

all rare and unusual rocks of special lithological, mineralogical and chemical interest, examples of ore-deposits and of veinstones of all kinds, with their encasing rocks. As far as possible these collections should be limited to specimens of a size convenient for examination, and be accompanied with sections prepared for microscopic study. In the arrangement of all these materials regard should be had to their natural associations rather than to theoretical notions or artificial classifications, so that they may be studied not only petrographically but geognostically.

II. Collections illustrating the fauna and the flora of the Palæozoic and more recent periods, particularly of such horizons as present a more critical interest to palæontologists from the first appearance or the disappearance of important groups of organic forms. It has appeared to the Committee named below that the organic remains of the Cambrian, Taconic or so-called Primordial strata merit especial attention in this connexion.

These various collections should be explained as fully as possible by labels, catalogues, monographs and maps.

III. Collections of geological maps, and also of sections and models, especially such as serve to illustrate the laws of mountain structure. In the geological maps regard should be had to various questions which deserve the special consideration of the Congress, such as the scales best adapted for different purposes, the colours and symbols to be used, and the proper mode of representing superficial deposits conjointly with the underlying formations. A discussion of these will prepare the way for improved general geological maps of the continents.

In pursuance of the above plan, the American Association for the Advancement of Science during its annual meeting at Buffalo, under the presidency of Prof. William B. Rogers, unanimously adopted the following resolution on the 25th of August, 1876:—

“Resolved, That a Committee of the Association be appointed by the Chair to consider the propriety of holding an International Congress of Geologists at Paris, during the International Exhibition in 1878, for the purpose of getting together comparative collections, maps and sections, and for the settling of many obscure points relating to geological classification and nomenclature. And that to this Committee be added our guests, Prof. T. H. Huxley of England, Dr. Otto Torell of Sweden, and Dr. E. H. von Baumhauer of the Netherlands, who shall be requested to open negotiations in Europe, looking to a full representation of European geologists at the proposed Congress. The said Committee to consist of Prof. William B. Rogers, Messrs. James Hall, J. W. Dawson, J. S. Newberry, T. Sterry Hunt, C. H. Hitchcock, and R. Pumpelly in behalf of the Association, with the addition of Prof. T. H. Huxley, Dr. Otto Torell, and Dr. E. H. von Baumhauer.”

On the same day, at a meeting of the Committee, Prof. James Hall was elected Chairman, and Dr. T. Sterry Hunt, Secretary. It was then resolved to prepare the present circular, to be printed in English, French, and German, and distributed to geologists throughout the world, asking their co-operation in this great work of an International Geological Exhibition and an International Geological Congress to be held at Paris in 1878; the precise date of the Congress to be subsequently fixed.

All those interested in this project are invited to communicate with any one of the following members of the Committee:—

PROF. T. H. HUXLEY, London, England.

DR. OTTO TORELL, Stockholm, Sweden.

DR. E. H. VON BAUMHAUER, Harlem, Holland.

DR. T. STERRY HUNT, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

PHILADELPHIA, U.S.A.,

T. STERRY HUNT, *Secretary*.

Oct. 27th, 1876.

#### NEW BRITISH BRACHIOPODA.

SIR,—During a recent visit to Abbotsbury, Dorsetshire, I obtained from the Upper Corallian red ferruginous rock some specimens of *Terebratula subsella*, Leymerie. I think this species has not been discovered in England before. The other Brachiopoda which occur in this rock are:—*Waldheimia lampas*, Sow., *Waldheimia Dorsetensis*, n.sp., *Rhynchonella pinguis*, Roemer, = *Rhyn. corallina*, Leym. These species will be figured in Mr. Davidson's Jurassic Supplement.

J. F. WALKER.