



THE GEOLOGIST;

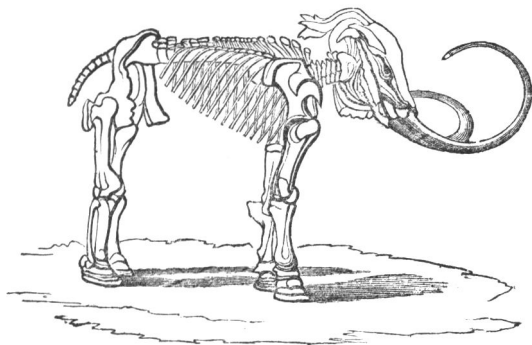
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OF

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EDITED BY S. J. MACKIE, F.G.S., F.S.A.



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PREFACE.

THERE is one pleasure this leaf of my volume yearly affords me which to me is more grateful than any other reward I can reap from my many labours of the year gone by—the right to express my own heartfelt good wishes to my own many good friends. I wish them all happiness again, as I hope to do for many a long year to come,—even when my faltering pen shall be nerveless to express it.

For myself, I write somewhat sadly mindful of many short-comings. Goaded by my own impetuous wishes, I have sometimes promised more than time and physical strength would permit me to perform. This is my regret. But these short-comings are my own. The volume which this number closes is not less rich in valuable and novel articles than any that have preceded it. Its pages and its plates and illustrations are far more numerous—and last, not least, my list of friends and contributors is larger and more numerous too. To Professor Owen, Mr. Salter, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Prestwich, Mr. Pengelly, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hull, Mr. Wynne, Mr. Drake, the Rev. Mr. Symonds, the Rev. Mr. Fisher, Mr. Whitaker, Dr. Hector, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Powrie, Mr. Marston, Mr. Markham, the Rev. Dr. Anderson, Mr. Macalister, Mr. Charles Moore, Mr. Salmon, Mr. C. Pratt, Lt. Hutton, Col. Nelson, Admiral Wauchope, Mr. Whiteaves, Mr. G. W. Stow, Dr. Rubidge, Mr. James Wyatt, Mr. C. C. Blake, Mr. J. Yates, Mr. Seeley, Mr. Plant, Mr. Sorby, Mr. T. Rupert Jones, Professor Ramsay, and Mrs. Acworth, my special thanks are

due, and to many others I would wish to make personal acknowledgment if space allowed.

The space devoted to correspondence gives a means of freely discussing any important topic without rendering the Editor, or the Magazine, responsible for the opinions expressed. The beneficial influences of the free scope thus given to the expression of opinion must already have become evident to all, and the advantages of some of the other changes made in the arrangement of the Magazine must likewise be apparent.

Notwithstanding the necessity of increasing the price in order to ensure the permanent commercial stability of the journal, our circulation has materially increased—a satisfactory and convincing proof of the increased usefulness of the work, and the friendship of the geological public towards it.

From Sir Roderick Murchison, Sir Charles Lyell, and other eminent geologists, I have received flattering encouragement; and it is much to be able to say that men of such eminence regard with interest the success of this publication as a valuable medium of communication, and as an important means for the accumulation of new facts.

The arrangements made for the forthcoming year, while they in no way diminish my personal interest in the Magazine, will provide against those unavoidable impediments which ill-health and ever-increasing professional engagements put in the way of my individual attention to the details of publication.

For the future, however, we will make no promises at all; but we hope ever to be judged by results attained.

S. J. MACKIE.

London, 1st December, 1861.