

of uninterrupted and increasing prosperity, and to him more than to any single individual is it owing that it has been the means of conferring such incalculable benefit on the town.

He was thoroughly imbued with the enlightened and progressive spirit of the age, and always held broad and liberal views on the great questions of the day, and as a member of the Common Council, and other public bodies in Alnwick, he never failed to take an honourable, active, and distinguished part in the affairs of the town.

Penetrated with an ardent love of the sciences, he made Geology his particular study, and became the expositor of the geological structure of the Border-country. With equal ardour he gave his mind to Archæology. His learned and interesting treatise on the "Ancient British Sculptured Rocks of Northumberland and the Eastern Borders," and the excellent papers on Geology and Archæology which he has contributed to the "Transactions of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club," in which society he held the post of Hon. Secretary, must be well known to many of our readers.

But it is as the historian of his native town that he has achieved his chief claim to distinction. The "History of the Borough, Castle, and Barony of Alnwick," the fruit of many years of study and preparation, was completed in 1869, in commemoration of which he was presented with an address, a silver tea and coffee service, and a purse containing 100 guineas, by his fellow-townsmen, aided by many gentlemen connected with the district, and who might be regarded as the representatives of the science of the Border-counties, and also by some few men of high eminence in other parts of the country.

No candid critic will deny the right of this work to take rank amongst the best local histories extant, and as a standard authority that must be resorted to on all subsequent occasions. It is characterized by vast research, conscientious labour, and a sound critical judgment in the weighing of facts and evidence. Its greatest merit is the nobility and independence of soul which is displayed throughout.

Mr. Tate was not only remarkable for versatility of mind, but was gifted with great powers of oratory, and as a lecturer few men were his equal. A man without ambition, happy in public esteem, and imbued with a love for his own native district, having no claim upon it for rank, wealth, or power, he was content to live in it all his life, and to devote himself to the illustration of its history.

In appreciation of his eminent literary and scientific attainments, several learned societies had accorded to him the honorary distinction of Corresponding Member. He joined the Geological Society of London in 1843.

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ERRATA in GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, June, 1871, p. 267, lines 43 *et sequi*, for "but in the granitic-felstone the rock is often thin, very fine or coarse," etc., etc., read "but in the granitic-felstone the rock is often in thin, very fine, or coarse bands, striping the rock, like ribbon, they differing, etc., etc."—At p. 247, line 20 from foot, for " ; their," read ". The".