

like Jonathan Otley giving aid to Sedgwick in his early work in the Lake District, so also is it interesting to read of a former Marquis of Northampton knapping flints in a chalk-pit with such persistent energy as to create astonishment in the mind of a British workman. Other men, of culture, and some of fortune, inspired no doubt by the geological leaders, have rendered much service to the Society by personal devotion to its business and by financial assistance towards its publications.

Brief references have been made to the influence of the Geological Society and of some of its individual members in the establishment of the Geological Survey, and likewise of other Societies devoted to the pursuit of geology in various parts of the British Islands.

No history of the Society could be written without special allusion to the 'Father of English Geology' William Smith, nor without mention of men like Hugh Miller, whose biographies have been published, but whose names, strange as it may seem, were not enrolled among the members of the Geological Society. There are yet others, in a similar position, to whom the Society has owed not a little of its prosperity directly as well as indirectly. The encouragement and active sympathy of Lady Lyell, Lady Murchison, and Lady Prestwich are well known. Women indeed have helped in diverse ways to promote geological research, and, notably in recent years, many have contributed to the publications of the Society.

The greater portion of the present work is occupied with the history of the Geological Society during the first half-century of its existence, and but scant reference could be made to the later more detailed, but none the less important, researches in palæontology, petrology, stratigraphy, and physiography, by many zealous and brilliant workers.