

which had been formed about the year 1836, included among its members J. S. Bowerbank, Searles V. Wood, Frederick E. Edwards, John Morris, and Nathaniel T. Wetherell (of Highgate). They experienced the want of figures of British Tertiary fossils, as the illustrations in Sowerby's 'Mineral Conchology' were arranged in no systematic order, and during recent years that publication had come out at long and irregular intervals; the last number, in fact, was issued in 1845. Hence the establishment of the Palæontographical Society was heartily welcomed. The first volume issued was 'The Monograph of the Crag Mollusca,' by S. V. Wood (1798-1880); a work commenced in 1848, completed in 1856, and crowned in 1860 by the award of the Wollaston medal.

It would be beyond our limits to refer in detail to the work of the Palæontographical Society, but it is a satisfaction to know that its council and annual meetings have always been held in the rooms of the Geological Society.

Mention may, however, be made of Thomas Davidson (1817-85), who devoted his life to the study of the Brachiopoda, and completed his monograph on all the fossil forms from the British Isles—a great work which, with Supplements, was published during the years 1851-85.

The Palæontographical Society appointed a number of local secretaries, most of them Fellows of the Geological Society and ardent collectors of fossils, and some of them contributors of monographs. To collectors the publications of that Society gave a great stimulus, as during many years it continued possible for studious observers, who were not trained palæontologists, to identify their own fossils from the excellent plates and descriptions. Hence the middle of the nineteenth century, for some twenty or thirty years, became famous as an age of great collectors of fossils.

Among these may be included John Edward Lee, of Torquay (1808-87); William Vicary, of Exeter (1811-1903); Robert Harris