



Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London. Session 1854-55

Source: The Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London, 1855, Vol. 25 (1855), pp. lxvii-lxxv

Published by: Wiley on behalf of The Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)

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Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London.

SESSION 1854-55.

First Ordinary Meeting, November 13, 1854.

Rear-Admiral LORD COLCHESTER, Vice-President, in the Chair.

George Clowes, Esq.; William Clowes, Esq.; Harry G. Gordon, Esq.; Lieut.-Colonel Stephen J. Hill; Charles Jellicoe, Esq.; James G. Marshall, Esq.; Major J. A. Moore, f.R.s.; and Henry H. Thomas, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The Paper read was-

Dr. Rae, M.D., F.R.G.S., "Late Arctic Explorations." A discussion then ensued, in which Capt. Kellett, Col. Sabine, Dr. Scoresby, Sir John Ross, Capt. M'Clure, Capt. Inglefield, Commr. Osborne, Lieut. Pim, and Mr. P. L. Simmonds took part.

On the table were exhibited the Relics of the Franklin Expedition, which had been purchased from the Esquimaux by Dr. Rae, and also a Model of a Travelling Party in the Arctic Regions by Lieut. Pim, R.N., F.R.G.S.

Second Ordinary Meeting, November 27, 1854.

WILLIAM J. HAMILTON, Esq., F.R.S., in the Chair.

J. S. Ancona, Esq.; Henry Christy, Esq.; W. Hepworth Dixon, Esq.; W. T. Domville, Esq., M.D.; Sir Charles Fox; William H. Garrett, Esq.; Capt. Griffith Jenkins, I.N.; Charles J. Latrobe, Esq.; Clements R. Markham, Esq.; Lieut. J. J. Pollexfen; James Thomas, Esq.; Henry Thorold, Esq.; F. E. Wilkinson, Esq.; and R. D. Woodifield, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were—

1. Late Explorations in South Africa, with Route from Walfisch Bay to the Lake, and Ascent of the Tiogé River, by C. J. Andersson, Esq.

2. Despatches from the Foreign Office, enclosing accounts of the Niger-Chadda Expedition, from Commr. Miller, R.N., Dr. Baikie, and Mr. M'Gregor Laird.

3. Despatches from Commodore Adams and Commander Philips to the Admiralty, announcing the arrival at Loanda of Dr. Livingston, with remarks on the same by Lieut. Bedingfield, R.N., F.R.G.S.

Third Ordinary Meeting, December 11, 1854.

The EARL of SHEFFIELD in the Chair.

The Hon. F. Byron; Alexander Devaux, Esq.; Joseph Glen, Esq.; Commander John T. Paulson, R.N.; F. P. Stevens, Esq.; and Matthew Uzielli, Esq., were elected Fellows.

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The Papers read were—

1. Reports from Dr. Barth, addressed to the Chevalier Bunsen, dated Timbuctu, Nov. 23, 1853, and March 23, 1854, announcing his departure from that place. Communicated by the Foreign Office.

2. Despatches from Lieut.-Col. Herman, H. M.'s Consul, dated Tripoli, Oct. 3 and 24, and Nov. 6, 1854, reporting that the African Mission had not yet returned to Kuka from the South, and announcing the death of Mr. Henry Warrington. Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G.

Fourth Ordinary Meeting, January 8, 1855.

Professor WILLIAM WHEWELL in the Chair.

Thomas Muir, Esq., was elected a Fellow.

The Papers read were—

- 1. Geographical Notes taken during a Journey performed in Persia, by Keith E. Abbott, Esq., H. M.'s Consul at Tehran. Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon. *First Part*.
- 2. Despatch from Dr. Livingston, containing his Routes from Lake Ngami through the interior of S. Africa to Angola. Communicated by Sir Roderick I. Murchison.
- 3. Despatch from Col. Herman, H. M.'s Consul at Tripoli, respecting the Central African Mission.

Fifth Ordinary Meeting, January 22, 1855.

The President, the EARL of ELLESMERE, in the Chair.

Lieut. Norman B. Bedingfield, R.N.; the Hon. F. H. W. Gough Calthorpe; Vice-Admiral Sir George F. Seymour, K.C.B., &c.; Sir Emerson Tennent; and Lewis H. J. Tonna, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were—

- 1. Geographical Notes taken during a Journey performed in Persia, from the City of Kerman to Khubbes, and through the Southern Districts of the Country to Shiraz, by Keith E. Abbott, Esq., H. M.'s Consul at Tehrán. Communicated through the Earl of Clarendon. Second Part.
- 2. Proposed Expedition to the Somali Country in Eastern Africa, by Lieut. R. Burton.

Sixth Ordinary Meeting, February 12, 1855.

Rear-Admiral Beechey, F.R.S., in the Chair.

Frederick S. Day, Esq., and Dr. R. B. Grindrod, were elected Fellows.

Admiral Smyth, E. Osborne Smith, and T. H. Brooking, Esqrs. were appointed Auditors for the Year.

The Chairman directed the attention of the Meeting to the Illustrations by Dr. Baikie and Mr. May, R.N., of the Chadda and Country adjoining; to the Drawings of Mr. M'Gregor Laird's Screw-Steamer, the 'Pleiad;' to the Map

by Mr. Andersson, showing his Route in S. Africa; to some Specimens of the Gold Manufacture of Timbuctu, exhibited by Mr. Renshaw; and to several Maps by Mr. Arrowsmith, to accompany the forthcoming Volume of the Society's Journal.

The Papers read were—

- 1. On the Sources of the Purus, a great Tributary of the Amazon. By Clements R. Markham, Esq., F.R.G.s.
 - 2. Report on the Arrival of the Chadda Expedition under Dr. Baikie,
- R.N. Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., F.R.G.S. 3. Accounts from the Central African Expedition under Dr. Vogel.

Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., F.R.G.S. Seventh Ordinary Meeting, February 26, 1855.

E. Osborne Smith, Esq., in the Chair.

Charles Bovet, Esq.; the Rev. W. B. Clarke, M.A.; John Macnab, Esq.; A. John Otway, Esq., M.P.; William H. Smith, Esq.; Henry Stevens, Esq.; and W. William Emerson Tennent, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were—

- 1. Letter from A. R. Wallace, Esq., F.R.G.S., the late explorer of the Rio Negro, to Dr. Shaw, dated Saráwak, Nov. 1854, giving an account of Singapore and Malacca, as far as Mount Ophir, on his way to Borneo.
- 2. Meteorological Observations made during a passage from London to Algoa Bay, by Dr. P. C. Sutherland, F.R.G.S.
- 3. Extracts of a Letter from the Rev. Dr. Rebmann to the Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, dated Kisuludini, in Rabbai, S.E. Africa.
- 4. On the Coast Survey of South Africa, by Thomas Maclear, Esq., H. M.'s Astronomer at the Cape of Good Hope. Communicated by the late Sir George Cathcart.
- 5. Notice on the Departure of Mr. Thomas Baines (the Artist) and Mr. J. S. Wilson (the Geologist) of the North Australian Expedition, in the Royal Mail Ship 'Blue Jacket.'

Eighth Ordinary Meeting, March 12, 1855.

Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the Chair.

J. James Galloway, Esq.; Sir John Login; Andrew Maclure, Esq.; and James Pilkington, Esq., M.P., were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were—

- 1. Journey from El-Medina to Mecca, down the "Darb-el-Sharki," on the Eastern Road (hitherto unvisited by Europeans), by Lieut. Richard F. Burton.
- Memoranda on Abyssinia. Communicated by the Foreign Office.
 Account of a Tour up the Gambia to Salum, by J. Smyth O'Connor, Esq., Governor. Communicated by the Colonial Office.

Ninth Ordinary Meeting, March 26, 1855.

The President, the EARL of ELLESMERE, K.G., in the Chair.

Richard Edward Arden, Esq., and Laurence Oliphant, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were-

1. Extract of a Letter received by Admiral Smyth from Admiral Mathieu, on the progress of the Survey in the Straits of Gibraltar.

2. Traces of Leichhardt's Expedition in Australia, and rumours of the existence of Mr. B. Boyd on the Island of Guadalcanar. Commu-

nicated by Capt. P. P. King, R.N., F.R.G.S.

3. Report on a Group of Islands seen in the Southern Ocean, by Capt. J. S. Hutton, commanding the Merchant Ship 'Earl of Eglintoun' of Glasgow. Communicated by J. G. Frith, Esq., F.R.G.S.

4. Despatch from Loanda, respecting Dr. Livingston's Exploration

of Central Africa. Communicated by Consul Brand.

Tenth Ordinary Meeting, April 23, 1855.

The President, the EARL of ELLESMERE, K.G., in the Chair.

Viscount Brackley; the Hon. and Rev. C. Harris; Daniel John May, Esq., R.N.; Capt. R. Le M. M'Clure, R.N.; Dr. W. B. Baikie, R.N.; Robert O'Byrne, Esq.; and Thomas F. Robinson, Esq., were elected Fellows.

The President directed the attention of the Fellows to a number of beautiful Sketches, bequeathed to the Society by the late Dr. Kirk, of the Bombay Army, made when engaged on the Survey of the Red Sea, and when attached to the Mission under Sir William Harris to the Court of Shoa in Southern Abyssinia; and also to an Atlas, by M. Jomard of Paris, entitled "Les Monumens de la Géographie," &c., exhibited by Messrs. Williams and Norgate.

Sir Roderick Murchison explained the cause of the delay in the erection of the Monument to the memory of Lieut. Bellot, which he said arose from the difficulty in procuring sufficiently large blocks of granite for the purpose. He next exhibited the drawing of the Obelisk intended to be raised on the Quay at Greenwich, which he stated would be 32 feet high, and 4 feet at its base. Sir Roderick, regretting that the Monument had not been completed, more especially on account of the recent visit of the Emperor and Empress of France, was glad to announce that, after paying the cost of its erection, a surplus of about 1500% would be left for the provision of the five sisters of the gallant Frenchman, a portion of which had already been devoted to that object.

The Papers read were—

1. "Commercial Notes on the State of California," by G. Aikin, Esq., H. M.'s Consul at San Francisco.

2. Letter addressed by Dr. Vogel to Consul Herman, dated Kuka, Sept. 15, 1854; and,

3. Letter addressed by Dr. Barth, dated Kano, Nov. 1854, to Vice-Consul Gagliuffi. Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G.

4. Letter from Lieut. Burton, addressed to the Secretary, from Aden, announcing his return from Hurrur in Abyssinia.

5. Account of the late Earthquake at Brussa, by Consul Sandison. Communicated by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G.

Eleventh Ordinary Meeting, May 14, 1855.

Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Professor H. W. Acland, M.D.; W. H. G. Kingston, Esq.; Thomas Sopwith, Esq.; and Capt. James Wood, R.N., were elected Fellows.

The Chairman, in the absence, from indisposition, of the President, the Earl of Ellesmere, announced to the Meeting that the Geographical Society of Paris had very courteously transmitted to the Council, through its Vice-President, M. de la Roquette, three Medals for presentation to three Fellows of this Society, to whom they had been awarded by the French Geographers. To Capt. R. M'Clure, R.N., the Gold Medal had been awarded for his discovery of the North-West Passage; to Capt. Inglefield, R.N., a Silver Medal had been awarded for his discoveries in the Arctic Regions; and to Mr. Francis Galton a Silver Medal had been awarded for his explorations in the Namaqua, Damara, and Ovampo countries, northward of the Orange River, in South-Western Africa.

The Papers read were-

- 1. Notes on the Passage of Hannibal across the Alps; and on the Valley of Beaufort, in Upper Savoy. By Prof. Paul Chaix, of Geneva, Corresp. f.r.g.s.
- 2. On the Frontier Tribes of the Punjab, west of the Indus, with a Sketch Map, by Lieut. James Sykes, 2nd Regiment Punjab Infantry. Communicated by Col. Sykes.
- 3. Copies of Letters from Drs. Barth and Vogel, respecting the progress of the Central African Mission.

Attention was directed to the 24th Vol. of the Journal, recently published; and in adjourning the Meeting to the 28th inst., the Chairman remarked that the Anniversary of the Society would on that day be held at 1 P.M., when the President would deliver his Address on the "Progress of Geographical Discovery" during the past Year; and in the Evening the usual Anniversary Dinner would take place at Willis's Rooms, at 7 P.M.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 1 P.M., MAY 28, 1855.

The President, the Earl of Ellesmere, K.G., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed. The Regulations respecting the Anniversary Meetings were next read, when the President appointed John Brown and Frederick Hindmarsh, Esqrs., Scrutineers for the Ballot.

William T. Baher, Esq., Lieut. Brit. Lgt. Infantry; John Chapman, Esq.; and Charles Edmonstone, Esq., were proposed as Candidates for Election at the next Meeting.

The Report of the Council, with the Balance-sheet for 1854, and the Estimate for 1855, was then read and adopted, with the additional clause to the Rules and Regulations contained in Act 6 and 7 Victoria, c. 36, viz. "That the Society shall not and may not make any dividend, gift, division, or bonus in money unto or between any of its Members."

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The President next delivered the Patron's Gold Medal to the Rev. Dr. Tidman, Secretary to the London Missionary Society, as the representative of the Rev. Dr. Livingston, for his Explorations in Africa, between Lake Ngami and the Portuguese settlements on the West Coast; and a Testimonial of the value of Twenty-five Guineas in Surveying Instruments, bearing a suitable inscription, to Mr. Charles John Andersson, for his Travels in South-Western Africa, as laid down in his Route-Map, communicated to the Society. The Anniversary Address having been read, a unanimous Vote of Thanks was passed, with a request that the President would allow the Address to be printed.

The Ballot being concluded, the Scrutineers reported that the changes advised by the Council had been adopted, and the President accordingly announced that the following gentlemen were elected to fill the vacancies in the Council:—

President.—Rear-Admiral F. W. Beechey, f.R.s., &c. &c.

Vice-Presidents.—Sir George Back, R.N., D.C.L., F.R.S.; the Earl of Ellesmere, K.G., D.C.L., F.S.A., F.R.A.S., &c. &c.; Sir Roderick I. Murchison, G.C.St.S., M.A., D.C.L., F.R.S., &c., &c., &c.; Rear-Admiral W. H. Smyth, K.S.F., D.G.L., F.R.S., &c. &c.

Treasurer.—Robert Biddulph, Esq.

Trustees.—Sir Geo. T. Staunton, Bart., f.r.s.; W. R. Hamilton, Esq., f.r.s.

Honorary Secretaries.—Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart., M.A., and Thomas Hodgkin, Esq., M.D., &c.

Council.—John Arrowsmith, Esq.; R.-Admiral Sir F. Beaufort, K.C.B., F.R.S.; Thomas H. Brooking, Esq.; Col. G. Everest, F.R.S.; Francis Galton, Esq.; W. J. Hamilton, Esq., F.R.S., Pres. g.S.; Lt.-Col. J. H. Lefroy, R.A., F.R.S.; Richard Monckton Milnes, Esq., M.P.; W. Cotton Oswell, Esq.; Lord Overstone, M.A.; Col. J. E. Portlock, R.E., F.R.S.; the Earl of Sheffield; E. Osborne Smith, Esq., F.S.A.; the Earl Somers; Lord Stanley, M.P., D.C.L.; Thomas Staveley, Esq. (Foreign Office); Count P. E. de Strzelecki, C.B., F.R.S.; Col. W. H. Sykes, F.R.S.

The thanks of the Meeting having been voted to the retiring *President, Vice-Presidents*, Members of the *Council, Auditors*, and *Scrutineers*, the President finally directed the attention of the Meeting to the usual Anniversary Dinner, and the Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Twelfth Ordinary Meeting, June 11, 1855.

Sir George Back, R.N., Vice-President, in the Chair.

William T. Baker, Esq., Lt. Brit. Lgt. Infantry; John Chapman, Esq.; Rev. N. Davis; Charles Edmonstone, Esq.; William S. Lindsay, Esq., M.r.; W. S. Orr, Esq.; and R.-Admiral James Scott, were elected Fellows.

The Papers read were—

1. Narrative of a Trip to Harar, in the Somali Country, North-Eastern Horn of Africa, by Lieut. R. Burton, Bombay Army.

- 2. On the Coal Formation of the Province of Conception, in Chile, S. America; and,
- 3. On the Meteoric Iron of Atacama, by William Bollaert, Esq., F.R.G.S.

On the table was exhibited an interesting collection of articles brought home by Mr. Bollaert, who had recently returned from S. America, including specimens of the strata, coal, and fossils, from the coal-fields of Loto in Chile; also of the first fossil bones discovered in Chile, and a fine collection of ancient Peruvian pottery and antiquarian remains of textile fabrics, ornaments, utensils, weapons, &c.; likewise specimens of meteoric iron found in various parts of the Desert of Atacama.

Thirteenth Ordinary Meeting, June 25, 1855.

Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the Chair.

W. G. E. Hobbs, Esq.; W. Jackson, Esq., M.P.; Major F. Kane; W. A. Mackinnon, Esq., M.P.; T. Y. Pringle, Esq.; Dr. John Simpson, M.D., R.N.; and Earl Stanhope, were elected Fellows.

An interesting collection of Geological specimens, brought by Capt. Collinson from the Arctic Regions, was exhibited on the Table; and a series of beautiful Sketches of the Sandwich Islands, &c., by Mr. Sawkins, was likewise displayed.

The Papers read were—

- 1. On the Volcanic Mountains of Hawaii, Sandwich Islands, by J. G. Sawkins, Esq. Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, v.p.r.g.s.
- 2. Capt. Collinson, R.N., on the Geographical Results of his late researches in the Arctic Regions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Twenty-fifth Meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Glasgow, September 12th to 20th, 1855.

(Section E, Geography and Ethnology.)

President.—Sir John Richardson, M.D., F.R.S., F.R.G.S.

Vice-Presidents.—Admiral Beechey, Pres.R.G.S.; A.K. Johnston, F.R.G.S.; Sir R. I. Murchison; General Sir Charles Pasley.

Secretaries.—Norton Shaw, M.D., Sec. Royal Geograph. Soc.; RICHARD CULL, Hon. Sec. Ethnol. Soc.; W. G. BLACKIE, PH. D., F.R.G.S.

Committee.—Capt. Allen, R.N., F.R.G.S.; Sir E. Belcher, R.N., C.B., F.R.G.S.; Dr. Bigsby, F.R.G.S.; Consul Brand, F.R.G.S.; John Brown, F.R.G.S.; Prince Lucien Buonaparte; W. Camps, M.D.; Captain Collinson, R.N., F.R.G.S.; Charles Darwin, F.R.G.S.; Professor Milne Edwards; Alexander J. Ellis, B.A.; William Ewing; Rev. John Gemmel, M.A.; the Earl of Harrowby, F.R.G.S.; F. Hindmarsh, F.R.G.S.; Dr. Hume; Dr. John Lee, F.R.G.S.; the Lord Provost of Glasgow; James M'Clelland; John Macnab, F.R.G.S.; Joseph Mayer; R. Monckton Milnes, M.P., F.R.G.S.; Dr. Oppert, of Paris; Consul Harry Parkes, F.R.G.S.; Alex-

ANDER PECKOVER, F.R.G.S.; Sir James Ramsay, Bart., F.R.G.S.; Professor W. Ramsay; Colonel Rawlinson, F.R.G.S.; George Rennie, F.R.G.S.; Professor Retzius; Staff-Surgeon P. Robertson, F.R.G.S.; Colonel Sabine, F.R.G.S.; Rev. Dr. Scoresby; James Smith of Jordan Hill, F.R.G.S.; John Smith of Bombay, F.R.G.S.; J. J. Stainton; Colonel Sykes, F.R.G.S.; John King Watts, F.R.G.S.; Dr. Whewell, F.R.G.S.; Thomas Wright, M.A.; J. B. Yates, F.R.G.S.

- 1. Dr. W. Balfour Baikie, R.N., F.R.G.S.—Report of the late Expedition up the Niger and Chadda Rivers.
- 2. Richard Cull.—On some Water-Colour Portraits of Natives of Van Diemen's Land.
- 3. Dr. Barth.—Description of Timbuctù, its Population, Commerce, &c.
- 4. George Frere, Esq., F.R.G.S.—Despatch to the Earl of Clarendon, relating to Mr. C. J. Andersson's Journey to Lake Ngami.
 - 5. C. J. Andersson.—Late Explorations in Africa.
- 6. Rev. Francis Fleming, M.A., F.R.G.S.—Journey across the Rivers of British Kaffraria.
 - 7. J. B. Davis, F.S.A. On the Skulls of the Ancient Romans.
- 8. Rev. John Gemmel, M.A.—On the Decyphering of Inscriptions on two Seals found by Mr. Layard at Koyunjik.
- 9. Dr. Julius Oppert.—On the Results of the French Scientific Expedition to Babylon.
- 10. Professor Retzius of Stockholm.—On Celtic, Sclavic, and Aztec Crania.
- 11. Col. Sykes, F.R.S., F.R.G.S.—On the Survey of the Himalayan Mountains, by Messrs. Schlagintweit.
- 12. Sir B. F. Outram, C.B., F.R.G.S.—Hartlepool Pier and Port as a Harbour of Refuge.
- 13. Lieut. Burton, Bombay Army.—An Account of a Visit to Medina from Suez, by way of Jambo.
- 14. Joseph Boult, Esq.—On Periodical Engineering Surveys of Tidal Harbours, illustrated by a Comparison of the Surveys of the River Mersey, by the late Francis Giles, c.e., and the Marine Surveys of the Port.
- 15. The Earl of Harrowby, F.R.G.S.—Report of the Mersey Inquiry
- 16. Mr. Consul Parkes, F.R.G.S.—Notes on the Hindo-Chinese Nations and Siamese Rivers, with an Account of Sir John Bowring's Mission to Siam.
- 17. Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N.—Notes on the recent Arctic Expeditions.
- 18. Sir Edward Belcher, R.N., F.R.G.S.—Remarks on the several completions of the North-West Passage, by the Officers of the last Expeditions (Collinson's, Belcher's).
- 19. James N. Ramsay, Student of Christ Church, Oxon.—Short Account of an Ascent of Mont Blanc, by a New Route from the side of Italy.
 - 20. Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.—On the Ethnology of

England at the extinction of the Roman Government in the Island; and on Inscriptions in unknown Characters on Roman pottery discovered in England.

21. Charles Roach Smith, Esq., F.S.A.—Remarks on a Roman sepulchral Inscription found in a Saxon vase in the Faussett Collection.

- 22. Consul Brand, F.R.G.S.—Notes on the Portuguese Possessions of S. W. Africa.
- 23. Rev. Dr. Livingston.—Extracts from Letters dated Pungo Andongo, and St. Paul de Loanda, describing his Journey across Tropical Africa.
- 24. Señor A. Poey of the Havana.—Hurricanes in the West Indies and the North Atlantic, from 1493 to 1855.
- 25. John Crawfurd, Esq., f.R.G.S.—On the different Centres of Civilization.
- 26. J. M. Inskip, Esq.—An Account of the Exploration of the Isthmus of Darien, under Captain Prevost, R.N.
- 27. Captain Robertson.—Ascent of the Mountain Suméru Parbut, situated at the source of the Jumna.
- 28. Richard Cull, Esq.—On the Complexion and Hair of the Ancient Egyptians.
- 29. Señor Susini.—The Amazon and the Atlantic Water-courses of South America.
 - 30. G. Edmonds, Esq.—On a Philosophic Universal Language.
- 31. A. J. Ellis, Esq.—On a New Universal Alphabet, composed of ordinary Types, for the Use of Ethnologists.
- 32. James Gall, Jun., Edinburgh.—On Improved Monographic Projections of the World, with Illustrative Maps and Diagrams.
- 33. Thomas C. Archer, Esq.—On one of the Coins used on the West Coast of Africa, having an Ethnological bearing.
- 34. Richard Cull.—On the Manual of Ethnology and the Ethnology of Samoa.

The next meeting of the British Association will be held at Cheltenham.