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BIRKBECK COLLEGE, E.C.4

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HENRY WOODWARD, F.G.S., F.Z.S.

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES OF EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, AND NORWICH;
CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF MONTREAL; AND OF THE
LYCEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, NEW YORK.

ASSISTED BY

PROFESSOR JOHN MORRIS, F.G.S., &c., &c.,

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ROBERT ETHERIDGE, F.R.S.E., F.G.S., &c.

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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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