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BIRKBECK COLLEGE, E.C.4

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LIST OF PLATES.

PLATES	PAGE
I. Perforated Limestone, Birkrigg Common	1
II. Transition from Mural to Involute Agate	10
III. New Zealand Plesiosaurus	49
IV. Restoration of <i>Dimorphodon</i> , Owen	97
V. Map of the Soils of Belgium	149
VI. <i>Palæotherium magnum</i> , Cuvier.	153
VII. British Palæozoic Echinodermata	258
VIII. Geological Sketch-map of Galashiels.	204
IX. Carboniferous Entomöstraca, etc.	214
X. Chart showing Path of the Ice in the North Sea	270
XI. Plan of Ballycummisk Mine, Co. Cork	252
XII. Section of <i>ditto</i>	252
XIII. Plan of Coosheen Mine, Co. Cork	252
XIV. Fossil Wood from Egypt	306
XV. Sketch-maps to illustrate Miss E. Hodgson's Paper on the Granite-drift of Furness.	328
XVI. British species of the genus <i>Dicranograptus</i>	353
XVII. XVIII. Italian Tertiary Brachiöpoda.	359
XIX. XX. <i>Ditto</i>	399
XXI. <i>Ditto</i>	460
XXII. British Tertiary and Cretaceous Crustacea.	493
XXIII. Crustaceans of the genus <i>Cyclus</i> from the British Carbon- iferous Rocks, etc.	554
Lithographed Diagram to illustrate Mr. Medicott's paper on Faults in Strata	473

LIST OF WOODCUTS.

Banded and brecciated Concretions.	11, 12, 13, 14
Actual representations of two of the Hailstones which fell in Georgia on the 9th June, 1869	28
Restoration of <i>Acanthodes</i>	30
Horizontal Sections across the valley of Cowden Burn	57
Section of Millstone Grit at Sweeney, near Oswestry	69
Section showing the junction of the Millstone Grit with the Carbon- iferous Limestone, in Craigforda Wood, near Oswestry	69
Section showing <i>ditto</i> , at Carreg-y-big, near Oswestry	70
Pockets in the Millstone Grit at Sweeney, near Oswestry.	71
Section of Millstone Grit, with interstratified limestones, near Mold, Flintshire.	73

	PAGE
Slab of shale covered with <i>Dezolites gracilis</i> , sp. nov.	87
Section from Merrington Green to the river Perry, North Shropshire.	107
Section showing the relation of the Werf stream to re-assorted gravels	107
Diagram of a glacier.	175
Section from the Belgian Coast to the Higher Ardennes	201
Sections of Rhætic beds near Audlem	203, 204
Section of Strata at Cilfach Bargoed Colliery	216
Supposed rib of Elephant.	254
Rough section of lower part of Millers Dale, Derbyshire	268
Peninsula on which Pre-Historic dwelling was discovered near Seacliff, Haddingtonshire	270
Derry-clare and Ben Cor, as seen from Lough Inagh.	311
Hills of Silurian rock (Joyce County Hills), with long meteoric drift slopes	312
Flat-bottomed <i>lugs</i> cut into the north side of the Mulreea Hills	314
View of Wasdale Crag from the opposite side of Wasdale.	349
<i>Cephalaspis Dawsoni</i> , Laukr.	397
<i>Machairacanthus sulcatus</i>	398
Brachiopoda of Portlandian age (?), from the Eastern Counties "Drift"	412
Section from Folkestone to Foreness, Isle of Thanet; showing the divisions of Chalk strata	469
Diagram to illustrate the case of an <i>assumed</i> fault, where only a natu- ral boundary exists.	476
Section from Pacific Ocean to Andes across Santa Fé	501
Section at Coronel, Chile	501
Section at the Lota Coal-Mines, Chile.	502
Sketch of part of the Chilian Coast	506
Section of Coal-bearing Beds at Lota, Chile.	507
Sections in Tideswell Dale	521, 522
Plan of the Stagno di Biguglia, near Bastia.	551
Ideal Section of the Stagno di Biguglia, near Bastia.	551
Eastern Face of Gibraltar: Section of Gibraltar.	552
Low Cliff, Tangier Bay	553
<i>Cyclus Jonesianus</i> , sp. nov. Dorsal and side view	558
Figures of Larva of a Recent Land-crab.	560
New Forms of Brachiopoda from the Lower Greensand of Upware	563

LIST OF PORTRAITS.

Rev. Adam Sedgwick, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., etc.	145
George Poulett Scrope, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., etc.	193
Professor John Phillips, M.A., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., etc.	301

THE
GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

TO OUR GEOLOGICAL FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS.

The year, now so rapidly passing away, witnesses the completion of our Seventh Volume, and it is with no small degree of pleasure that we again record our annual thanks to those kind friends whose names have so often adorned these pages as our Contributors, and indeed, but for whose generous aid, we never should have reached our Seventy-eighth Monthly Number.

Happily for us, notwithstanding the terrible war going on so near at hand,—in which, alas! two of the greatest European nations, foremost in Arts and Sciences, are still engaged,—we have continued to enjoy the blessings of peace and to pursue uninterruptedly our scientific work.

It is, however, much to be feared, that both in France and in Germany, there will be, for a time at least, a considerable scientific dearth. Such being the case, it is earnestly to be hoped that the Geologists of other countries will, under their more favoured circumstances, endeavour to increase the quota of next year's work by greater activity, and by enlisting recruits to supply the losses sustained abroad.

Already we see new bands of Geologists subjugating hitherto unexplored regions to their peaceful sway, and realizing, in some instances at least, substantial rewards.

Thus British North America offers, not only *Elorson Canadense*, but fresh fields of Coal and Gold to those who will go forth and win them.

The Cape Colony and Natal, though not very rich in either Coal or Gold, have lately added the attraction of Diamond-fields, which seem likely to yield a fair reward to the explorer.

Australia—in addition to her metalliferous and Coaly treasures—has, during the past year, contributed a *living* representative, in its Queensland “Mud-fish,” of the Old Devonian Crossopterygian Ganoids, with rhomboidal scales, found so abundantly at Dura Den, in Fifeshire.

The great Pacific railroad has opened up the geology of vast regions in the United States heretofore unknown, affording much

new light as to the condition of the North American Continent in Secondary times. The Surveys of the United States, and those of our Indian possessions, continue to make known the vast natural resources of their respective countries, and by their labours to add greatly to geological science.

These we have had from time to time the pleasure to record, as also the work in progress upon our own Insular Surveys.

New facts and fossils continually turn up, needing to be published as speedily as possible.

To this useful work the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE may honestly lay claim to have contributed largely; its pages and plates being stored both with geological and palæontological results of very considerable importance.

We therefore hope that our friends and Subscribers will continue to support our Journal as heretofore, and also will induce their brother-Geologists, not only to read—which we are sure they always do—but *personally* to become annual subscribers to the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE.

THE EDITOR.

All Communications for the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE should be addressed to the Editor, 142, St. Paul's Road, Camden Square, N.W.

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Be pleased to add my name to the List as a Subscriber for one copy of Volume VIII. of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, to be published monthly by MESSRS. TRÜBNER & Co., the First Part of which appeared on January 1, 1871. Price Eighteenpence each number.

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