to June inclusive, to the alternate Wednesdays. For ten years the session terminated on the first evening meeting in June; but in 1841 it was resolved that the meetings be continued to a second Wednesday in that month.

The year 1831 was a memorable one in the history of Palæozoic geology. Murchison commenced to explore the older rocks on the borders of Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Wales. Sedgwick, who had laboured previously among the ancient rocks of the Lake District, now turned his attention to the western portions of North Wales.

Sedgwick was then forty-six years of age, Murchison was thirty-nine; and they entered with all the enthusiasm of youth into a region that was practically a *terra incognita* —a land of Transition rocks or Grauwacke, of which the divisions, the structure, and life-history had all to be investigated.

Sedgwick rightly enough, as the older and more experienced man, took the more difficult and complicated region; and it is interesting to know that he was accompanied for two or three weeks in Carnarvonshire by Charles Darwin, then a youthful student who desired to learn something of field-geology.[1] Together they hammered the rocks, and sought for fossils, with a vigour that evidently met with no great reward. Thus Lyell records (January 18, 1832): 'Sedgwick is in town, and has been rather, I should say, wasting his giant strength on a barren primary district in Wales, which he owns was like "rubbing himself against a grindstone."'[2]

Meanwhile, Murchison was hard at work on Caer Caradoc and the regions of Ludlow, Aymestry, and Wenlock. He was fortunate in discovering that more was known of the rocks and fossils than had been made public; and he cordially acknowledged help received from local workers, notably from the Rev. T. T. Lewis, Dr. T. Du

[1] 'Life and Letters of Sedgwick,' by J. W. Clark and T. McK. Hughes, vol. i. 1890, p. 379.

[2] 'Life, Letters, and Journals of Lyell,' vol. i. 1881, p. 367.