

scope, Sir Archibald Geikie had commenced petrographical studies on the Scottish volcanic rocks.

In 1851, when Sedgwick was nearly sixty-six years of age, the Wollaston Palladium medal was awarded to him by the Council of the Geological Society, and presented by Sir Charles Lyell. In his reply Sedgwick remarked that his labours were still in progress, his task was yet undone; and he spoke with gratitude of the many years of active and intellectual communion he had been permitted to hold with the members of the Society. At the commencement of the next session, in November 1851, he brought before the Society a paper 'On the Slate Rocks of Devon and Cornwall,' observing in the opening paragraph, 'I rejoice to appear once more as a fellow-labourer, and to lay the first-fruits of my summer's task before the Geological Society.'<sup>1</sup>

Of the more convivial proceedings during this period, we find that Ramsay, in 1848, after recording his attendance at the anniversary meeting of the Society and at the dinner afterwards, remarked, 'We broke up about eleven, and in the long run Smyth, Reeks, Bristow, and I had some supper. Got home at half-past three.' Three years later he mentioned that at the anniversary dinner, when William Hopkins, the new president, took the chair, 'Sedgwick made the great speech of the evening. By turns he made us cry and roar with laughter, as he willed. His pathos and his wit were equally admirable. Home at twelve.'<sup>2</sup>

The following *menu* for the anniversary dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern in 1853 has been contributed by Professor T. Rupert Jones, who was present on the occasion.<sup>3</sup> It is of interest as a record of the kinds of dishes served fifty years ago.

<sup>1</sup> *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* viii. p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> 'Memoir of Sir A. C. Ramsay,' by Sir A. Geikie, 1895, pp. 124, 177.

<sup>3</sup> It is a MS. written in ink, dated as given, and signed at the foot by the proprietors. It is probably the list from which a selection was made for the dinner.