

tions of the Australian drawings was prepared for publication by Mr. Britten and issued by the Trustees of the Museum a few years back. Some of the various important collections acquired by Banks were also exhibited, including Hermann's Herbarium of Ceylon plants, on which Linnæus based his "Flora Zeylanica"; the Gronovian Herbarium, containing Clayton's Virginian plants, collected in the eighteenth century, on which many of Linnæus's descriptions are based; the herbaria of George Clifford, of whose garden plants Linnæus published an account in his "Hortus Cliffertianus," and Philip Miller, the types of his "Gardeners Dictionary," as well as the plants of Alexander and Patrick Russell, collected in Aleppo toward the end of the eighteenth century; and the important specimens, with the drawings of Father Kamel, who collected in the Philippines at the same period. The collections made by John and George Forster during Cook's Second Voyage (1772-5) in Australia and the Pacific Islands, with the drawings made by the latter, and the Herbarium of Thomas Walter, containing types of his "Flora Caroliniana" were also shown.

In conclusion, Mr. Britten gave a sketch of the work of Daniel Solander and Jonas Dryander, who were successively librarians to Banks, and whose MSS. form an important addition to the Herbarium. Their connection with the publications of the day, such as Aiton's "Hortus Kewensis," was shown, and stress was laid on the fact that they were content to work without any anxiety for publication. This tradition was carried on by the great Robert Brown, the exhibition and explanation of whose admirable Australian collections and manuscripts brought the demonstration to a conclusion.

The demonstration was attended and much appreciated by about thirty members, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Britten on the motion of the President.

EXCURSION TO EAST WICKHAM.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD, 1907.

Director : A. L. LEACH.

Excursion Secretary : A. C. YOUNG.

(*Report by THE DIRECTOR.*)

THIS Excursion had been arranged with the object of visiting the chalk-mines below Gregory's brickfield mentioned in the report of the excursion to this locality on April 28th, 1906 (*Proc. Geol. Assoc.*, vol. xix, pp. 341-345), but this was not possible since,

contrary to expectation, the chalk-mine has not been opened this winter.

A large part of the chalk raised in 1906 still remains in stock and until it is used up no work will be done in the mine. The proprietor has, however, kindly promised to allow a party to go down as soon as work in the mine is resumed next winter.

All those who had, in compliance with the request in the Circular, notified to the Excursion Secretary their intention of attending the Excursion, duly received notice that the Tertiary and Chalk sections in the East Wickham valley would be visited instead of the mine. A party of 13 met at Plumstead and the excursion of last April was practically repeated.

The sections were in very good order and the weather was all that could be desired for our first field excursion of 1907.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Director.

EXCURSION TO PLYMOUTH, EASTER, 1907.

Director : W. A. E. USSHER, F.G.S.

Excursion Secretary : G. E. DIBLEY.

(*Report by* THE DIRECTOR.)

THE members assembled at Plymouth on Thursday, March 28th, and took up their quarters at Farley's Hotel.

Friday, March 29th.—Favoured by splendid weather the party, numbering 49, proceeded to the starting place for the Turnchapel steamboats. Whilst waiting for the boat the Director gave a short address on the early readings of the Devonian section. The Devonian limestones were the first member of the series to receive special attention. The Plymouth limestone was described by Hennah in the early part of the nineteenth century and later on Lonsdale assigned to the limestones a position between the Carboniferous and Silurian, as a marine equivalent to the Old Red Sandstone. Sedgwick and Murchison extended this correlation to the pre-carboniferous slates and grits in which the limestones occurred, thus establishing the Devonian System and including in it the Palæozoic rocks which emerged in North and South Devon from beneath the central trough of Culm Measures which they had shown to be the main structure of Devon. Owing to the north and south post-carboniferous contraction, called the Armorican movement, proceeding from the south the axes of the folds were bent northward on either side of the Culm trough. This fact favoured the normal descending succession of the rocks of the