

At a special general meeting held on January 8, 1863, it was resolved that the meetings of the Society be held in the Society's rooms at Somerset House, on and after the anniversary meeting then ensuing (February 20). Thus the presence of ladies was discontinued, and the men returned to their privileged abode (see also p. 118).

The question of admitting women as Fellows of the Geological Society came up for discussion when the bye-laws underwent revision in 1889. No special mention of this was made in the printed *Proceedings* of the Society, but the question was raised on Section III., Article 1 (Bye-laws, p. 5), when it was proposed that the words, 'or her,' should be added at the end of the article. This was defeated by a majority of four, out of sixty-two Fellows voting. Sir Joseph Prestwich warmly supported the proposal, pointing to the prominent part taken by women for a number of years in various departments of learning, and he expressed his conviction that the time had come when they should be admitted as Fellows.¹

Since that date the work of women has been recognised in the awards made to Miss C. A. Raisin, D.Sc., Miss Jane Donald, D.Sc. (Mrs. Longstaff), Miss G. L. Elles, D.Sc., Mrs. Elizabeth Gray, Miss E. M. R. Wood, D.Sc. (Mrs. Shakespear), and Miss Helen Drew. Moreover, not only have further important papers by women been communicated to the Society, by Mrs. M. M. Ogilvie Gordon, D.Sc., Miss M. C. Crosfield, Miss E. G. Skeat, Miss Maud Healey, and Miss I. L. Slater, B.A., but on certain occasions the authoresses have been present, and have ably given an account of their work. Their admission to general meetings of the Society was facilitated in 1904, when the Bye-law Art. 3, Section XII. was modified so as to allow visitors to be introduced by Fellows or Foreign Members without requiring the 'consent of the majority of the Fellows present.' A proposal to elect women as Associates was negatived at a special meeting on May 15, 1907.

¹ We are indebted for some of the above particulars to Dr. G. J. Hinde; the subject was further discussed by Dr. Henry Woodward in his presidential Address in 1895.