

Early Science at Oxford.

April 27, 1686. The Society gave Mr. Musgrave their thanks for ye care and paynes he has taken in executing the office of Secretary.

Dr. Bagley's letter of Nov. 26th. 1683, and Dr. Tyson's of December 6th., both concerning ye *Lumbricus latus* were read.

Dr. Smith communicated part of a letter from France, wherein some mention was made of young dogs recovered from drowning, by some salts.

Mr. Musgrave communicated a Discourse which he received from a freind of his concerning *Dyalling*: Mr Caswell was desired to give the Society some account of it the next meeting.

1687. Mr. President was pleased to communicate a Discourse concerning the Regulation of Easter, for 2000 years, and the moveable feasts according to the computation of the Church of England.

Mr. Caswell gave an account of some bodys weighed hydrostatically, by weighing them in aer and water. 'Twas observ'd by him that the Calculus humanus is lighter in specie than any known sort of Stones.

April 28, 1685. A Letter from Mr. William Molyneux dated Dublin April 4 was read; in it was contained a Transcript of Sir William Petty's *Suppelleæ Philosophica*, as it was presented to the Dublin Society, which also was read, and the thanks of ye Society ordered to be returned for it.

Mr. Aston communicated an account of ye Curiosities brought from Ceylon by Dr. Heerman, Professor of Botanics at Leyden.

A Letter from Dr. Pierce of Bath dated April 11 was read; it gave a farther relation of the Evets found alive in ye middle of a stone.—Dr. Cole of Worcester then described a case of Haemophoria, after which Mr. Bainbrig affirm'd, that ye little end of a Dutch Tobacco-pipe (ye piece about 2 inches in length) having been thrust into ye bladder by a Boy was cut out, and is now to be seen at Leyden.

A Letter from Mr. Aston was read containing a proposall of Dr. Lister's of cutting for ye stone by entering ye Abdomen a little above ye Os Pubis, and opening the ffund of the bladder; on which account Mr. Bainbrig informed the Society, that one, Colbron, a Chirurgion at Haysham in Sussex, has taken out the stone of the bladder this way with successe. Mr. Bainbrig is desired by the Society to procure a full Relation of the particulars of this Operation; and Mr. Pigot is desired to try ye Experiment on a Dog.

April 29, 1684. Mr. President, takeing ye chair, gave order for ye reading of a letter dated April 24, from Mr. Aston; which affirmed, that ye experiment of makeing Plaister of Paris perspicuous, by striking turpentine thro it, was tried, and succeeded, before ye Royall Society. The substance mentiond in ye Minutes of Aprill ye 15th, and sometimes supposd to be a petrified heel of a shooe, breaking when bor'd; ye peices of it were produced, and judged to have been *always* stone: This gave occasion to some discourse, concerning such stones as are of a shape resembling some other body in nature, and are not found in beds, of which sort ye stone now mentiond is an example: and Dr. Plott acquainted ye Society, that he found a stone in Staffordshire in form like ye *heart* of a pullet; having lines in it, answering to ye coronary vessells of that muscle.

A Letter from Dr. Huntingdon to Dr. Plott, concerning ye porphyry pillars in Ægypt, was read: in it were enclosed ye draughts of two Pillars taken in that place. This letter being written at ye request of this Society, it was order'd that our thanks should be returnd to Dr. Huntingdon for this obligation.

Societies and Academies.

LONDON.

Geological Society, March 11.—O. T. Jones: The geology of the Llandovery district (Carmarthenshire). The district lies east of the town of Llandovery, and extends for about 10 miles from north-east to south-west. It is divisible into a northern area and a southern area. In each area the succession is fairly complete, but in between them it is greatly attenuated. In proceeding from south to north, certain lithological changes have been noted in the Lower Llandovery. The fauna in the rocks appears in the main to have been drifted into the area from an adjoining tract, lying probably nearer to the shore-line. In addition to the differential subsidence and uplift along lines trending north-east and south-west, there is evidence of repeated elevation and depression along nearly east-and-west axes. The axes of these transverse movements appear to have persisted during the whole of the Llandovery epoch, but there is no evidence of them in the Wenlock rocks.—G. Andrew: (1) The Llandovery and associated rocks of Garth (Breconshire). The Llandovery rocks lie north-west of Garth railway station, and extend from there in the direction of Newbridge. The Lower Llandovery rocks overlie the Bala with a sharp boundary, but with apparent conformity. The Middle Llandovery occurs in one small outcrop in the centre of the area, and is rapidly overstepped by the Upper Llandovery in both directions. The Upper Llandovery consists of two types, a lower comprising sandy mudstones with *Pentamerus oblongus*, etc., and an upper of pale mudstones ("Tarannon Pale Shales"). (2) The relations between the Llandovery rocks of Llandovery and those of Garth. At Garth, as at Llandovery, the Lower and Middle Llandovery rocks are overstepped both north and south by Upper Llandovery or Wenlock deposits. At Garth they crop out in an elongated oval area; at Llandovery they form two roughly oval areas. The Middle Llandovery and the higher divisions of the Lower Llandovery are represented only in the central regions. These distributions are due to the fact that differential movements along nearly east-and-west axes (that is, transversely to the present strike) were in progress during the Llandovery epoch. The regions where the older Llandovery rocks are most complete were regions of persistent subsidence. The axes of elevation in both areas cross the present strike at practically regular intervals of about 5 miles, and the areas of subsidence are situated nearly midway between them.

Linnean Society, March 19.—S. Hirst: Species of mites of the family Trombididæ found on lizards. When more than one form occurs on the same host, a flattened form lives under the scales, and a rounded form between the toes or toe pads. In view of the considerable differences in the shape of the setæ, etc., these are regarded at present as distinct species.—Mrs. Muriel Roach: A study of the physiology of certain soil algæ in pure culture. Although a very few species carried on the synthesis of organic substance from carbon-dioxide and water through the agency of sunlight, the great majority of those studied grew much better when supplied with an additional source of carbon, glucose being especially favourable to many species. A single species was selected for a more detailed investigation of the effect of different organic substances on its growth in liquid media. The alga was able to grow in complete darkness, given a suitable supply of food, at about half the rate that it grew in the same medium in the light. The logarithmic values of the bulk for the first nine