EXCURSION TO AYOT AND WELWYN.

JULY 5TH, 1902.

Directors: JOHN HOPKINSON, F.G.S., A. INST. C.E., AND
A. E. SALTER, B.Sc., F.G.S.

Excursion Secretary: HENRY BASSETT, JNR., B.Sc.

(*Report by MR. SALTER.*)

HAVING arrived at Ayot Station, the sections in the brickyard close by were examined. Mr. Hopkinson described the Woolwich and Reading Beds, which are here false-bedded, and also show contortions due to the dissolution of the Chalk which lies immediately below. The London Clay was not well shown, but good sections of drift gravel and clay above the Tertiaries gave abundant scope for an animated discussion, in which the President, W. H. Hudleston, and the Directors joined. Blocks of Hertfordshire Conglomerate, quartz, etc., were seen on the floor of the pit. The drift clay seemed to be made up of disturbed London Clay, in which local material from the subjacent gravels and Chalk were mixed. *Gryphæa dilatata* from the upper portion was obtained.

A walk then followed to Welwyn, where tea was procured at the White Hart Hotel, after which two sections of gravel in the Mimram valley were examined and the great difference in the character of its constituents from that of the gravel previously seen at Ayot was pointed out.

Pebbles of various igneous rocks were readily found, having probably been washed out of Boulder-Clay farther up the valley. Mr. Salter had previously found a Palæolithic implement in one of the pits, but not one was obtained on this occasion.

The viaduct of the G.N.R. at Digswell was pointed out as showing to what extent the valley of the Mimram had been excavated in comparatively recent times.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Directors brought an interesting excursion to a close, and the party took the 6.44 p.m. train to London.

REFERENCES.

- Geological Survey Map. Sheet 46, S.E. 3s.
Ordnance Survey Map (new series). Sheet 239.
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1886. HOPKINSON, J.—“Excursion to Welwyn.” *Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, vol. ix, p. 534.
1890. PRESTWICH, J.—“On the Relation of the Westleton Beds to those of Norfolk, etc.” *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.*, vol. xlv.