

whilst I considered that the high- and mid-level Loess belonged to the Rubble-drift, and was therefore of marine origin. In the paper I now refer to, by M. Xavier Stainor, he gives the analyses of some of the Belgian Loess, in which, besides the ordinary ingredients, a notable proportion of Chloride of Sodium, in one case as much as 1.17 per cent., has been found. This Loess contains the usual common land shells—*Pupa marginata*, *Succinea oblonga*, and *Helix hispida*.

SHOREHAM, KENT.  
April 19th.

JOSEPH PRESTWICH.

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## OBITUARY.

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### WILLIAM PENGELLY, F.R.S., F.G.S.

BORN 12TH JANUARY, 1812.

DIED 17TH MARCH, 1894.

THERE has just been gathered to his rest, in his 83rd year, one of that small band of Geologists who assisted Falconer, Busk, Lyell, Prestwich, Lartet, Christy, Evans, Rupert Jones, Boyd Dawkins, and a few others, to place upon a scientific basis that inquiry into the evidence of Pre-historic man which was systematically commenced in this country by the exploration of Brixham Cave in 1858. This work, which was carried out under the auspices of the Royal and Geological Societies by Mr. William Pengelly, of Torquay, yielded most important results, and was followed, in 1864, by a similar investigation of the historic Kent's Cavern, Torquay (originally partially explored by the Rev. J. McEnery in 1825), and, like the Brixham Cave, carried out with untiring zeal by Mr. Pengelly for a period of more than fifteen years (see British Association Reports 1865-1880).

WILLIAM PENGELLY was born at East Looe in Cornwall, January 12th, 1812. Coming to Torquay as a young man, he opened a school, which he carried on for some years on the Pestalozzian system, and was one of the first to introduce the use of the chalk and black-board in imparting instruction.<sup>1</sup>

The author of numerous treatises on the Devonian and Triassic Rocks of Devonshire, on St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall, and many other geological subjects, Mr. Pengelly, in conjunction with Dr. Heer, of Zurich, published a monograph on "The Lignites of Bovey Tracey," which is regarded as a most valuable scientific work. His assiduity in the collection and arrangement of specimens is testified by the magnificent series of Devonian fossils which, under the title of the Pengelly Collection, was lodged in the Museum of Oxford University by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts in connection with the Burdett-Coutts Scholarship, and also by the splendid collections of bones and flint-implements from Kent's Cavern, which he has placed in the British Museum and in the Museum

<sup>1</sup> Amongst his private pupils in Mathematics was Miss (afterwards the Baroness) Burdett-Coutts, who, through life, remained his staunch friend.

of the Torquay Natural History Society. Ever eager to foster a love for science among the people, and to encourage studies which had for their object the advancement of scientific knowledge, Mr. Pengelly was especially active as a lecturer, and could easily make himself understood by persons totally ignorant of science. Twenty years ago he travelled through the country as one of the most acceptable lecturers of the day. His efforts locally were equally successful. He was instrumental in 1837 in establishing the Torquay Mechanics' Institute, and seven years later, together with the late Mr. Vivian and others, he originated the Torquay Natural History Society, of which he was the Honorary Secretary for many years, and is the last of the original founders. In 1867 he started the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and Art, of which he was the President in 1867–8. From their inception he took a prominent part in these institutions, and his eminent services in many capacities have been recognized on several occasions by the members. Undoubtedly Mr. Pengelly was an enthusiast. As he said in his Manchester lecture in 1872, "the pleasure of the work is the payment," but his valuable and historic labours have not been unrecognized. A regular attendant at the annual meetings of the British Association, over the Geological Section of which he was President, and which for many years he served as Secretary. He was elected F.G.S. in 1850, and received the distinction of F.R.S. in 1863. In 1874 he was the recipient of a testimonial of between 500 and 600 guineas "in recognition of his long and valued services to science generally, and more especially for the exploration of Kent's Cavern, Torquay."

In 1877 Mr. Pengelly was awarded the "Lyell Geological Fund" by the Council of the Geological Society, and in 1886 the same body conferred upon him the "Lyell Medal" as a mark of honorary distinction, and as an expression of the Council's recognition of his valuable scientific labours.

Mr. Pengelly was presented with his portrait, painted by A. S. Cope, which now adorns the library of the Natural History Society's Museum in Babbacombe-road, Torquay. On retiring from the Secretaryship of the Society in 1890 he received an address from the members, who "desire to record the high appreciation of the invaluable services rendered to the Society by Mr. Pengelly, who for thirty-nine years has fulfilled the onerous duties of Honorary Secretary," at the same time expressing "profound regret at his retirement." Altogether the time spent in the exploration of Kent's Cavern was over fifteen years—from 28th March, 1865, to 19th June, 1880—the cost being met by the British Association and various scientific friends. Mr. Pengelly wrote no less than ninety-two separate memoirs. He was a member of the Society of Friends, but it is as a scientific man that Mr. Pengelly will be best known and remembered. Mr. Pengelly was twice married, but all his children by his first wife died; the last, Alfred Pengelly, being killed in India whilst hunting big game. He leaves a widow and two daughters, who share their father's scientific tastes.