

that measures be taken without delay to have the contents thoroughly explored. It was resolved that a copy of Dr. Falconer's communication be transmitted to the director-general of the Geological Survey, 'with a view of ascertaining whether a subject of this nature falls within the province of that department.' The answer was in the negative; but in the end Murchison instructed H. W. Bristow to make an exact plan of the cave, and this was done.

Eventually a grant of 200*l.* from the Royal Society was received, together with donations from Miss (afterwards the Baroness) Burdett-Coutts and others; and a committee of the Society was the same year appointed to direct a systematic exploration of the bone cave, and the expenditure of the money. The committee consisted of Dr. Falconer, chairman and secretary; J. Prestwich, treasurer; Lyell, Godwin-Austen, George Busk, John Percy, Owen, A. C. Ramsay, the Rev. R. Everest, S. H. Beckles, W. Pengelly, together with the president (John Phillips) and the secretaries (T. Davidson and W. W. Smyth). A local sub-committee, consisting of Pengelly, Edward Vivian, and others, was formed to superintend the actual working of the cave. The services of the keen fossil-collector, Henry Keeping (now of the Sedgwick Museum,<sup>1</sup> Cambridge), were also secured. The main scientific exploration was, however, carried out by Pengelly.

The excavations at Brixham had not proceeded very far when Falconer was able to report the occurrence of flint implements in association with the relics of extinct mammalia. The discovery was notified by Pengelly at the British Association in 1858, and brought briefly before a meeting of the Geological Society, by Prestwich, in June 1859, after he had visited the cavern and satisfied himself of the facts.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Sedgwick Museum, to which were removed the famous collections of fossils and rocks in the Woodwardian Museum, was opened in 1903.

<sup>2</sup> The Report of the Committee was finally drawn up by Prestwich, read before the Royal Society in 1872, and published in the *Phil. Trans.* for 1873,