Society not to hoard the said dividends parsimoniously ; but to expend them liberally, and as nearly as may be annually, in furthering the objects of the trust.

And I request the Society to entitle the fund hereby to be created, 'The Donation Fund ;' in full confidence that, as there never have been wanting in the Society members who, in case of emergency, have been willing to contribute in aid of the ordinary funds of the Society, so there now are, and hereafter will be, members who will make additional contributions to this 'Donation Fund.'

(Signed) W. H. WOLLASTON.

(Witness) HENRY WARBURTON.

The Wollaston Fund was in fact increased by the Council in the course of the following year 'by the sum of 84*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. Geol. Soc.* i. p. 110.