The early history of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall 1814-1850

Thesis

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DENISE ANNE CROOK
BA, BSc (Econ)

THE EARLY HISTORY
OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL:
1814-1850

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9 CONCLUSIONS

An assessment of the geological work of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall has been made in the previous section, and it is now appropriate to try to sum up some other aspects of the early history of the institution. Some of the reasons for embarking on a study of the Penzance society were suggested in the Introduction, one being to compare its origins and early work with those of some of the other provincial institutions founded earlier in the century. It has been shown that there were significant areas of difference between the RGSC and certain other societies, especially those in the industrial areas of northern England. Religious dissent was not important to the Geological Society's development, and it was a specialist society at a time when most learned societies were more general Lit and Phils.

The religious affiliations of members have been described in earlier sections, and it has been shown that, with only a few exceptions, dissenters were not important to the establishment or continuation of the society, and that the concept of the legitimation of marginal men will not apply in this particular case. The majority of the early members of the RGSC belonged to the established church, but religion was not an important reason for their involvement in the scientific activity of the society, nor were the interactions between geology and religion matters of particular concern to the majority (see p.114).

Radical politics were not a feature of Cornish life either,
and did not affect the affairs of the society. No members of the society have been identified as being active in this field (with the exception of those who were already Members of Parliament). Cornwall had always been well represented in national political life, with over forty Members of Parliament. A number of local members were Whigs, or liberals, and there were fewer of the pressures for reform similar to those experienced by the new towns like Manchester and Birmingham, which had no parliamentary representatives, and where there was a firm connection between membership of a learned society and radical political views. Penzance, although an ancient Borough, never had its own representative, but this seems not to have been too much of a disadvantage, for when the town's problems required action by Parliament, there was invariably an MP living locally who would represent it; Davies Gilbert, Member for Bodmin, was an example, for he took up the matter of Penzance harbour dues in 1817, assisting with the passage of a bill through the House of Commons. The mining community was not noted for its participation in political or union affairs, and Chartism hardly affected Cornwall. The independence of miners is often cited as the reason for this.

There were however areas where there was more agreement between the aims of the Cornish Geological Society and those of similar provincial societies; these will be discussed in the sections below.

9.1 Practical science, laboratories and the mining industry

It was proposed in the Introduction that a study of the soc-
iety could help to highlight some of the differences between provincial and metropolitan science. One area in which there were considerable differences between London and the societies outside the capital can be found in their attitude to utilitarian science. In this context, utilitarian science is understood to mean science which could be applied to the problems of industry or agriculture; this was usually intended to bring about increased profitability, but sometimes measures were also proposed to improve the conditions in which the working classes laboured. On the whole, the provincial societies had a greater tendency to favour these studies than had the major London institutions. The Geological Society of London was becoming dominantly an institution for gentlemanly geology, more interested in the elucidation of the problems of stratigraphy, than in the application of geology to the extractive industries. As argued in the previous section, the Geological Society of London was an institution that the RGSC tended to look to as a model. The emphasis in the RGSC was however strongly practical in its first few years; as will be shown below, this was most probably the result of Paris's influence. Some instances which demonstrate the practical slant of the society now need to be examined, in particular the laboratory and the society's relationship with the mining industry.

It is clear from the society's records that Paris set up a laboratory for the RGSC at a very early stage in its history. It is not known whether this was housed on the premises which the society first rented in the autumn of 1814, or whether
Paris used his own home, or possibly even a room at the Dispensary. (The RGSC had found a temporary home in the Dispensary room in April 1814,¹⁰ which it continued to use until arrangements were made to rent a former hotel in the Market Place in October of the same year (see Figure 20).¹¹) Some equipment was purchased to be used for mineralogical analyses, for the Minute Book recorded a request for a goniometer (for measuring crystal angles) and the acquisition of a Voltaic battery.¹² The absence of details about the society's finances in early Annual Reports makes it impossible to discover how much else might have been purchased for the laboratory, although Henry Boase had reported in September 1814 that expenditure on "mineralogical apparatus" and other items had been "great".¹³ The laboratory does not appear to have been much used, although it is possible that not all records have been preserved. The only remaining record among the society's documents is the Soil Analysis Book, which contained only two entries, one of which was incomplete; both were in Paris's handwriting.¹⁴ In July 1814, it was reported that a "pulverulent white mineral", presented by Majendie, would "shortly be subjected to Chemical analysis".¹⁵ Paris also made an analysis of a well near Penzance, which he described as a "Chalybeate spring" in A Guide to the Mount's Bay, perhaps hoping that it would be an additional inducement to encourage invalid visitors to the area.¹⁶

In 1817 the society announced its plans for a Professor of Geology (see p. 102). These included the proposition that the person appointed should perform mineral analyses, although for whom these were designed to be made was not clarified. It was
PENZANCE.

Figure 20a Penzance c.1818 showing the top of Market Jew Street and the hotel occupied by the RGSC 1814-18, from: Paris. A Guide to Mounts Bay, 2nd ed. p.20

Figure 20b Geological House, 10 North Parade; rented by the RGSC 1818-67
also intended that a laboratory should be included within new premises into which the society moved in 1818 (Geological House, 10 North Parade, Penzance, see Figure 20). Henry Boase wrote in May 1817 to a Vice-Patron of the society, Lord De Dunstanville, about these plans, and added a description of the accommodation which it was proposed should be included: "on the street floor a large Laboratory and Housekeeping apartments". After the move to Geological House had been completed in 1818, Boase wrote to Paris (now in London) with more details of the new apartments, and stressed the inclusion of a laboratory (the underlining is his): "Under [the Museum] are the Newsroom & Laboratory, and beyond them the Housekeeper's rooms...over these [in the Council room] we are to accommodate the Agricultural Society and the 'Penzance Public Library' instituted two day ago".

There is a possibility that the room originally planned for use as a laboratory was instead allocated at some stage to the Penzance Library. When the Library moved out of Geological House in 1827, one of the reasons given was that the dampness of the room was harmful to the books. It seems more likely that damp would have been a problem on the ground floor rather than in the Council room above. It may also have been found inconvenient to share the Council room with the Library and the many people who would have had recourse to it. There were no direct references in the society's records after 1818 to the use of a laboratory, although H S Boase made some mineralogical analyses of rocks, reported in 1822 in his paper 'On the tin-ore of Botallack and Levant'. The early desire of the society to establish a laboratory provides one line of
evidence for the RGSC's practical intentions, and more probably those of Paris. The apparent subsequent abandonment of these plans suggests that this idealism was quickly dropped.

The early practical programme of the RGSC also stressed that the mining industry deserved particular attention because of its economic value, as well as the contributions to more theoretical studies which were initially expected from its practitioners. Many of the men in west Cornwall who were concerned about the prosperity of mining, because of their financial investments in the business (see pp. 55-6), had initial hopes that the society might contribute to the future profitability of tin and copper extraction and processing.

The RGSC failed the mining industry however, or at least did not live up to its early promises. The efforts made by the society to assist in discovering new sources of stream tin were not successful (see pp. 234-5), nor did the society put into practice its intention to collect and preserve mining records, an important requirement of the industry (see p. 118). Although several members continued to work on problems associated with the genesis of mineral ores, no results that could have been of assistance in the search for new deposits were forthcoming (see Section 6). It must also soon have become clear to mine adventurers that projects such as geological mapping were not likely to be of immediate practical assistance to them. The delays by the society in producing any kind of map would have discouraged further financial contributions (see Section 5.3). The method of operating mining ventures, the cost-book system, gave little encouragement to forward
investment in mining, or to research that would benefit the industry. The motives of most adventurers were to make immediate profits, and little provision was made for future exploration or development. Such motives would surely also have discouraged more than token contributions to the work of learned societies like the RGSC.

The RGSC did not commit itself fully to founding a mining school in Cornwall. It has been shown in Section 4.2.2 that the efforts made by the society in 1817 were founded mainly on an attempt to persuade Paris to stay in Penzance, by offering him a post which would give him more financial security and status. After the failure of that scheme, no further realistic efforts were made by the society to set up a school for miners. But it must also be admitted that there was little encouragement from the mining industry, for the 1817 proposals fell partly on the grounds that no financial support was forthcoming from that source, and further attempts, such as the one made by Sir Charles Lemon in 1839, were unsuccessful for the same reason. Burt argues that the only real improvements in the education of miners came from the Methodists, through their support of Sunday schools, moral improvement societies and Mechanics' Institutes. As shown in Section 3.4 there were few Methodists among the members of the RGSC, and therefore support for the instruction of miners was unlikely to have been a priority for most members.

The first volume of the society's Transactions, published in 1818, contained a number of papers with practical advice for
the industry (see Section 8 and Table 6 (pp. 262-3)). It is not easy to judge how much influence this volume may have had. The cost of the volume (13/-)\(^2\) may have been too high for many of the men who might have benefited from the information about the smelting of minerals, or the mining academies in Europe. This volume was advertised again in the \textit{West Briton} in 1829, at the reduced price of 10/-, which suggests that these may have been "remainder copies", and that initial sales may have been lower than forecast.\(^2\) The \textit{Annual Reports} of the Polytechnic Society, published from 1834, were priced at one shilling, a much lower cost.\(^2\) The sponsorship by the RGSC of a safety tamping bar and shifting cartridge, which were described in Volume I of the \textit{Transactions}, has been discussed in Section 6, and it has been argued that the needs of miners were not fully understood, nor did they take much heed of the efforts made to promote the instruments.

Although this first volume included several papers which were of practical importance, after about 1818 the type of geological information presented to the Penzance society began to change, becoming more theoretical. This change can be seen by examining the types of papers printed in the second, third and fourth volumes of \textit{Transactions} (see Table 6, and also Section 8). Did the emphasis of study change because of a lack of interest shown by the industry, or was the virtual abandonment of a practical programme due to Paris's departure from Penzance, or were there other reasons why the emphasis of study in the society changed?

Were mine captains and mine adventurers willing to co-operate
with the society? The sums of money raised in 1814, for a library and map, would suggest that there was considerable enthusiasm, at least in the initial year of the society. It may also be significant that between February 1814 and the end of 1814, the largest group of men joining the new society came from the business class, in particular the tin smelters (see Figure 9 (p.54) and Tables 2a (p.53) and 8). It appears however that the interest of the industry soon waned. The proportions of members from the different occupational groups changed after 1814; there were more gentlemen, and fewer from the business classes (see Tables 2a (p.53), 3 (p.58), 4 (p.166) and 8, and Figure 17 (p.168)). It has also been shown in Section 3 that mine captains, agents, etc, were very unlikely to have become members.

It has been suggested that commercial secrecy may have prevented the full disclosure of information about valuable mineral deposits to scientific bodies. However, many geologists who carried out studies in mines seem to have found that the opposite was true, for they reported that the miners had been very co-operative. Richard Thomas the surveyor wrote in 1819:

These particulars, with all the others connected with the mines, have been furnished by the managers, agents, captains, and other intelligent miners, who have all been found ready to give every needful information, and to render their assistance in facilitating the progress of the survey.

A very similar statement made by De la Beche has already been quoted (see p.165). It is of course possible that these complimentary remarks were included in order to ensure access to mines for future surveys. However the details given in the records of some societies suggest that co-operation was freely
TABLE 8
MEMBERS OF THE RGSC BY OCCUPATION, IN 1815

From a list printed for presentation to the Patron of the Society, the Prince Regent.

(see also Appendix 6, and notes to Table 2a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCCUPATION</th>
<th>NUMBER</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Businessmen</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorneys</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical men</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentry</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clergymen (C of E)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naval Officers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining professionals</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not known</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>136</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Associate members: 3
given. The Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society found that it was able to obtain assistance from miners, many of whom entered their inventions into its exhibitions to compete for premiums (see Section 6.3 for some examples). R W Fox, in his important paper of 1836, included lengthy details about mineral veins, which had been given to him by mines captains. John Hawkins had quoted the sources from whom he had been able to garner details of mines and their geological features. It was also suggested that Joseph Carne acquired much of his knowledge of minerals and mineral veins as a result of the regular visits that he made to the mines of the St Just area of Cornwall. Both Fox and Henwood were able to include plates giving details of the locations of metalliferous lodes in their papers. These examples suggest that commercial secrecy was not a serious problem in Cornwall for those who wanted to study and record geological information. This may have been because mineral lodes have a much smaller geographical extent than coal seams; disclosure of information about one lode might not necessarily give clues to the location of another, whereas the nature of coals means that the same seam can be found within similar sediments over a wide area.

One explanation for the withdrawal of support by the mining community may be that mine adventurers were either doubtful about the benefits that science could provide, or were ignorant of them. Few professional mining men had had formal training in science. Joseph Carne argued that lodes in mines which had been lost were much more commonly found again using precedent and experience, than by using the principles of geology. A statement made by a mining engineer in 1844,
that "of all speculative employments, mining has been, and continues to be, for want of a well-founded principle, the most uncertain" remained true for much of the nineteenth century. 36

John Taylor, one of the few mining entrepreneurs in the Geological Society of London, was to state in 1837 that mining had not benefited in any way from geology. He wrote: 37

I do not know of any striking improvements in mining, which may be said to have been derived from the progress that geological science has made in later years; indeed, hitherto geology has rather been indebted to mining, than mining to geology;

In a paper about a proposed mining school, first published in 1824, 38 Taylor argued that mathematics, surveying and engineering were more important skills for the students than mineralogy and geology. 39 A handbook for miners by J Budge, published in 1825 in Plymouth, dealt in detail with assaying and surveying, and also with simple problems in mathematics, but included nothing which could be described as geology. 40 Hughes argues that few improvements were made in lead mining in Northumberland between 1700 and 1850, apart from "a few techniques for underground haulage by rail and pony". 41 It is not unexpected therefore that support for the RGSC from mining entrepreneurs soon waned.

The RGSC was by no means the only society to fail to achieve good relationships with industry. The geological societies founded in Dublin (1831) and Edinburgh (1834) were "indifferent to economic geology". 42 Porter argues that when a distinctive "geological community" in England emerged after
1820, its members came almost entirely from the Geological Society of London, which was not a forum for mining professionals. Shapin has described how the Pottery Philosophical Society became an adult education institute for the middle classes, whereas the needs of the artisans employed in the local potteries were neglected.

Some other scientific societies were however more successful in gaining the support of local industries. The early Yorkshire Geological Society received a considerable number of contributions from mine managers and iron masters. The RCPS tried hard to gain the support and interest of the mining community in Cornwall. Copies of its Annual Reports were widely distributed by the Committee; in 1836, the list of organisations to which it was agreed they should be sent included the names of 51 mines in Cornwall and Devon. The premiums which were to be awarded by the society for inventions, etc, were advertised in the Mining Journal and the Mechanics' Magazine, as well as in local newspapers. Pearson argues that the society did do much to stimulate local inventors and to assist the mining industry. The Proceedings of the Manchester Geological Society contained many papers relevant to the needs of the coal industry, including the details of patents applicable to mining. This society seems to have served as a forum for the reception and transmission of practical information during most of the 19th century, although it did go through a period of difficulty in the 1850's, when "proposals were made to close its existence".
It has been argued in earlier Sections that one of the more important reasons for the original formation of the Penzance Geological Society was to fill a cultural vacuum in a small, isolated, provincial town. For a time, the RGSC was the only institution which could occupy this position. It had therefore to cater for those who patronised it for its cultural as well as its utilitarian functions. When the Penzance Library was opened in 1818, its services were limited and, although valuable, did not close the gap in cultural needs. The Library had however a membership which was very similar to that of the Penzance contingent of the RGSC, suggesting that literary provision was important to these people. The Library's first President was Sir Rose Price, and the other officers included Henry Boase (Treasurer), the Rev C V Le Grice (Secretary), and Dr John Forbes (Librarian), all also members of the Geological Society.51

By the 1830's other institutions had been set up in Penzance and elsewhere in Cornwall, which could provide wider alternative sources of cultural activity. The Penzance Literary and Philosophical Institution (sometimes described as the Penzance Institution for Promoting Useful Knowledge) had been founded in 1831,52 and the Penzance Mechanics' Institution in 1834.53 Despite its name, the latter society seems to have had a very similar list of lecturers to those of the Lit and Phil and the RGSC. (The only remaining records of these two institutions are the reports carried by the Cornish weekly newspapers, so membership lists are not available.) Both H S Boase and Henwood were among the lecturers at the Penzance Lit and Phil, as were other RGSC members.54 Although neither the
Lit and Phil, nor the Mechanics' Institution, were active for very long, the reason given for their demise was a shortage of lecturers, not a shortage of members.\(^{55}\)

In 1839, a Harmonic Society was established in Penzance,\(^{56}\) and a Natural History Society was formed in the same year.\(^{57}\) Joseph Carne became President of the latter society, Henwood was appointed its secretary, and there were other similarities with the membership of the RGSC.\(^{58}\) Other towns in Cornwall had also seen the establishment of Lit and Phils or Mechanics' Institutes at about the same period, including St Day, near Redruth (1828), Camborne (1833), Marazion (1836), and St Just (1843).\(^{59}\)

The creation of other institutions may partially account for the declining membership of the RGSC in the 1830's and 1840's (see Figure 8 (p.51)), but it does not explain why the original practical programme of the society was diluted. The Geological Society did not entirely abandon its practical programme, as the papers on stream tin (see pp.199-201), and the work on locating mineral veins done by Henwood in his survey of mines indicate, but less interest was shown in these and similar studies, and the theoretical implications of the studies were as important as the practical ones. Nevertheless it would be more logical to expect that once alternative sources of intellectual diversion had become available, the RGSC should have reverted more completely to its original intentions. If however by this time the mining industry and enterprises associated with it had ceased to regard the society as an appropriate body to help solve its problems, as has
been argued above, then those members who had connections with the industry would have been unlikely vigorously to promote a return to the original pattern of study. By the middle of the 1830's, the original utilitarian role of the RGSC had also been usurped to some extent by the Polytechnic Society (see Sections 3, 6 and 7).

Some other provincial and metropolitan societies experienced similar metamorphoses. In Newcastle the majority of members of the Lit and Phil had shown little interest in the programme of practical study advocated by the Rev William Turner, and stressed instead the importance of their library. The Yorkshire Geological Society was also practically motivated in its early years, but became less so with time, as the membership changed. The Geological Society of London had members in its formative years who would have wished for a more practical programme, but whose ideas were swamped by the majority who supported more academic studies. It has also been argued that after about 1840 provincial science in general began to "mutate", tending more towards popular entertainment.

9.2 The Officers and Council of the RGSC

The various secretaries of the RGSC were the most important individuals concerned with the evolution of the society, the organisation of its meetings and the formation of its policies, including utilitarianism. The ideas of the Presidents, the work of the Council and of some of its key members, were also relevant. The geological aspects of the work of some of
these men has been examined in the previous section, but it is also necessary to look at other aspects of their contributions to the society.

The first secretary, Paris, was a man with considerable talent. His career in medicine, both before his arrival in Penzance and after his return to London makes this clear, as does his list of publications (see p.392). He was also ambitious and energetic. Within six months of his arrival in Penzance he had become involved in the promotion of sea water baths for the benefit of invalids, mainly the private patients who, he hoped, would come to the town. Within two years of his arrival he had written, and had published, a Guide to the Mount's Bay, promoting the area for its healthy environment, and the various provisions for cultural diversion, especially the geology. He also took the opportunity to promote the Geological Society in the book. Paris was only 29 at the time of the foundation of the RGSC, one of its youngest members. It seems likely that a major reason for his involvement in a new scientific society in Penzance was to further his own career, by bringing his name to the attention of the public; his geological interests were of lesser importance. Nevertheless he served the society well, doing what he could to promote its interests, since these tended to coincide with his own. He also concerned himself with the future of his creation after he had left Cornwall, revisiting Penzance for the Anniversary meetings of the RGSC on at least two occasions, in 1830 and 1844.
It is possible that Paris was partly responsible for the practical programme of the early RGSC, and that his departure hastened the change in its policies. It is not easy to establish why he should have been a proponent of utilitarianism, or even if he genuinely desired the ends which he proposed. Some of the material available, including his speech at the founding meeting of the society (see pp.32, 87), and his 'Preface' to Volume I of the Transactions (see p.87), seems to have been largely rhetorical, and was probably designed to impress his audience. It is likely that Paris would have hoped to attract the attention of the Cornish mineral lords, mine adventurers, and others with financial stakes in mines to the new society, to enhance his own status and that of the new institution, and that he considered appeals to practical matters to be the best method of achieving this.

On the other hand, two out of his three papers in Volume I were almost entirely practical. One of them, on the safety instruments, was partially inspired by an urge to promote the new society, as has been argued in Section 7; however, this explains only why Paris continued to press for the use of the instruments, but does not answer the question why he supported the project in the first place. It does however seem possible that his utilitarian approach was responsible. His third paper, 'On the geological structure of Cornwall' was also intended to be useful, being about soils and their different agricultural properties. Paris's first paper in the volume, 'On a recent formation of sandstone...', was mainly concerned with the formation of these sands, but even here he included some practical advice.69
By discovering the phenomena which attend the formation of rocks, we may be led to the improvement of the different cements...

Paris was also the author of a report on 'the nature and quantity of the different rocks and clays exported from the county of Cornwall', published in part as an 'Extract from the Minute Book' at the end of Volume I. The titles of papers read to the RGSC by Paris, but not published, can be found in the first Minute Book. These included: 'On a new system of geology', read in several parts in 1815 and 1816, 'On the different tests for the discovery of the presence of arsenic' read on 23rd May 1817 (see also pp.97-8), and 'On the discovery of large quantities of Gregorite at Lanarth', also read in 1817.

Paris may have been introduced to utilitarian ideas when he was studying in Edinburgh, for the Scottish universities encouraged the development of the practical applications of science. One major problem faced by Paris was his low income, and this may explain why he was attracted to these ideas, which were more sympathetic to economic gain than was science studied for its own sake. It appears that he had no private money, for when he was a student at Cambridge, he had been awarded a "studentship in physic for poor students". He would therefore have had to rely on the fees that he could make from his private practice, for no salary was attached to the post of physician to the Dispensary. It is possible that he was considering leaving Penzance as early as 1815, and although no reason for this can be found, his low income seems a valid reason.
A suggestion, that John Davy, Sir Humphry's younger brother, might take the post of Dispensary physician, was included in a letter that Sir Humphry wrote to his sister Betty, in June 1815; he proposed that John might take over when Paris left. Sir Humphry mentioned this again in rather guarded terms to Henry Boase in July 1815, shortly after meeting Paris in London: "I have not yet hinted at what you were so kind as to mention to my sisters as Dr Paris' plans did not appear matured". The efforts made by Sir Rose Price, Henry Boase and others, in 1817, to keep Paris in Penzance by creating a professorship in mineralogy attached to the Geological Society have been discussed above, and it has been proposed that the salary which would have been paid to the professor would have been a considerable attraction. When Paris left Penzance, he was able to demonstrate very quickly that his income had been enhanced by his move to London (see p.101).

The replacement for Paris, John Forbes, was most probably a good physician first, and then a geologist (see Section 7.2). He may have been in poor health while in Penzance, which might have affected his performance as secretary, for, if the upkeep of the minute book is a fair guide, he was a less conscientious holder of that post than Paris. The absence of other records, such a letter book, meant that the minute book is the only evidence. He did however contribute several papers to the society's Transactions (see Sections 5.3 and 7.2). Forbes also had other interests, which he had pursued before arriving in Penzance, and which he was able to continue while living there. One of these, meteorology, he shared in common with
the Giddy's, Thomas and his son Edward Collins. Forbes used the records kept by the Giddy's in his Observations on the climate of Penzance..., published in 1821. His other important interest was in diseases of the chest (this has been discussed above in Section 7.2). He also became the librarian of the Penzance Library in 1818. Like Paris, Forbes also found that the income from his practice was low; he had married in 1820, and in 1822, when offered a more lucrative practice in Chichester, he left Penzance.

It was during Forbes' period of office that there began to be a significant decline in the activities of the society, although even as early as 1816, there had begun to be problems in maintaining a full programme (see above). By 1820, the policy of abandoning all but the Anniversary Meetings had been informally adopted; there are no records which suggest that this policy had been formally determined on by either the Council or by the general membership.

The RGSC did not try to recruit outsiders as secretaries after Forbes had left, nor did the Governors of the Dispensary seek a new physician from elsewhere. It is possible that the short periods spent in Penzance by Paris and Forbes acted as a discouragement. There were however two local candidates, H S Boase and T F Barham, both of whom were appointed as joint physicians to the Dispensary, and H S Boase also became the secretary of the Geological Society. As Henry Boase was a prominent local man who served on the Board of Governors of the Dispensary and was Treasurer of the RGSC, nepotism may
have been a factor when H S Boase was selected. In a cautiously worded letter to Henry Boase, Forbes had expressed some doubt about the appointment of the young man to the Dispensary, as he believed that he had still to settle down. His warning was probably fair, as Boase soon gave up his medical practice, finding it "very uncongenial".

Boase was very young, only 23, when he became secretary of the RGSC, and must have lacked both the experience and the status to cope with such a position. Few records were kept in the Minute Book, and the activities of the society were unadventurous. (It has been suggested by some current members of the RGSC that an entire minute book is missing from the society's records. Because of the irregular nature of the entries in the first Minute Book from about 1822 onwards, it seems more probable that poor record keeping was to blame, and that no book is missing. From before the time of Forbes's resignation, the first Minute Book contained many gaps. There were no records of meetings held in the years 1824 to 1826, nor for 1828 to 1832, nor 1835 to 1837. Because these gaps do not correspond to the period of office of any one of the secretaries in post in those years, and because a few records of meetings were made (in 1827, 1833 and 1838), the suggestion that a minute book may have been lost seems a less likely explanation than inefficiency. There is a possibility that there may have been another minute book, used between about 1844 and 1856, because there are no manuscripts which cover these years. The second Minute Book was opened in 1856, and was labelled as No.2.)
When Boase resigned his post of secretary in 1827, he stated that he had wanted to give up on previous occasions, but had been persuaded not to do so, but there are no relevant records. He had however previously changed his mind about his aims in life. A series of letters written between 1815 and 1817 to his father, from John Davy and his cousin Edmund (Professor of Chemistry at the Cork Institute), shows that Boase had intended initially to follow chemistry, but while studying in Cork under Edmund Davy's supervision, had changed his mind and gone to Edinburgh to pursue medicine. He gave up that profession for ever in 1826 when he resigned from the Penzance Dispensary. He then became involved in the family banking business, and as eldest son, took over his father's interests on his death in 1827.

T F Barham, also a local man, and until 1826, joint physician with H S Boase at the Dispensary, took the post of RGSC secretary for one year in 1827. He then left Penzance for another medical post in Exeter. E C Giddy was appointed to succeed Barham, and held the post between 1828 and 1833. He was a local surgeon, and cousin of Davies Gilbert. He already held the post of curator to the RGSC, and was described after his death as "a good practical mineralogist". He wrote only one paper for the society, on archaeology, 'On two sepulchral urns, lately found...'; he also kept meteorological records between 1821 and 1832, continuing the tradition begun by his father in 1807.

Boase was re-appointed as secretary to the RGSC in 1833, after
the death of E C Giddy, perhaps because there was no alternative candidate. By that time however he had finished his survey of Cornwall with its geological map of the county, so he may have had more time in which to take over again the work for the society. He remained in the post until he left Penzance in 1837, going initially to London, and working there as an itinerant lecturer. He finally went to Dundee to work in a bleaching and chemical business in which his family had a financial interest.

Neither Boase, nor Barham, nor Giddy gave inspired leadership to the RGSC, and the membership began to decline (see Figure 8 (p.51)), as did local interest in the progress of the society. There were fewer newspaper reports of its activities, and the lists of those present at Annual Meetings were shorter than in previous years. Fewer of the county gentry seem to have made an effort to attend, for names which had appeared in earlier newspaper reports of meetings were absent in the 1830's. Only the meeting held in 1836 was an exception, for it was attended by De la Beche and the Rev William Buckland, who had come from the meeting of the British Association at Bristol, and special efforts were made to ensure a good attendance. An advertisement had been placed in the two Truro newspapers advising members that "several distinguished scientific visitors are expected". Competition from the RCPS must also have been a factor in the declining interest in the Geological Society, for the Polytechnic Society meetings, held at the same time as its annual exhibition, began to attract more scientific personalities than those of the RGSC. In 1839 De la Beche and Buckland were again in Cornwall at the RCPS
meeting in Falmouth, where De la Beche put his map of the county on display, and Buckland gave an address on the "geology of Cornwall". Neither of these geologists had been present at the RGSC meeting held the previous week.

In 1837 WJ Henwood was appointed as secretary, initially only in an acting capacity. It is possible that he was given the post only because no other more suitable person could be found. His status, as a former clerk in an iron foundry, must surely have made him a reluctant choice; he had referred to this, and to the shortage of other suitable candidates when he had been made curator, in a letter to John Hawkins in 1833:

The other active members of the Society, are in office, and there is no one about here besides who has done anything for its interests; but I fear it may be considered too presumptuous for a person of my situation in life to aspire to the office.

Henwood held the post of secretary jointly with that of curator until 1841, when he resigned both positions. He can almost be considered as a salaried official of the society, although he received no direct payment from the RGSC. The part played by the society in obtaining for Henwood a post with the Duchy of Cornwall has already been described (see pp.230-1), and it has been suggested that this had been done to allow him an income and time in which to look after the affairs of the society, and to continue with his work on the survey of mines. The RCPS was the only society in Cornwall to have a salaried official at this time (Lovell Squire), but he held the post as Assistant to the Honorary Secretary, Richard Taylor. Henwood's personality with his apparent short tem-
per, and his prolonged dispute with the Duchy (see p.395), cannot have been a good advertisement for the RGSC. Although at this period the Duchy was not held in the highest regard in Cornwall, for it was resented for taking income from the tin mines in the form of dues, and as an absentee landlord, it cannot have improved the reputation of the society when one of its officers became involved in a dispute with such a body.

In its first 25 years, the RGSC had six different secretaries. Several of the provincial societies discussed in Section 3 did not have such a rapid turnover; for example W M Tweedy held the post at the RIC in Truro from its foundation in 1818 until 1856, and the Rev William Turner served the Newcastle Lit and Phil from its foundation until 1833. The many changes in the administration of the RGSC would have meant that there would have not have been continuity of policy, for the institution did not have a president who was capable of giving firm leadership either (see below). The argument that changes of officers might have brought fresh blood into the society would be valid only if the new men had been capable of better leadership than was the case. John Hawkins had noted in 1833, in connection with the omission of two of his papers from the Transactions (see p.158), that the affairs of the society were being conducted in a most unsatisfactory manner:

There is such an appearance of relaxed government or rather a want of government in the affairs of this Society that for my own part I am resolved not to expose myself to any farther mortifications of this sort.

The following month, Hawkins had written to Henwood about the same matter, asking: "how is it that we have as a body no
internal laws or rules for the better regulation of our proceedings?".  

In contrast to the many changes in secretary, the RGSC had only one President in its first 25 years. Davies Gilbert held the office from February 1814 until his death, late in 1839. It might have been supposed that his presence could have brought continuity to the society's affairs. It is true that he was most conscientious about attending the society when in Cornwall, and he never missed an Anniversary Meeting. He did not however give the RGSC much inspiration in its geological work (see Section 8). He could lend status to the institution, for as a prominent member of the Royal Society, and for three years its President, he was well known among men of science. He may not however have been capable of giving real leadership to either the Royal Society or the RGSC; an obituary in the Penzance Gazette gave a contemporary opinion of his abilities:  

In private life he was an amiable and excellent man, but was exceedingly deficient in moral courage, and on this account totally unfit to manage the turbulent spirit of the Royal Society; this failing was that of being always of the opinion of the last speaker, a defect, however, which was more than counter-balanced by his benevolence and goodness of heart.  

During Gilbert's life there was never any question of replacing him, for he was always re-elected unopposed. The same was true for his successor Sir Charles Lemon, who held the office from 1840 until his retirement on the grounds of poor health in 1857. Lemon's allegiances to the Geological Society were however diluted, partly because of his other scientific interests (see Section 8), but also because he was at the same time president of the RCPS (1833-67), and of the
RIC (1830-57). As discussed above, he had provided firmer leadership and geological guidance for members than had Gilbert.

The Council of the RGSC does not appear to have been of much importance in determining the society's programme of work. It was composed of the President, the four Vice Presidents, the Officers and ten other members. All these men were re-elected annually, and it was customary for the Vice-Presidents and most of the members of Council to be changed each year. Membership of the Council seems to have been regarded either as an alternative to honorary membership, or as a way of involving local businessmen in the society's affairs. The rules of the RGSC made it a condition that honorary members should live outside Cornwall; therefore local gentlemen could be elected as Vice-Presidents if the society decided that they deserved recognition. In 1821, for example, the Vice Presidents were Sir Christopher Hawkins, Sir Richard Hussey Vivian, J H Tremayne and H P Tremenheere. There were in addition always two or three Penzance merchants, bankers or smelters on the Council.

In 1821, the members of Council were Joseph Carne (banker and smelter), R W Fox, Thomas Giddy (Penzance surgeon), Rose Price jun. (gentleman), Rev Wm Veale of Trevaylor near Penzance, W Bolitho (a Penzance smelter and banker), H M Grylls (a banker and attorney from Helston), and two other local gentlemen, Samuel Stephens and John Paynter. Only a few of the Council members seem to have been active in the affairs of the
society. Of those who served in 1821, only Hawkins, Carne and Fox contributed to the society's work. Sometimes men were elected who could not have attended meetings of the Council: for example, John Hawkins was a Vice-President in 1818, a year in which he did not visit Cornwall. 107 William Rashleigh was a Vice-President in 1815, 1818, and 1822, yet there is no evidence in his correspondence, or in newspaper reports, that he ever attended a meeting of the society. 108 In 1826 John Guillemard, Davies Gilbert's brother-in-law, attended the Anniversary Meeting as a visitor, and was elected a member of Council, yet he was never resident in Cornwall. 109

The Minute Book of the Council contained many gaps, and no regular records were kept in this volume after 1817. Some entries for meetings of the Council were included in Minute Book No. 1 after 1817, apparently made when these were particularly important: for example, the meeting held in January 1842, at which the dispute between Henwood and RW Fox was discussed (see p. 220). 110 It is certain that Council meetings were held at least once a year, for advertisements for Anniversary Meetings of the society usually included the information that a meeting of the Council would be held in the hour before the main meeting began, but no records of these remain. An explanation similar to that given for the poor records of other meetings (see p. 365) must be the most probable explanation for the gaps.
It may be more appropriate to look at an "inner circle" of men who were actively concerned with the affairs of the RGSC. Several of them served as officers: examples were Henry Boase, treasurer until his death in 1827, and his successor, Joseph Carne, who held the post until 1858. Sir Rose Price, Ashhurst Majendie and the Rev John Rogers were also active participants. The secretaries of the society should also be included in this "inner circle". It is not possible to establish any common link between these men other than their desire to contribute to the organisation of the society. Few of them had an overriding concern with the progress of science, and it seems more probable that the reasons for their involvement in the society's affairs were to perpetuate a social group, and perhaps to enhance their own social standing in the local community.

Henry Boase had no illusions about the worth of his own contributions to the geological work of the society. He wrote to Edmund Davy in 1818:

Dont [sic] mistake in observing my name in the list of papers [in the Annual Report] & suppose I am dabbling in Geology. It is too late in life for me to begin. My communications now, as formerly, are only little playful interludes to relieve [sic] the reading of long and scientific Dissertations.

His suggestion that his contributions were made to relieve tedium at meetings implies that he derived more pleasure from the social activities of the society, and believed that many of the others who attended shared his opinions. He did however play a leading role in the administration of the RGSC, for he could use his business skills in this capacity. It was he who negotiated the contract for the conversion of No. 10
North Parade for the society.112 He also frequently chaired its meetings; his name appeared in the early minutes in this capacity more often than that any other man. In the first year of the RGSC's existence, he was named as chairman on eight occasions out of a total of 17 meetings held in that period.

Ashhurst Majendie's role in the formation of the RGSC, and some of his geological contributions, have already been described (see p.30). He was a member of the RGSC Council in 1814, and 1815.113 After his departure from Penzance, he seems to have done little else for the society, although he was made an honorary member, and remained as such until his death in 1867. He possibly regarded his participation in the formation of the society mainly as an entertainment designed to relieve the tedium of staying in an isolated area of the country, rather than a genuine involvement in the initiation of an institution which was intended to have important consequences for geology. The part played by Sir Rose Price in promoting the safety instruments for miners has been discussed in Section 7; he was also a Vice-President on six occasions between 1814 and 1830. He did not however make any geological contributions. As a nouveau riche gentleman, for his wealth was derived from West Indian estates and his baronetcy awarded only in 1814 (see p.282, footnote 3), he may have hoped to gain additional status from his involvement with the RGSC.

It is more difficult to establish the importance of Joseph Carne. It has not been possible to locate any of his correspondence, other than a few letters in other collections. He was elected to the society's Council in every single year from
its foundation, until he became Treasurer in 1827, after which he served *ex officio*. He was the only individual, apart from the other officers, to be regarded as a permanent member of Council. It is also known that Carne edited the second volume of the society's *Transactions*, and he was most probably the editor of the third as well, although it has not been possible to confirm this. He also started the task of editing the fourth volume, but was forced to hand over the responsibility, when the serious illness of his only son became a more important concern. It is likely that he encouraged W J Henwood in his work, for it was Carne who wrote to John Hawkins in 1830, suggesting that the survey of mines proposed by the young man should be sponsored. Carne also contributed many papers to the society, several of which have been discussed in earlier pages. As well as his work for the RGSC as Treasurer from 1827, Carne was very much involved with the Penzance Library, for he became its President in 1834, and is said to have devoted "much of his time to this labour of love". When, after 1839, his time was also to be in demand by the Penzance Natural History Society (see above), he must have had to restrict his contributions to the Geological Society. His business as a banker would also have limited the time he could devote to the society's affairs.

The Rev John Rogers of Mawnan, near Falmouth, became a member of the RGSC in September 1814. (He was made a Canon of Exeter in 1820.) He was described in *DNB* as chiefly a Hebrew and Syriac scholar, but he also made contributions to geology, for he had four papers published in the RGSC *Trans-
actions, on the serpentine of Cornwall, and the Veryan lime-
stone, and read several others which were not published. He also corresponded with a number of men of science about the
geology of his local area, including Sedgwick, De la Beche,
Greenough, and John Phillips. He attended regularly at
meetings of the RGSC, for his name appeared frequently in
newspaper reports, and he often served as either a Vice-
President or member of Council. It is not possible however
to find out precisely how much he did to assist the affairs of
the society, for the only remaining correspondence is an
autograph collection, which is inevitably defective. Two
letters in this collection, however, from Paris and Majendie
(see pp. 44-5, 101), suggest that he was actively concerned
about the institution's progress.

E C Giddy (Assistant Secretary from 1815-17, and Curator from
1818-1833) also would have been a part of the "inner circle". Other men who were regularly re-appointed to the Council
included Stephen Davey (an attorney from the mining area of
Redruth), W M Tweedy (the Secretary of the RIC), William
Reynolds (Lord De Dunstanville's steward), and Michael Wil-
liams (of the Scorrier family). The only one of these men
to contribute substantially to the geology of the society was
W M Tweedy, for he was among those who had undertaken to "lay
down the geology" of their district on the geological map of
the county, begun in 1829 (see p.152); he also read a number
of papers, the first in 1839.

Information about this active nucleus of men is scanty, but it
seems probable that at any one time, not more than about six
or seven members were concerned in managing the society during this early period. One fact does seem to stand out however, that of those members of the "inner circle" who can clearly be identified, only Carne (and possibly Stephen Davey) had any real interests in the business of mining. This may be more evidence in favour of the argument that the social side of the activities of the society was the most important.

One possible example of the workings of this "inner circle" may be found in the discussions which took place in 1817 to try to set up a professorship for Paris (see Section 4.2.2). It seems probable that the proposals which were presented to the Council in February 1817 had been sorted out in considerable detail beforehand, and that Henry Boase and Sir Rose Price were the leading activists. There is little evidence however about the involvement of other members, although the Rev John Rogers and Majendie did discuss the issue, in a letter already quoted, from Majendie to Rogers (see p.101).

Another example of "inner circle" activity may be seen in events which arose in May 1817, when there were problems with the society's current landlord, for he demanded that he be paid an increased rent. Henry Boase advised members that it would be preferable to seek new accommodation, rather than agree to the increased charges. It appears that considerable discussion had taken place about how the society should be housed in the future, although the alternatives were not raised at meetings of the Council, nor of the full society. Boase eventually reported to the society that he had
been in consultation with two builders, both of whom were involved in building houses for rental, and each was prepared to allow the society to take out a rental contract on one of the properties in the course of construction.128 However appears to have preferred that the society should build its own premises. Henry Boase wrote to Lord De Dunstanville in May 1817 describing the problems with the society's landlord, and the plans to rent a house which would be adapted for the use of the RGSC. He gave details of the proposed rental terms, and then continued:129

Dr P. does not concur in this, first because our Patrons had not been consulted; and especially because he expects means of erecting a more splendid establishment.

The "means" expected by Paris were apparently the funds which would come to the society once the proposed professorship was established.130 When this plan failed, Boase's cautious ideas about rental prevailed over Paris's more ambitious ones.

Figure 21 shows, in diagrammatic form, the relationship between the "inner circle", the officers, the Council and other members and supporters of the RGSC, for the period from the foundation of the society until the death of Henry Boase. The Figure shows the size of each group only roughly, and no absolute scale is intended; it is probable that the numbers in each group fluctuated with time. The "inner circle" is shown at the centre of a larger group of regular supporters, which is in turn enclosed within a larger circle of occasional supporters, those who might have attended meetings when there was a special attraction to draw them, such as the presence of a distinguished visitor. Not all of the occasional supporters were necessarily members, for this group included the "ladies"
DIAGRAM SHOWING THE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SUPPORT FOR
THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL
(see pages 373–380)
who came to Anniversary Meetings. The group labelled "officers" overlaps only partially the "inner circle", since some of the officers, especially the librarians and assistant secretaries, appear not to have become involved in the internal politics of the society to the same extent as the inner group.

In a similar way, as suggested above, only some members of the Council were part of the "inner circle". Those members who contributed papers came from a larger section of the society's membership, and occasionally from outside it. Within the largest circle is shown a small group of "elite visitors", representing men such as Sedgwick, Buckland and De la Beche, who made occasional visits to Anniversary Meetings, and who were elected as honorary members; this group is shown overlapping slightly with that of the contributors of papers, intended to demonstrate that these visitors sometimes addressed the meetings (see for example p. 84). One group which has not been represented on the diagram is that of those members who had financial interests in mining. So many of them were involved in the industry, directly as adventurers or shareholders, or indirectly as bankers, merchants or smelters (see Section 3.2), that it would have been necessary to use most of the area on the diagram to represent them.

The "inner circle" appears to have dissolved after the death of Henry Boase in 1827, to be replaced eventually by a caucus of two men, H S Boase and Henwood. Sir Rose Price had by this time withdrawn from public life (see p. 260), and Joseph Carne had apparently become more preoccupied with his business and family affairs, and with the Penzance Library (see p. 237).
The relationship between Boase and Henwood is not easy to establish, for no correspondence between them has been located; it is likely that they met together at regular intervals, especially after 1834, when Boase became secretary and Henwood, curator. In their papers, each gave credit to the other, for they were working on complementary projects: Boase on his map and the surface geology of Cornwall, and Henwood on his underground survey of the mines (see Sections 5.3 and 6.5). When Boase had incurred the anger of John Hawkins in 1832 (see Section 5.3), it was Henwood who wrote to Hawkins attempting to obtain forgiveness for his friend, writing: "I can from frequent conversations speak of his sorrow". In 1837, Henwood again wrote to Hawkins on Boase's behalf, this time asking Hawkins to use his influence to support Boase in an application for the Chair of Chemistry at London University. When Henwood died in 1875, the only individual remembered in his will, apart from his sisters, was H S Boase; he was bequeathed a sum of money to buy a mourning ring, and was described as "my old dear and kind friend".

Whether this friendship operated to the advantage of the Geological Society is doubtful. Boase's paper describing the geology of Cornwall, and his map, met with considerable criticism nationally (see Section 5.3). Henwood's career in geology began in a spectacular manner, but as had been described in Section 6.4 and 6.5, he was unable to maintain this reputation, and by his delays in publishing his survey, brought criticism upon the society as well. Records of the papers read at meetings of the RGSC in the 1830's show that Boase and
Henwood were the dominant contributors, and it is possible that they favoured each other's contributions to the exclusion of others. In the years between 1834 and 1837, a total of 31 papers was read; of these, more than half were by Boase (8) and Henwood (10). Joseph Carne was the author of three papers, and two were contributed by R W Fox. Alternative explanations may be either that it was becoming more difficult to persuade people to contribute material to meetings, or that the inept administration of the society's affairs by Boase and Henwood deterred other authors. It is not possible to judge which is the more probable of these explanations, because of the paucity of records for this period, but it is likely that the truth lies somewhere between them all.

After the departure of H S Boase for London in 1837, Henwood was left on his own to look after the society, with only Joseph Carne as Treasurer to support or control his activities. (Richard Hocking, the Librarian, does not appear to have taken any active part in the affairs of the society, and Davies Gilbert only rarely visited Penzance in the final years of his life.)

The picture that emerges, when the work of the officers and Council of the society is examined, is one of increasing difficulty of maintaining the impetus with which the RGSC had been started. The society was not alone in experiencing these problems; it was a common pattern among provincial and some metropolitan institutions. The RGSC was also having to face competition from other institutions in Cornwall. Two of these, the RIC and the RCPS, claimed equal status with the
Geological Society, and the relationships that developed between these three societies are relevant to the history of the Penzance society.

8.3 Relationships with other Cornish societies

Throughout this thesis, comparisons have been made with societies similar to the RGSC. Of these, the closest geographically, and in terms of their membership, were the two major Cornish learned societies, the Royal Institution of Cornwall at Truro, and the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society at Falmouth. It is possible to consider the three institutions as a group, not unlike the situations found in certain towns elsewhere in the country, where two or more contrasting institutions had been formed. There appear to be some similarities with the development of societies in Newcastle and Manchester: the Lit and Phil and Geological Societies in Manchester, and the Lit and Phil and Natural History Societies in Newcastle. These societies, and the Cornish ones, experienced fluctuations in their popularity, but the Cornish societies, perhaps because they were established in different towns, were less successful in developing co-operative relationships. In Manchester and Newcastle, the Geological and Natural History Societies had been offshoots from parent Lit and Phils. They had been formed when a need for more specialist organisations had become apparent. In Cornwall however, the specialist society, the RGSC, came first, and the later foundations were intended to meet wider needs. The Lit and Phil in Truro, set up four years after the Geological Society, was most probably
formed at least partly in imitation of the Penzance society, for reasons of civic pride. The citizens of Truro would not however have desired an exact copy of the Penzance society, for there would not have been room for two geological societies in the same county, not would they have wished to have been accused of copying; the wider agenda associated with Lit and Phils would also have given the new institution greater scope for more diverse activities. The Polytechnic Society was founded in 1833 at a time when the programmes of both the other major Cornish societies were at a low point, and the RGSC had, in effect, relinquished any plans to assist with the problems of the mining industry.  

Relations between the three Cornish institutions were never very easy; one attempt to form closer links between them was made in the 1840's and it has already been shown that it was not successful (see Section 3). In 1892 a similar plan was proposed: that the RGSC, the RIC and the RCPS, and the Mining Association and Institute of Cornwall (founded in 1860), would meet together annually "to bring about a closer connection between them, and to increase public interest in their proceedings". The "closer connection" was intended eventually to lead to amalgamation of the societies. The first joint meeting was held in 1893 at Truro, when four papers by representatives from each of the institutions were read. These meetings were continued for a few years, but eventually ceased. The reason given for the lack of success of the meetings, and the dropping of the ideas of amalgamation, was said to be "owing to the varied rules governing their constitutions, and their separate endowments and systems of prizes,
etc". However rivalry between the societies, and pride in their separate origins, must also have been a factor in the continuance of their separate existences.

By the middle of the 19th century, the RIC at Truro was beginning to assume the lead among the county learned societies. In 1838 it had started to publish some of the papers read at meetings in its Annual Reports, and in 1864, began the publication of a Journal, specifically for this purpose. The wider agenda of the RIC meant that it could encompass a greater variety of subjects, and some men who belonged to the RGSC used the RIC Reports and Journals to record their other interests; for example, the statistical papers of Sir Charles Lemon (see above), and several papers by W J Henwood on natural history. The RIC did not neglect geology either, for Charles Peach (who had been elected an associate member in 1840), W M Tweedy and others published on this subject in its Reports.

The Polytechnic Society, which had overtaken the RGSC as the leading society in Cornwall in the 1830's (see Section 3), began to diminish in importance after about 1850. This was in part because its original growth of members could not be sustained, and because the mines withdrew their financial support after 1839; the Quaker founders also refused to allow an extension of its activities to include dancing and music. The annual exhibitions of the Polytechnic also changed in character, providing opportunities for manufacturers to display new machinery, instead of allowing local
inventors to show their ingenuity; after 1920, the exhibitions ceased, for mining was no longer a major economic activity in Cornwall.148

8.4 The survival of the society

There is another question which must be answered: why the RGSC survived, unlike so many other provincial societies of this period, which disappeared almost as rapidly as they were formed. Several times in the 19th century circumstances occurred which might have led to closure of the RGSC. Paris's role in setting up the RGSC was important, and there seems to be little doubt that his removal from Penzance was initially a serious blow to its future (see Section 3). Henry Boase wrote to Lord De Dunstanville about the prospect of Paris's intended departure in the following terms; "We must of course be content with a far inferior secretary".149 However the institution survived this loss.

At this time the continuity of the society would have been important, for it could not have been acceptable to the "inner circle", and perhaps to other residents in the area, if the oldest scientific society in Cornwall had had to close. Members also took pride in the fact that their society was the oldest, and until 1837 the only, provincial society to specialise in geology. Pride in local affairs would have meant that termination of the RGSC would have been regarded as capitulation to Truro, which was just about to establish its own philosophical society.
It is perhaps significant that the RGSC did not own a home of its own until 1867. Unlike many other scientific societies, including the RIC and the RCPS, which had acquired their own premises, it continued to pay rent for Geological House. The society therefore did not become burdened with the debt problems frequently created by building expenses until after 1867. Only when the new museum in the West Wing of St John's Hall had been opened in that year, did the institution begin to suffer problems similar to those of other societies which had become involved in expensive building programmes. When the RGSC had begun to experience real difficulties in maintaining a full programme of geological papers in the 1830's (see Table 6 (pp.262-3)), it is possible that had it also had a debt problem in addition, it might have been forced to cease operating.

A reason for the survival of the society in the later part of the 19th century may have been due to the special role that amateurs can have in the earth sciences. Their contributions can still be important today in certain areas of geology because it is partly a field-based study - it depends on access to rocks in place. The only other science in which this is an important criterion is natural history. Geology and natural history were also two of the sciences which have continued to attract popular support well into the twentieth century, unlike the "harder sciences" such as physics and chemistry. This amateur tradition kept together a small but effective nucleus of active members in Penzance throughout the nineteenth century, which can be seen in the contributions of people like Elizabeth Carne and Howard Fox. Miss Elizabeth
Carne, daughter of Joseph, was a respected amateur geologist in her own right, contributing four papers to the society's Transactions, as well as for other periodicals;\textsuperscript{152} she was the first woman member of the RGSC, elected in 1860. Howard Fox, from the Falmouth family, was also a noted local geologist, making important contributions to the geology of the Lizard, and the study of the radiolarian cherts of Cornwall.\textsuperscript{153} Other amateurs continued to take an interest in the rare minerals and fossils of the county.

The society may also have survived because it became a "family tradition" to belong. Examination of the membership lists throughout the 19th century shows that certain names, mainly those of Penzance families, were consistently present. The most extreme example of this is the post of Hon. Treasurer which has been held by a member of the Bolitho family since 1858 (see Appendix 7). Other names which persisted were Carne, Millett, Le Grice, Fox and Enys. This continuity is another example of local pride in the society, as well as evidence that the RGSC had become a symbol of the local establishment, for several of these families were from the local gentry. However in only a few cases did these members do much to enhance the scientific reputation of the society. Elizabeth Carne and Howard Fox (see above) were two of the exceptions.

The membership of the RGSC declined steadily throughout the nineteenth century, and by the beginning of the nineteen twenties had reached its lowest point (see Figure 8 (p.51)).
In the post war period, efforts were made to revive the work of the institution, and this was assisted in part by offering membership to students at the Camborne School of Mines, founded in 1883. They were also given the chance to have their work published in the Transactions, an opportunity which was taken by several. The first two contributions from students at the Camborne School of Mines were published in 1925. A number of these students maintained their membership after graduating.

Most recently the RGSC has faced severe problems with its home in the West wing of St John's Hall, and the museum and library have had to be closed for some time, to allow extensive repairs to take place. It is hoped that, as a result of hard work by some members of the current Council, and with the help of grants from various charitable bodies, the building will be reopened in the near future, with a restored and modernised museum.

8.5 The social legacy of the RGSC

Some recent studies of philosophical societies have emphasised the social aspects of these institutions, and particularly the consequences of membership upon individuals. Although it has been shown in Sections 2 and 3 that the concept of the legitimization of marginal men will not apply to the members of the RGSC when it is used in the sense of allowing members of dissenting sects to advance their prospects, it might have been expected that some of the individuals who joined the Cornish Geological Society would have benefited in other ways
from their association with, or contributions to, the institution. This section will examine the effects of the establishment of the RGSC on its individual members, on the town of Penzance, and on the county of Cornwall.

Paris, as one of the founders of the RGSC, clearly had an interest in the consequences, on his own career, of setting up a scientific society. When he arrived from London in 1813, he was not yet established in private practice, and his medical reputation was still in the process of being formed. When he left Penzance four years later, he returned to the capital to set up in private practice and, by his own account, began in an encouraging way. At least some of the gentlemen to whom he had been introduced by Maton, or whom he had met through the activities of the RGSC, began to seek his services as a physician for themselves or their families when in London. These included the Gregor and Hawkins families and Davies Gilbert.

Paris did make a success of his career as a physician, for he achieved one of the highest posts to which a medical man could aspire, the Presidency of the Royal College of Physicians, an office which he held for 12 years. He did not continue his interest in geology after his return to London (see p.29), so it must be assumed that, as an ambitious man, he recognised that he would gain more prestige through his medical work, and through his medical writing.

Would Paris have had such a successful future in medicine had he not gone to Penzance, and had he not established a Geolog-
ical Society there? These are two separate questions, for it must be asked whether it was the reputation he made for himself by practising his craft which was more important, or whether it was his work for the society that won him public recognition. Paris was able to draw attention to himself through his activities as secretary of the RGSC, especially his publicity of the safety instruments sponsored by the society. This publicity was so successful that he was later often described as the inventor of the instruments, although as shown in Section 7 the instruments were developed by a number of individuals, and Paris's main contribution was publication of descriptions of the safety bar and shifting cartridge. Paris also contributed to the formation of a myth that he alone was the founder of the RGSC; the second edition of A Guide to the Mount's Bay, which he published anonymously "by A Physician", included the following information about the society: "In the year 1814, DR PARIS,...succeeded...in establishing a society for the cultivation and promotion of mineralogical and geological science" (the capital letters were his). By the time of his death in 1856, the "myth" had become "fact", for his obituary in the society's Annual Report referred to "the decease of a gentleman to whom this society actually owes its origin". As described in Section 2, two others, Henry Boase and Majendie were most probably also involved in the formation of the RGSC.

Could Paris have achieved similar results for his career had he not become involved with the Geological Society? It seems likely that the professional contacts that he had made in
Cornwall were used to his advantage on his return to London, as it was suggested by McMichael and Munk that the "influence [of the leading families in Cornwall] was...exerted to advance his interest in the metropolis";\textsuperscript{164} he had obtained introductions to at least some of these families as a physician, rather than as secretary of the society. He also owed a part of his medical reputation to his publications. The most successful, in terms of the money he made from it, was his Pharmacologia on the history of medical substances; it was estimated that he raised over five thousand pounds from the various editions, a considerable sum of money, and an indication of the popularity of the work.\textsuperscript{165} The first edition was published in 1812, a year before Paris arrived in Penzance. In the previous year he had published A syllabus of a course of lectures on pharmaceutical chemistry, based on his work in the Westminster Hospital. After his return to London, he continued to write. He made several revisions of the Pharmacologia..., and by 1825 the sixth edition was about to be published.\textsuperscript{166} His medical books also included Medical Jurisprudence, co-authored with J S M Fonblanque (1824), Elements of medical chemistry (1825), and A treatise on diet... (1st edition 1826). His other works included A Memoir on the life and scientific labours of the late Reverend William Gregor (1818) (this was based on an obituary speech made at the RGSC Anniversary Meeting in 1817).\textsuperscript{167} He also wrote a book for children, Philosophy in sport made science in earnest (1827), a controversial biography, The life of Sir Humphry Davy (1831), and A biographical sketch of the late William George Maton (1838). He invented an educational toy, the "Thaumatrope", in 1825,\textsuperscript{168} which a correspondent of Henry Boase's suggested
"must be a fortune to him".  

Paris's only publications while he was in Penzance were *A guide to the Mount's Bay* (1816) and some pamphlets based on his papers to the RGSC, which were later also included in the first volume of the society's *Transactions*. It seems possible that his creative work may have been side-tracked by his responsibilities to the RGSC, and that he could perhaps have enhanced his reputation just as much had he continued with his writing. He made no revisions of his *Pharmacologia* while in Penzance, but in the 1820's, once he was back in London, five new editions of the book were published.

It should however be noted that not all Paris's books were favourably received, for he incurred the anger of the Davy family by some of the material included in *The Life of Sir Humphry Davy*, and John Davy was provoked into writing his own version of his brother's life. *Philosophy in sport*, which was intended as an introduction to science for children, was used by Paris as an opportunity to make fun of some of the residents of Penzance. He was particularly rude about one character in the book, "Dr. Doseall", soon identified as Dr Henry Penneck of Penzance. During his stay in Penzance, Paris had become involved in a lengthy dispute with Penneck, which centred around the latter man's claim to be described as a physician and ended with a victory for Paris in a court case at the Cornwall Assizes.

John Forbes, who succeeded Paris, probably derived less bene-
fit from his work for the RGSC than that which he performed for the Penzance Dispensary. It was to the Governors of the Dispensary that he looked to provide him with a reference when he considered moving to Chichester, although perhaps this was only to be expected, as it was a medical post that he sought. Although Forbes had made some contributions to the geology of Cornwall while he held the post of secretary of the RGSC, there is no evidence that he continued this interest after his departure for Sussex. The only material he published on geology after leaving Penzance was based on the work he had undertaken in Cornwall. His knighthood, awarded in 1853, was for his services to medicine, and he had been appointed as Physician to the Royal Household in 1840.

H S Boase certainly anticipated that the two periods he had spent serving as secretary to the RGSC would assist his prospects of an even more promising career. A report in the Royal Cornwall Gazette implied that when he left Penzance in 1837, he had set his sights very high; in an account of a meeting of the Penzance Institute, it was suggested that "It was the general opinion [of the meeting] that his superior abilities would ensure his election to the office of Professor of Chemistry to the London University, to which he aspires". However several months later the same newspaper reported that he was engaged in delivering a course of lectures on mineral resources to the London Institution. The family bank in which he had been a partner, the Penzance Union Bank, had been dissolved in 1836, so he had little reason to return to Cornwall; in 1838 he moved to Dundee, where he remained for the rest of his life. He wrote no more original material.
on the subject of geology after his departure from Cornwall. It is possible that his reputation as a geologist had been destroyed by the punishing reception that his work had received at meetings of the British Association (see p.159).

Henwood was another officer of the RGSC who might have expected that his career could have been enhanced by his work for the RGSC. The period of his greatest success was the 1830's, when he attended meetings of the British Association, published papers in a number of journals, and was, by some, lauded as an up-and-coming young man of science (see Section 6.5). He had been appointed as the curator of the RGSC in 1834, and in 1837 took over in addition the office of secretary. In 1840, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society. Some of his success should probably be attributed to his sponsorship by the Fox family, and to the posts that he held with the Duchy of Cornwall, rather than to his association with the RGSC, although some of the more influential members of the society had assisted in obtaining his appointment with the Duchy (see p.230). In the early years of the next decade Henwood's dispute with R W Fox, and his delays in completing the survey of Cornish mines (see Section 6.4 and 6.5) tarnished his reputation. He also became engaged in a lengthy dispute with the Duchy, which culminated when he was accused of withholding some rents which he had been responsible for collecting. It is likely that this matter would have become widely known about in the capital, and in the mining world, and might have adversely affected his reputation. He left England in 1843, although the reason made
public was that he was to undertake a survey of mines in Brazil.\textsuperscript{185} Nevertheless he remained abroad for 10 years, and never again showed the promise of his youth.\textsuperscript{186}

Other individuals whose careers might have been enhanced by their association with the Geological Society would have included others of the officers, and those members who had papers published in the early editions of the society's Transactions. Henry Boase, Joseph Carne, and the Rev John Rogers seem not to have required the publicity given them by the society in order to make their names. Boase had returned to Penzance in poor health after making money and a reputation in banking in London;\textsuperscript{187} he might be considered to have returned to semi-retirement, for he was aged 51 at the time of the foundation of the society, but he did continue to work as a banker, and also served the town as Mayor. The Rev John Rogers achieved promotion within the Anglican church when he was made a Canon of Exeter in 1820,\textsuperscript{188} but this elevation was unlikely to have been influenced by his work for the RGSC.

Joseph Carne is more difficult to assess; as stated above, few of his personal papers have been found. He had a local reputation for his geological work, but although he had been a Honorary Member of the Geological Society of London since 1807,\textsuperscript{189} he did not contribute to that society's Transactions. His personal status in Cornwall probably owed more to his business acumen, for he died a wealthy man, and to his support for the Methodist Church.\textsuperscript{190} In Penzance he was admired as much for his work for the Library as for his contributions to the RGSC. Davies Gilbert wrote of him in 1838:\textsuperscript{191}
Mr Joseph Carne... a Gentleman eminent for Science and Abilities... is now in respect to Character, Acquirements and Wealth probably beyond any one in the opulent and respectable Town of Penzance.

Two other men who must be considered in this discussion, because of their contributions to geology and to the RGSC, were John Hawkins and R W Fox. Both worked on their geological studies mainly as individuals, rather than within the social group which constituted the Geological Society, although Fox did become more involved with the Polytechnic Society, and with the British Association. Hawkins was physically separate from the RGSC, because of his base in Sussex. He had published little before he took advantage of the Transactions of the RGSC to put his ideas before the public; as discussed above, his motives for deciding to contribute to the RGSC were unclear.

Fox probably gained little from his membership of the RGSC. Although he did provide a number of papers for the society, he made sure that his ideas reached a wider audience by sending the same material to the publishers of journals such as the Annals of Philosophy, which suggests that he had doubts about the ability of a provincial geological society to promote his work nationally, although he may also have been concerned about the gaps between editions of the Transactions. After the foundation of the Polytechnic Society, it was to that institution that he gave the greater allegiance, and it was with that society that he came to be most associated.
There is a final class of people which should be examined; those who did not join the Cornish Geological Society. They are for obvious reasons more difficult to identify, but one man missing from the lists of ordinary or honorary members was John Taylor, the treasurer of the Geological Society of London. Because of his interests, both business and intellectual, in the mining industry, it might have been expected that he would have been elected, but his name did not appear in the lists of members of the RGSC until the 1830's. Taylor had started his mining career in Tavistock in Devon, in 1799, but had returned to London in 1812. He first took an interest in the Cornish mines in 1818, when he launched his own company, Consolidated Mines, and by 1822 it had become the largest single producer of copper ore in the county. It is possible that an application by Taylor for membership of the RGSC may have been "blackballed", but there was no record to suggest that this had happened. His success in the Cornish mines was however resented by many adventurers in the county because of his style of management, and because he tried to devise methods of retaining capital for development; an unpopular move among shareholders who had been used to receiving the full amount of any profits at regular intervals. An alternative explanation for Taylor's delay in joining the RGSC may have been that he did not consider that he would gain anything by becoming a member of what he may have considered an insignificant provincial society. This does not however explain why he did eventually become a member of that society.

Were any of these who did join the society helped to achieve a career in science, or applied science, as a result of the
contacts that they had made, or the reputation they had estab-
lished, through belonging to the RGSC? The discussion above
suggests that few of them gained much from their membership,
except perhaps from an increased measure of respect in the town
of Penzance. A clear cut answer to this question is obscured
by the fact that several of them were medical men, and there-
fore could be said to have already obtained positions in which
they were enabled to use a special version of applied science.
Paris, Forbes, and to some extent, H S Boase, came into this
category, and it has been suggested above that both Paris and
Forbes were most successful in material terms as a result of
their medical work. Henwood is probably the only man who can
be described as having derived some direct advantage from his
association with the society, but his later problems, largely
of his own making, detracted from his achievements. The
argument that men benefited from their memberships of scien-
tific societies by improved social status does not therefore
stand up in the context of the RGSC.

Did the town and the community of Penzance derive any advan-
tages from the existence of the Geological Society? There is
considerable evidence to suggest that local people were proud
of their society. The museum was an attraction which could be
drawn to the attention of potential visitors to the town, and
it was described in Directories and guide books which they
might have consulted. One notable visitor in 1846, who did
decide to see the museum, was Prince Albert; he and the Queen
were touring the south coast in the Royal Yacht, and had
already been ashore at Plymouth. When the party arrived in
Mounts Bay, the Queen remained aboard, but Prince Albert took the opportunity to visit the tin smelting works at Chyandour and the Geological Society, where he "devoted fully an hour to examining the treasures of the Museum"; he then ended the visit by attended a meeting of the Council, in his capacity as a Vice Patron. However the museum and library were not open to the people of Penzance, only to the "scientific stranger" introduced by a member of the society (see pp.110-1); nor were the meetings open, and the cost of an annual subscription, one guinea, would have been beyond the reach of many of the inhabitants.

Meetings of the society, and especially the Anniversaries, were often attended by some of the Cornish gentry, and by distinguished geologists from further afield. In October 1818, meetings were held in Penzance on three consecutive days, with the Anniversary of the RGSC on the 6th, the Anniversary of the Library on the 7th and the Annual Meeting of the Penwith Agricultural Society on the 8th. There was likely to have been quite a gathering of gentlemen from west Cornwall in Penzance during that week, particularly as the RGSC was able to hold its meeting in its new home, Geological House, for the first time. The Royal Cornwall Gazette reported that the "new and commodious apartments of the Society were completely filled". Cornish gentry and some of the visitors to meetings were usually entertained in local homes by the gentlemen of the area (see pp.60-1), so it is unlikely that they would have spent money in the town, except perhaps with local mineral dealers. Hotel keepers however laid on dinners which followed the meetings, and it seems that con-
sumption of alcohol was high on such occasions, if the number of toasts is a fair guide. It seems unlikely however that there would have been much direct financial benefit for the town from the presence of the Geological Society.

It could also be argued that the town, and its invalid visitors, benefited from the presence of a competent physician between 1813 and 1822, the years spent there by Paris and Forbes. It has been suggested above that Paris might not have remained for so long in Cornwall had he not become involved with the Geological Society, and with the plans for a Professor of Mineralogy. The careful steps taken to provide a competent successor to Paris (see p.297) would not have been so necessary, had the new physician not also been expected to take on the role of Secretary to the society. Few Cornish towns other than Falmouth and Truro could boast medical cover similar to that available in Penzance in those years.

On the whole, however, the ordinary citizen of Penzance seems to have taken little notice of the activities of its Geological Society. An editorial report in the West Briton in 1814 expressed in ironical form an opinion which probably typified the views of many of the town's inhabitants:

...the Cornwall Geological Society have taken a large house near the fish market, Penzance... On Friday last a board was put up on the front, on which was painted 'the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall'. Our Penzance correspondent writes that the word GEOLOGICAL has caused much conversation among the fish wives of Newlyn and Mousehole; some say it means Parliament-men; others that it is a new name for newspaper readers; whilst others again assert that it means electioneering.
The meetings of the RGSC provided a source of intellectual entertainment for the middle class merchants and bankers of Penzance, something that had not formerly been available. Henry Boase, whose views have been quoted previously (see p.18), cannot have been alone in wishing for more than had been provided in Penzance prior to 1814. The establishment of other similar institutions in the town, after the RGSC had been created, suggests that there was a cultural void to be filled; the Library, the Penzance Institution, the Harmonic and Natural History Societies all followed the same mode. The founding of the RGSC may also have led to an awakening of an interest in science among the middle classes in towns other than Penzance. The Royal Institution of Cornwall was established in Truro in 1818, and in Falmouth, a Physical Institute, intended to help young men to acquire some knowledge of "Experimental and Natural Philosophy", was founded in 1817. It must however be questioned whether there was a real interest in science, or whether it was other aspects of philosophical societies, the social and entertainment factors, that were of greater importance. There must also have been an element of imitation, since civic pride would have prevented any admission that Penzance was superior to Truro or Falmouth. An example of this can be seen in the seeking of Royal Patronage, an unusual feature of philosophical societies elsewhere in the country, but common to all three senior Cornish societies, and also to the Royal Horticultural Society of Cornwall, founded in 1832.
The Royal Geological Society of Cornwall was essentially a product of the environment in which it was created and grew. Analysis of the types of men who joined the society (see Appendix 1 and Section 3) shows that the dominant group of members came from the middle classes, even though there was an element of "new gentry", but some of these still retained certain of their middle class values. An examination of members' wider cultural demands, as shown by the enthusiasm with which they also greeted the formation of other institutions in Penzance, the Library, the Natural History Society, etc, suggests that in Penzance, as in Liverpool, "science was part of the general literary culture of middle classes". Much of the work done in the society followed in the eighteenth century tradition of William Borlase and his studies of Cornwall: The natural history of Cornwall and Antiquities, historical and monumental of the County of Cornwall. Several of the papers contributed to the society, and published in its Transactions, were continuations and extensions of the accounts that he had made, although restricted to the field of geology. The majority of those papers classified in Table 6 as "petrology" and "historical" were of this class.

It is not however sufficient to describe the society simply as an expression of middle class culture. Despite the arguments that have been used in earlier sections showing that the RGSC was established dominantly for cultural reasons, it was also the product of a society in which economic gain from mining and its associated industries was a important consideration.
It has been argued that this was one reason for the choice of geology as the subject for study, and for the interest of the many bankers, smelters and mine adventurers in its early progress. This concern suggests that science was not regarded solely as a theoretical exercise by the merchants and bankers of Penzance, but was seen also as a study which was intimately linked with their business activities, and which had utility in addition to its cultural values. It is probable also that pressure for useful results from the business interests in the society ensured that the society became involved in original research, and was not merely a forum where accounts of modern developments in science could be heard.

There was therefore, for a few years, an underlying duality of objectives: the first typified by Henry Boase, with his desire for gentle entertainment, and the second by the economic aspirations of the business community. Paris was the leading exponent of the second group, for, as has been shown, although he was not directly involved in business activities, he sought prestige through the support of geological projects which would be of benefit to them. Some of the major research proposals of the society also illustrate this dichotomy of interests, for example as illustrated by two of the case studies described in earlier sections. The efforts made by some members to produce a viable geological map of Cornwall were hindered by a failure to determine whether the mapping was to be purely an exercise recording the surface exposures of rocks, or whether it was expected to assist in the location of economic deposits of tin and copper. The studies of the origin of metallic ore deposits also demonstrate that both
economic and cultural needs determined the progress of these pursuits.

The history of the society shows that the business and mining interests soon decided that their hopes were not to be met, and thereafter their support became only token. The failure of the institution to meet the needs of the mining industry has been discussed, and it has been shown that the size and complexity of the problems which it decided to investigate, and the lack of real help from the mining entrepreneurs, were the reasons for the inability of the society to do much in this field.

Nor, as has been shown, were these problems unique to the Cornish society. But the RGSC also lost a strong leader after the departure of Paris; none of the subsequent secretaries, nor the President, Davies Gilbert, had the ability or the drive to maintain the initial surge of enthusiasm for utilitarian applications of geology. Although in its initial years the Cornish society was able to follow an independent line of geological research, withdrawal of the mining interest and poor leadership combined to dilute this. The problems faced by amateurs with minimal formal training in the methods of science were not easy to overcome, and little action was taken by the officers of the society to remedy this deficiency.

This study has been able to show that several of the ideas that have been put forward to explain the growth of new scientific societies in the early years of the nineteenth century
do not appear to be valid when applied to this Cornish institution. The society appears to have derived its ideas more from the science of the metropolis than from apparently similar provincial societies. Religious dissent does not seem to have been an important criterion either in the formation of the society, or in the conduct of its affairs. It also suggests that although curiosity about science among the members was strong, and an interest in the economic consequences of the applications of science was important to them, there was little desire among most of the participants in the affairs of the RGSC to become involved actively in the pursuit of scientific objectives.

Nevertheless the foundation of a scientific society in Penzance was an significant event in the development of the geological sciences and in the history of scientific societies, because a forum had been created at which attention could be drawn to some of the geological problems, both practical and intellectual, of Cornwall. Although few of the problems posed were resolved within the society, attention was drawn to their existence, a necessary precondition for their ultimate solution. As described in Section 8, the early volumes of the Transactions of the RGSC contained a number of useful and original papers which directed attention to the sort of contributions that might be expected from provincial specialists. The society also provided a more efficient means whereby visiting men of science from London and the universities could disseminate new information relevant to the geology of Cornwall, and where they could meet and encourage local men to apply their own knowledge to the elucidation of the
problems of the area. The problems to which the Cornish men paid attention were sometimes different from those of the Geological Society of London, and this suggests that more notice should be taken of the geology studied in the provinces than some current accounts of the development of English geology would indicate.
NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. Lawrance (1924).
5. Rowe (1973), (142-4).
11. Special Meeting, 15th October 1814, RGSC Minute Book No.1.
12. The goniometer was requested in April 1814, Monthly Meeting, 6th April 1814, RGSC Minute Book No.1. The acquisition of the Voltaic battery was reported on 17th February 1815, RGSC Minute Book No.1.
14. RGSC Soil Analysis Book.
24. Royal Cornwall Gazette 22nd August 1818.
25. West Briton 6th February 1829.
26. RCPS Annual Report for 1834. Many copies of Reports were distributed to mines, to the commanders of the Packets, etc,
free of charge.

27. Quarterly Meeting, 25th November 1814, RGSC Minute Book No.1.


29. R Thomas (1819), (6).

30. Fox (1836); see particularly pp.90-96.

31. See especially Hawkins (1822C and D).

32. DNB.

33. Fox (1830), Figures 25-7 (414). Henwood (1843).

34. Porter (1977), (115).

35. Carne (1827a), (74-5).

36. Hopkins (1844), (52).

37. John Taylor (1837), (271).

38. Report of a meeting in honour of James Watt, at Redruth, Royal Cornwall Gazette 7th August 1824.

39. J Taylor (1829), (9).

40. Budge (1825).

41. Hughes (1963), (398).

42. Morrell (1983), (234).

43. Porter (1977), (130).

44. Shapin (1972), (320, 329).

45. Morrell (1983), (238).

46. Committee Meeting, 21st of 7th Month 1836, RCPS Minute Book No.2. (1835-39), (42).

47. Pearson (1973), (71).


49. Manchester Geological Society (1908), (22-59).

50. Manchester Geological Society (1908), (viii).


52. West Briton, 20th January 1832.

53. Royal Cornwall Gazette, 12th February 1836.
54. A report of a meeting of the Penzance Lit and Phil in the West Briton, 2nd December 1836, included the names of Boase and Henwood.

55. R Edmonds (1839), (933).

56. Royal Cornwall Gazette, 6th December 1839.

57. Royal Cornwall Gazette, 22nd November 1839.

58. Penzance Gazette, 25th December 1839.

59. The first references to these institutions can be found in: St Day, Royal Cornwall Gazette, 1st March 1828; Camborne "formed three years ago", West Briton, 5th February, 1836; Marazion, Royal Cornwall Gazette, 22nd April 1836; St Just, West Briton 20th October 1843.

60. Watson (1897), (57).


62. Rudwick (1963), (353).


64. Munks Roll, III, (120-7).

65. Western Luminary, 25th January 1814 (371).


67. Paris (1816), (12).

68. 1830: Royal Cornwall Gazette, 16th October 1830; 1844: Penzance Gazette, 25th September 1844.

69. J A Paris (1818B), (8).


71. Gregorite was the name given by Paris to the titanium-bearing mineral discovered by Rev William Gregor and named by him, Manacchanite. Paris (1818A).


73. DNB.

74. John Davy (1858), (214).


76. A letter book, apparently of this period, does exist, but the first few pages have been cut out, and the only remaining material dates from the end of the 19th century.
77. Forbes had prepared a "Report on the Meteorology of the West Indies" for the navy. Parkes (1862), (11).

78. Forbes, (1821A) (3).


82. Council Meeting, 13th December 1827, RGSC Minute Book No.1.


84. Penzance Dispensary Minute Book 1809-1828, CRO X 439/1, (219).

85. Collectanea Cornubiensia.

86. Forbes (1834), (46).

87. RGSC Annual Report 1824.

88. Forbes (1834), (46).

89. Royal Cornwall Gazette 8th December 1837.

90. DNB.

91. See reports made annually in the West Briton and Royal Cornwall Gazette.

92. Royal Cornwall Gazette, 29th July 1836; West Briton, 12th August 1836.

93. West Briton 18th October 1839.

94. Royal Cornwall Gazette 11th October 1839.

95. Henwood to John Hawkins, 4th October 1837, WSRO (H), 2, Pt.7/1125.

96. Henwood to Hawkins, 21st December 1833, WSRO (H), 2, Pt.8/1024.

97. Committee Meeting, 1st of 10th Month 1838, RCPS Minute Book (1835-9), (185).

98. Rowe (1953), (192-203).

99. Collectanea Cornubiensia.
100. DNB.

101. This remark was made on the back of a letter from Davies Gilbert. It is not clear from the context whether it was designed to be sent. 13th January 1833, WSRO (H), 2, Pt. 8/965.

102. Copy of letter to Henwood from Hawkins, 16th February 1833, WSRO (H), 2, Pt.8/973.

103. Penzance Gazette, 15th January 1840.

104. Council Meeting, 14th October 1857, RGSC Minute Book No.2, (5).

105. RGSC Annual Report 1821. Tremayne had an estate near St Austell at Heligan, and served as MP for West Cornwall; Tremenheere was a retired East India Company officer.

106. RGSC Annual Report 1821.

107. RGSC Annual Report 1818.

108. Rashleigh Estate Papers, and Rashleigh Papers (Saltash), CRO.


113. RGSC Annual Reports, 1814-5.


118. RGSC Minute Book No.1.

119. DNB.

the geology of other parts of Cornwall', ibid., II, 1822, pp.218-24., 'On the serpentine district', ibid. pp.416-23; 'Notice of the wood and peat found below high water mark, on the beach at Mainporth, between Mawnan and Budock', ibid., IV, 1832, pp.481-3.

121. Rogers Family Autograph Collection, I, CRO RP/3, 4, 6, 12.

122. See RGSC Annual Reports for 1815, 1818, 1820, etc.


124. Stephen Davey was a Council member of the RGSC in 1818, 1822-3, 1826, 1828-9 and 1831.

125. RGSC Annual Reports 1814-30.

126. 'On a formation of bog iron at Perran Consols Mine', listed as read in RGSC Annual Report 1839.

127. Quarterly Meeting 23rd May 1817, RGSC Minute Book No.1

128. Ibid.


130. Ibid.

131. Henwood to Hawkins, 16th February 1833, WSRO (H), 2, Pt.8/972.

132. Henwood to Hawkins, 6th March 1837, WSRO (H), 2, Pt.9/1087.

133. Will of W J Henwood, (died 1875), Somerset House.

134. RGSC Annual Reports 1834-8. These figures exclude the tin and copper mining statistics presented annually by Carne and Alfred Jenkin.

135. Ibid. Each of the following read one paper only: John Rule, R Hocking, R Tregaskis, J Armstrong, J Hancock, T Foss, Capt. P T Cautley (RA), C W Peach.


139. Pieterse (1965), (11).

140. RGSC Annual Report for 1892, (403-4).

141. 'President's Address', 1919, RGSC Annual Report for 1925,

143. 'President's Address', 1919, RGSC Annual Report for 1925, (372).

144. Freeborn (1986), (152).


146. Pearson (1973), (126).


150. Todd (1964), (12-4).


152. DNB.


154. Pieterse (1965), (12).


159. For Gregor, see letter from Paris to John Hawkins, 20th March 1824, WSRO (H) 2, Pt.4/702; for Hawkins, see letter from Paris to John Hawkins 10th July 1824, ibid./718. Davies Gilbert summoned Paris to attend him in his last illness, Davies Gilbert Almanac for 1839, entry for 2nd November, CRO DG 24A.

160. McMichael and Munk (1884), (160).


162. Paris (1824), (26).
163. RGSC Annual Report for 1857, (5).
164. McMichael and Munk (1884), (162).
165. McMichael and Munk (1884), (188).
167. Anniversary Meeting, 16th September 1817, RGSC Minute Book No.1.
168. Paris (1827), iii, (1).
171. There does not seem to have been a second edition of this book; the first was dated 1812, and the 3rd 1820.
173. John Davy (1836).
174. Paris (1861), (68).
175. Bibliotheca Cornubiensis.
178. Forbes (1834, 1836).
180. Royal Cornwall Gazette 21st April 1837.
181. Royal Cornwall Gazette 8th December 1837.
182. Royal Cornwall Gazette 30th September 1836. The name, Penzance Union Bank, had been adopted in 1819.
183. DNB.
185. DNB.
186. DNB.
188. DNB.
189. H B Woodward (1907), (268).
190. Will of Joseph Carne, Penzance (died 1858), Somerset House. Carne had donated £500 to the Methodists for the Wesleyan Centenary Fund; West Briton 18th January 1839.
191. Entry for 4th July 1836, but added by Gilbert in 1838, Davies Gilbert's Almanac for 1836, CRO DG 24A.
192. Cf. Fox (1822A) and (1822B), which were almost identical accounts of his experiments made to determine the temperature gradients in mines.
193. In the RGSC Annual Report for 1824, the name of J Taylor was included in the list of members of the Council, but it is not known if this was John Taylor.
195. Ibid. (21).
196. Ibid. (28).
197. Ibid. (32).
198. Cf. the entry under Penzance in Pigot's Directory of Devon and Cornwall, 1830; and Paris (1816), (12).
199. Royal Cornwall Gazette 11th September 1846.
200. Ibid. There was no record of this visit in either of the Minute Books, and no Visitors' Book for this period has survived.
201. Advertisements in West Briton 18th September 1818.
202. Royal Cornwall Gazette 17th October 1818.
203. A mineral dealer in Penzance referred to by Paris was "Jacobs"; Paris (1824), (207).
204. Report of Annual Meeting of the RGSC, Royal Cornwall Gazette 16th October 1840.
205. West Briton 18th November 1814.
206. West Briton 26th December 1817.
207. The Horticultural Society had acquired a Royal Patron in the same year that it was founded, 1832; Pearson (1974), (165).
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**MEN OF BUSINESS**

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MINING PROFESSIONALS

Arthur Woolf

OCCUPATION NOT KNOWN /MISCELLANEOUS

Frederick Hall
Edward Pearce
John Symons
Alexander Tillock

1814-18 Total no.: 195

NOTE

The names in this Appendix have been taken from Minute Book No.1 of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall. They represent those who joined in February 1814 "without ballot", and those who were recorded as being elected as Ordinary Members at meetings of the society held between 1814 and the end of 1818. The numbers of members elected do not correspond with the numbers quoted in Annual Reports of the same period, therefore there are differences between the totals given here and those in Appendix II.
## Appendix 2

### MINERAL STATISTICS FOR CORNWALL 1785-1850

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<th>METALLIC TIN/tons</th>
<th>METALLIC TIN price per ton/£</th>
<th>METALLIC COPPER /tons</th>
<th>COPPER STANDARD</th>
<th>VALUE OF COPPER AT MINE</th>
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### NOTES AND REFERENCES


2. Copper Standard - contracts made with copper smelters were determined annually, using the copper standard as a basis for negotiation. Deductions were made, depending on the quality of the ore, etc. Hill and MacAlister (op. cit.) (308). All values are given to the nearest pound.

3. The values given here were calculated by Hill and MacAlister (op. cit. (308)) to give more realistic prices than those represented by the Copper Standard.

4. Figures marked with '*' are estimates only. No values are available where the space is marked with '-'.

5. After 1818, all figures include amounts, etc for Devon as well as Cornwall.
6. Tin production figures for 1838-46 are from D B Barton A history of tin mining and smelting in Cornwall Truro 1967 (47).
### Appendix 3

#### POPULATION STATISTICS

### POPULATION OF CORNWALL IN THE 18th CENTURY

*(estimated)*

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### STATISTICS FOR 19TH CENTURY

#### POPULATION

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*OVER...*
### Appendix 3 cont.

#### POPULATION PERCENTAGE INCREASE ON 1801

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**OTHER CORNISH PARISHES (with mining interests)³**

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**PARISHES IN PENWITH³**

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<td>1 022</td>
<td>1 253</td>
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<td>Paul</td>
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<td>1 161</td>
<td>1 188</td>
<td>1 495</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Erth</td>
<td>1 122</td>
<td>1 317</td>
<td>1 604</td>
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<td>St Ives</td>
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<td>3 218</td>
<td>3 526</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Just</td>
<td>2 779</td>
<td>3 057</td>
<td>3 666</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total for Hundred of Penwith</strong></td>
<td><strong>43 226</strong></td>
<td><strong>50 263</strong></td>
<td><strong>60 642</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
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**NOTES**

1. Hansard 1802.
2. Whitacker's Almanac 1986
3. "Mining" parishes only. Census returns - Cornwall.
4. Includes those parts of the parishes of Kenwyn and St Clement which come under the jurisdiction of the mayor of Truro.
Appendix 4

Cornish Mining Society 1792

1792

At a meeting of several Agents Captains and others concerned in Mines, the various Societies formed in this Kingdom for the encouragement of different Arts and Sciences, Agriculture &c, from which the Community at large have received great advantage, became the chief subject of conversation. It was humbly submitted that a Society formed for the general improvement of Mining would not only cause the present Mines to be worked in a better manner but would tend to future discoveries to the great emolument of the Lords, Adventurers, and the commercial interest of the County of Cornwall in particular, and the public in general.

1. It was proposed that the Society established, should be called the Cornish Mining Society

2ndly That a Room should be erected for the Meetings of the Society and for the purpose of depositing the specimens of Ores &c on a convenient spot near the Centre of the Mines.

3rdly That Treatises on Mineralogy, Chemistry, Hydraulics, Mechanics &c should be purchased for the benefit of the Society.

4thly That Specimens of all kinds of Ores and Minerals and particularly early Gossans, from different Lodes, at different depths, and all Stratas, most favorable to the production of Metals, should be procured, and being properly labelled, should be carefully disposed of in the Society's Room for their inspections and examination.

5thly That a Meeting should be held Monthly or Quarterly consisting of Lords, Adventurers, Captains, Agents, and persons conversant in Mining Concerns - to consider and point out the direction of Lodes, Cross courses, Slides, Heaves, &c, and give their opinions in every branch of Mining.

6thly That the Questions should be proposed at the one Meeting for the consideration of Miners and others, and the answers should be delivered in, and reported the succeeding Meeting.

7th That a Book should be procured, in which shall be entered the Minutes of the Society, the Questions proposed, and the Answers received, and every other business transacted in the Society's Room, relative to Mining.

8thly That a Secretary or Clerk be appointed with a Salary not exceeding [blank] Pounds a Year.

9thly That a Subscription be opened for the support and encouragement of this Society.
## Appendix 5

**MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL ADMITTED ON 11.2.1814 "WITHOUT BALLOT"**

from RGSC Minute Book No.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>RESIDENCE</th>
<th>OCCUPATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Batten</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Berryman</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H C Blewett</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Boase</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Bolitho</td>
<td>Chyandour</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thos Bolitho</td>
<td>Chyandour</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Carne</td>
<td>Riviere</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Carne</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Chenhalls jun</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>Mine Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Cornish</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>Surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J Dewen</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>Instrument maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob't Dunkin jun</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>Attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Edmonds</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Physician</td>
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<td>Capt. Ferguson</td>
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<td>Geo. Croker Fox</td>
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<td>Businessman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob't W Fox jun</td>
<td>Falmouth</td>
<td>Businessman</td>
</tr>
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<td>Davies Giddy</td>
<td>St Erth</td>
<td>Gentleman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edw'd Giddy</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>Surgeon</td>
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<td>Thos Giddy</td>
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<td>Surgeon</td>
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<td>Michael Halliday</td>
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<td>Naval Officer</td>
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<td>Sir C Hawkins</td>
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<td>J A Paris</td>
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<td>James Pascoe</td>
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<td>Thos Pascoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Paynter</td>
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OVER...
## Appendix 5 cont.

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<td>Rose Price</td>
<td>Trengwainton</td>
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<td>Wm Rashleigh</td>
<td>Menabilly</td>
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<td>Sir John St Aubyn</td>
<td>Clowance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capt Woolridge</td>
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<td>Naval Officer</td>
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</table>

Total number of names: 65

1. The information in this column has been derived from various sources, including correspondence, newspaper reports etc.

2. The names of these three men appear in the list entered in the first pages of Minute Book No. 1 of the RGSC. Only the entry for Wm Tremenheere can be definitely identified as a signature. The names are not included in a printed list appended to the Rules and Laws of the society, which appeared later in 1814, and there must therefore be some doubt about classifying them as founding members. All three names do appear in later lists of members.

3. John McArthur came to Penzance to fill the post of schoolmaster at the Grammar School; he was subsequently discovered to be a fraud and fled the town, and it has been suggested that he was trying to evade arrest as a highwayman (G C Boase (1976), (93)).
### APPENDIX 6

**MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL IN 1815**

(As printed in a list for presentation to the Prince Regent, Patron of the society.)

FM - founding member

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<td>Lord Falmouth</td>
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<td>gentleman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sir John St Aubyn FM</td>
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<td>gentleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Sir William Lemon</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Rose Price FM</td>
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<td>The Mount</td>
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<tr>
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<td>banker</td>
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<td>apothecary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wm Berryman jun</td>
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<td>banker, smelter</td>
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<td>Stannaries</td>
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<td>clergyman</td>
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<td>RN</td>
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<td>physician</td>
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<td>Rev Coningham</td>
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<td>Rich Cunnack jun</td>
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<td>L C Daubuz</td>
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<tr>
<td>J B Daubuz</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Exeter</td>
<td>surgeon</td>
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<td>Wm Dennis</td>
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<td>attorney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Dewen FM</td>
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<td>physician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Dunkin FM</td>
<td>Marazion</td>
<td>merchant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Edmonds FM</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>smelter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rich Edwards FM</td>
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<td>banker</td>
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OVER...
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<th>OCCUPATION (if known)</th>
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<td>gentleman</td>
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<tr>
<td>G C Fox FM</td>
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<td>businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R W Fox FM</td>
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<td>businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R W Fox jun FM</td>
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<td>businessman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Fox</td>
<td>Perran Wharf</td>
<td>gentleman</td>
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<td>Davies Giddy FM</td>
<td>St Erth</td>
<td>surgeon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Giddy FM</td>
<td>Penzance</td>
<td>surgeon</td>
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<td>E C Giddy FM</td>
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<td>Humphry Grylls</td>
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<td>merchant</td>
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<td>Wm Williams</td>
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OVER...
### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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<td>St Agnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Sampson</td>
<td>Perran Wharf</td>
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Total number of ordinary members: 136  
Number of ordinary members joined after 11.2.1814: 75  
Number of associate members: 3
Appendix 7

OFFICERS OF THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL 1814-1990

PRESIDENTS

1814-1839 Davies Gilbert
1840-1857 Sir Charles Lemon
1857-1862 Augustus Smith
1863-1867 Charles Fox
1868-1871 Hugh Seymour Tremenheere
1871-1879 Warington W Smyth
1880-1881 A Pendarves Vivian
1881-1882 Leonard H Courtney
1883-1890 Warington W Smyth
1891-1892 Lord St Levan
1893-1894 Howard Fox
1895-1896 T R Polwhele
1897-1900 J D Enys
1901-1902 C Le Neve Foster
1903-1904 J H Collins
1905-1906 Richard Pearce
1908-1909 A K Barnett
1909-1910 W Colenso
1911-1912 J H Collins
1913-1914 Lord St Levan
1915-1916 J B Cornish
1917-1918 Rev D Gath Whitley
1919-1920 W H Bolitho
1921-1922 R A Thomas
1923-1924 S James
1925-1926 F J Stephens
1927-1928 J C Williams
1929-1930 Dr J Symons
1931-1932 J M Coon
1933-1934 E H Davison
1935-1936 F C Cann
1936-1937 E H Davison
1937-1941 C H Le Grice
1942-1944 E Round
1945-1948 J Robson
1949-1950 C E Leese
1951-1952 J Setchell
1953-1954 Rev G C Sara
1955-1956 Sir E H W Bolitho
1957-1958 K F G Hosking
1959 D W Thomas
1959-1970 J D Opie
1971-1972 G J Shrimpton
1973-1978 T R Wilson
1979 J P R Polkinghorne
1979-1990 C V Smale
1990- M G Weller
### SECRETARIES

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<tr>
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<td>John Forbes</td>
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<td>1822-1827</td>
<td>Henry Samuel Boase</td>
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<td>1827</td>
<td>T F Barham</td>
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<tr>
<td>1828-1833</td>
<td>E C Giddy (and Curator)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1833-1837</td>
<td>H S Boase</td>
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### Assistant Secretaries

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<td>1896-1925</td>
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<td>1927-1970</td>
<td>E H W Bolitho</td>
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(Names in parentheses indicate joint incumbency)
CURATORS

1818-1833  Edward C Giddy
1834-1840  W J Henwood
1841-1844  vacant
1845-1862  R Q Couch
1863-1865  vacant
1866-1867  Clement Le Neve Foster
1868-1869  (Clement C Le Neve Foster
           (J H Collins
1870-1871  George Bown Millett
1872-      (G B Millett
           (G T Bettany
1873-1879  C Le Neve Foster
1879-1884  Robert James Frecheville
1884-1888  (R J Frecheville
           (Joseph Carne Ross
1888-1889  (Thomas Cornish
           (A E Pinching

1890-1895  (A E Pinching
           (Herbert Warington Smyth
1896      H W Smyth
1897-1913  J B Cornish
1914-1916  -
1917-1923  J B Cornish
1924      (J B Cornish (and Secretary)
           (E H Davison
1925-1932  W P Simmons
1933-1936  E H Davison (and Secretary)
1937-1947  W P Simmons
1948-1954  Miss A Williams (and Secretary)
1955-1956  J Robson
1957-1958  T Williams (and Librarian)
1959-1986  G J Shrimpton
1987-1989  C I Moyle
1989-      M Mount

Assistant Curators

1833  W J Henwood
1873-1878  G T Bettany
1924  W P Simmons
1933-1936  W P Simmons

Salaried Assistant Curator and Librarian

1879-1891  W A Taylor
**Appendix 8**

**TABLE OF PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP - PENZANCE**

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<th>NO. OF MEMBERS</th>
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<th>Baptist</th>
<th>Society of Friends</th>
<th>Jews</th>
<th>Primitive Methodists</th>
<th>Jordan Baptists</th>
<th>Holy Catholic Apostolic</th>
<th>Wesleyan Association</th>
<th>Church of England</th>
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**NOTES**


2. Edmonds left a blank space here. The new St Mary's Church, opened in 1836, was built to contain 2 000 places.
APPENDIX 9

PAPERS READ TO THE ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL
BY W J HENWOOD, 1825-1842

(from Annual Reports and Minute Book No.1 of the RGSC.)

* indicates papers published in Transactions of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall

(n) Volume number

1825 On metalliferous veins

1826 *(III) An account of some circumstances connected with the heave of a copper lode by a flukan vein in the Consolidated Mines, in the parish of Gwennap

*(III) On a singular exudation of gas in the Union Mines, in the parish of Gwennap

1828 *(IV) On the stream works of Cornwall

*(IV) On the manipulations to which the ores of tin and copper are subjected, in the central mining district of Cornwall

On the separation of a solution of the muriate of soda, in a large way, at the salt mines of Bex in Switzerland

1829 *(IV) Appendix to a paper, on the tin stream works of Cornwall

1830 Observations on some of the metalliferous veins of Cornwall; and on some of the metalliferous deposits of Devon

1831 Notice of the occurrence of rounded stones in metalliferous veins

A brief notice of the progress made in the geological examination of all the mines in Cornwall

On a system of notation with reference to mineral veins

1833 Report of further progress made in the geological survey of the mines of Cornwall

Observations of the intensity of terrestrial magnetism, on Carn Brea Castle, on the surface of Dolcoath mine, and 210 fathoms deep in the same mine

On some curious intersections of veins in Dolcoath mine
1834 On some curious phenomena of veins, recently observed in the survey of the Cornish mines

Additional observations on the metalliferous veins of Cornwall

Details of some experiments on the horary vibrations of the magnetic needle in vacuo, with a view to investigate the question of the diurnal variation of terrestrial magnetism

An examination of the Cornish slickensides, showing that they cannot be referred to a mechanical origin

An enquiry whether the veins of Cornwall afford evidence of elevation or subsidence of the strata

Notice of the effects of a flash of lightning at East Huel Crofty Mine

1835 Observations on the temperature of mines

On the electrical phenomena exhibited in the metalliferous veins of the Ocrynian Range

1836 On slickensides, and whether they afford evidence of mechanical origin

On periodical variations in the quantities of water afforded by springs

1838 On the metallic copper found in the turburies near Dolgelley, Merioneth

On the expansive action of steam in the cylinders of the Cornish pumping engines

On a section of the cliffs on the north coast of Cornwall, from Cligga Point to Lower Saint Columb Porth

1839 On the mineral composition and mechanical structure of the metalliferous veins of Cornwall, and their relation to the rocks they traverse

1840 Notes on the geology of the counties of Gloucester and Restigouche in New Brunswick, and on the Canadian bank of the River Restigouche

On the sulphur ores (from pyrites) of the Vale of Ovoca, County of Wicklow
On the circumstances which influence the metallic portions of lodes

none
### APPENDIX 10

CLASSIFICATION OF PAPERS INCLUDED IN
TRANSACTIONS, ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL,
I - IV, 1818 -1832

VOLUME I 1818

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NOTES

1. Corresponding members were first elected in 1835. This class of members was abandoned in 1869, when existing corresponding members were transferred to the list of honorary members.

2. Second class members, who paid an annual subscription of 5/-, were first listed in 1847.

3. The information in this column has been taken from the annual 'Treasurer's Report'. The amount recorded as received from subscriptions has been divided by the annual subscription (eg: from 1814-1928, this was one guinea). Associate and Corresponding Members paid no subscriptions, and a few members paid for ten years in advance. Therefore although the number of subscriptions paid may give a better idea of the actual numbers of active members, the figures are not fully reliable.

4. The first entry for 1814 gives the number of founding members on 11th February 1814.

5. Life members were first elected in 1870.

6. From 1930 the Life Members included 3 "Emeritus Life Members".

7. From 1938, the Emeritus Life Members were included with Honorary Members.
### APPENDIX 12

ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CORNWALL – PAPERS AND NOTICES READ 1814-1850

(excluding annual mining statistics)
from RGSC Minute Book No.1, and Annual Reports

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Notes

1. Including papers on mining practice and technology, vein theory and education of miners, but excluding papers on mining laws of earlier centuries.

2. There was no Annual Meeting or Annual Report in 1832, because of an epidemic of cholera in Penzance.

3. From 1841, the figures include only those papers published in RGSC Transactions, as Annual Reports did not include lists of papers read during the years after 1840.
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