

## **5 PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES: Of scientific interest**

This Index of Annual Reports lists only the Presidential Addresses, or parts thereof, which in the Indexers' opinions, have scientific content.

For general or curatorial comments on matters pertaining to the Society, the researcher must consult the original Annual Reports which include Minutes, Curators' reports, Membership lists and Librarians' reports. The choice of material deemed to be scientific is solely that of the compilers. Where a year is omitted, the Presidential Address contained no relevant material, or was not delivered.

Titles given in square brackets [ ] are ascribed subjects, assigned by the compiler, because otherwise the title was simply 'President's Address'. Annual Reports are bound into the volumes of *Transactions* in some of the periods, and intermittently are integrated with the main paging system of the bound volumes.

Page numbers in Annual Reports are often unique to each year's issue until 1878, when a system of running Roman numerals is introduced. At Volume XI the Annual Reports were re-integrated into the *Transactions* (in numbering terms).

Annual Reports originally were integral parts of the published *Transactions* of the RGSC, and the prefaces were not attributed to specific authors. The separate publication of Annual Reports was not initiated until 1841 when Sir Charles Lemon took up the presidency. From that year, as the *Transactions* increased in volume and spread over more than a year to completion, the Annual Reports became a separate publication in their own right and were issued annually, often in the following calendar year.

Annual General Meetings were generally held in November and publishing was a much lengthier process than in modern times. Each consisted of the following content, though the reports were of varying lengths as indicated. Each Annual Report contained the following information:

Patrons, Officers and Council & Membership list (sometimes partial)

Address of the President if given

Report of the Council from the Secretary/Curator

Donations list to the Museum and Library

Treasurer's Account

Latterly, a 'List of Papers read at the Annual Meeting' is appended (though the papers themselves awaited publication in the *Transactions*, often for some years, or never reached publication). For researchers, this becomes important, as the date of 'reading' is the first intimation of 'new findings', rather than the (delayed) publication date.

### **1843: 30th Annual Report, 28pp**

Presidential Address: Sir Charles Lemon, Bt, MP, FRS, PRCPS, **VI:** 9-21, 1843.

[Changes in sea level and in land height], **VI:** 12-15;

[South-west Granites], **VI:** 15-17;

[Glaciations of Ireland], **VI**: 17-21.]

**1845: 32nd Annual Report, 25pp**

Presidential Address: C Lemon, **VI**: 9-19, 1845.

[R W Fox's Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society (RCPS) paper on Pseudomorphous crystals], **VI**: 10-11;

[Comments on Fossil Plants], **VI**: 11-19.

**1846: 33rd Annual Report, 32pp**

Presidential Address: C Lemon, **VI**: 9-27, 1846.

[Murchison's book on the Geology of Russia], **VI**: 14-19;

[Notes on Palaeozoic stratigraphy in Britain], 19-23;

[Hunt's Tables of tin and copper raised in Cornwall], 24-27.

**1847: 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 20pp**

Presidential Address: C Lemon: **VII**: 9-14.

[Experiments on shells to imitate fossilization processes], **VII**: 11-12.

**1848: 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 24pp**

Presidential Address: C Lemon: **VII**: 11-14.

[Silurian (period) in Cornwall], **VII**: 11-12;

[Coal Deposits & Fossils], **VII**: 11-12;

[Metamorphism in Cornwall], **VII**: 13-14.

**1850: 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 26pp**

Presidential Address: C Lemon: **VII**: 9-15.

[Silurian in Cornwall], **VII**: 10-11.

1852-1858 *No presidential addresses.*

**1859: 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 16pp**

Presidential Address: A Smith, **VII**: 5-11

[Sustained comments on the lives, work and personalities of the late Joseph Carne, and the late Rev Charles Valentine LeGrice], **VII**: 5-8

[Comments on Antiquity of the Human Race], **VII**: 8-11.

**1860: 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 21pp**

Presidential Address: A Smith, **VII**: 9-13.

[Comments on Darwin's Theory, as unproven], **VII**: 9-13.

First woman listed as 'ordinary member' of the RGSC: 'Miss Carne' (Elizabeth Catherine Thomas Carne)

**1862: 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 14pp**

Presidential Address: Day Perry Le Grice, VP in absence of A Smith, **VII**: 5-8.

[Further comments on Darwin's Theory for which he sees no proofs] **VII**: 8

[The exhaustion of our coal-fields as referred by Sir William Armstrong at Newcastle], **VII**: 8.

**1863: 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 26pp**

Presidential Address: A Smith, **VII**: 5-8;

[Comments on Darwin's Theory continued, 'unproven' **VII**: 5-8.]

**Volume VIII** in two parts (two volumes) Published in 1872-3 as noted below, was solely focussed on the researches of William Jory Henwood. A list of

subscribing supporters is provided in Part I, together with his acknowledgements. The Annual Reports for the ten year period of his research are found in chronological order in the volumes that followed Volume VIII.

**1864: 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Report, 22pp**

Presidential Address: Charles Fox, FGS, **IX:** 5-16;  
[Haughton on the Granites of Donegal], **IX:** 6;  
[Sterry Hunt and Zirkel on Crystalline Rocks], **IX:** 7;  
[Stratigraphy of Cornwall], **IX:** 8-11;  
[Temperature of the Earth], **IX:** 11;  
[Geological Time], **IX:** 13;  
[The Evolution Hypothesis], **IX:** 14-16.

**1865: 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report, 23pp**

Presidential Address: C Fox, **IX:** 6-17;  
[Organic Remains of the Laurentians], **IX:** 6-8;  
[Petroleum-bearing Strata], **IX:** 9-11;  
[Temperature of the Earth], **IX:** 11-12;  
[Californian Gold Reefs], **IX:** 12-13;  
[Vertebrate Discoveries], **IX:** 13-14;  
[Kent's Cavern], **IX:** 14-17.

**1866: 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report, 25pp**

Presidential Address: C Fox, **IX:** 6-18.  
[Eozoon Canadense], **IX:** 6-7;  
[The Geology of Norway], **IX:** 7-8;  
[Devonian Rocks of North Devon], **IX:** 8;  
[Formation of Valleys], **IX:** 9;  
[Coal-fields Commission], **IX:** 11;  
[Miocene Flora of Greenland], **IX:** 13;  
[The Development Theory], **IX:** 14.

**1867: 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 33pp**

Presidential Address: C Fox, **IX:** 8-22.  
[The Cornish Fossils], **IX:** 9-12;  
[Nature of Granite], **IX:** 12-15;  
[Igneous Rocks], **IX:** 15-16;  
[Nature of Serpentine], **IX:** 16-19;  
[Meteors and Meteor-showers], **IX:** 19-20;  
[Cavern Explorations], **IX:** 20-22.

**1868: 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 40pp**

Presidential Address: Hugh Seymour Tremenheere, **IX:** 6-22  
[Chemical Treatment of Cornish Ores], **IX:** 14-15;  
[Geological Time], **IX:** 17;  
[Cornish Geological Problems], **IX:** 20-22.

**1869: 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 33pp**

Presidential Address: H S Tremenheere, **IX:**  
[Mr Henwood's Labours], **IX:** 15

**1870: 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 33pp**

Presidential Address: H S Tremenheere, **IX:** 7-17.

[Mr Henwood's Labours], IX: 7;  
[Subterranean Temperatures], IX: 9;  
[Mr Peach's Discoveries in Cornish Palaeontology], IX: 11-12;  
[The Tennasserim Tin Deposits], IX: 13-15;  
[Diamonds of South Africa], IX: 15-17.

**1871: 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 34pp**

Presidential Address: H S Tremenheere, IX:  
[Mr Henwood's Labours], IX: 5;  
[Scientific Instruction], IX: 7;  
[Geological Problems], IX: 11-18.

**1872: 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 25pp publ 1874 (double issue)**

Presidential Address: Warrington Wilkinson Smyth,  
The announcement of the issue of *Vol VIII, Transactions, (Survey)* and its  
author Mr W J Henwood, IX: 11;  
[The Granites, Elvans and Greenstones], IX: 12;  
[The Position and Relations of the Sedimentary Rocks of Cornwall], IX: 12;  
[Changes of Level on the Cornish Coasts], IX: 13.

**1873: 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 56pp publ 1874 (dbl issue)**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, IX:  
[The Fossil Collections], IX: 35;  
[Connection of Geology with Mining], IX: 36-38;  
[Deep Mines of Przibram], IX: 38;  
[Discovery of Tin in Queensland], IX: 39;  
[Tin Deposits of Tennasserim], IX: 40.

**With this issue the page numbering system for Annual Reports was  
changed to Roman numerals**

**1874: 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Report, 26pp**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, IX:  
[Mr Henwood's Works], ix;  
[M Moissenet on the Lodes of Cornwall], ix;  
[Elie de Beaumont's Theories], xiv.

**1875: 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report, 35pp**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, IX:  
[Sub-Wealden Boring in Sussex], xx;  
[Deep Mines in Bohemia], xxi.

**1876: 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report, 29pp**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth IX:  
[Local Geology], xii;  
[J W Judd on Geology of Granite, &c], xiii;  
[Bischoff's Chemico-mineralogical Researches], xvi;  
[Daubr e on Minerals of Bourbonne-les-Bains], xvi.

**1877: 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 36pp**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, IX:  
[The Fossil Collections], xv;  
[The Fossils of Cornwall], xvi;  
[The Geology of Cornwall], xviii;

[Professor Juke's Views on Upper Palaeozoic Stratigraphy], xx;  
[Dr Holl on the Cornish Rocks], xxiv;  
[Table of British and Foreign Devonian Fossils, xxvi.]

**1878: 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 40pp, publ 1879**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, **X**:  
[Cyprus & its Metallic Products], xvii;  
[Tin Production in Australasia, (Tin Production in Queensland, New South Wales, Bangka, Blitong, & Sumatra)], xvii-xix;  
[Edible Clay], xix;  
[Geology of Cyprus], xx.

**1879: 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 32pp**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, **X**:  
[The Rocks of the Penwith District], lvi;  
[Mr J Arthur Phillips on Cornish Rocks], lvii;  
[Mr Allport on the Metamorphic Rocks of the Land's End District], lx;  
[Professor Daubr e on Stanniferous Deposits], lxi;  
[Mr Allport on the Serpentine of Clicker Tor], lxi;  
[Mr Ussher on the Quaternary Geology of Cornwall], lxi.

**1880: 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 28pp**

Presidential Address: Sir Arthur Pendarves Vivian, **X**:  
[Plumosite & Amazon Stone], lxxxix;  
[Fossil Mussels from Coal-beds in South Wales], xc;  
[The Cribbor Vawr Coal Vein], xc-xcii

**1881-2: 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1882**

Presidential Address: A P Vivian, **X**:  
[The Volcanic District of Mont Dore, Auvergne], cxx – cxxv;  
[Tertiary Fossils at Clermont Ferrand], cxxi-cxxii;  
[The Formation of the Valleys of Mont Dore], ccxxv.

**1882-3: 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1883**

Presidential Address: Sir Leonard Henry Courtney, **X**:  
[The Debt owed in the Present Day to Science], cix;  
[Special Influence of Geological Study on Mental Training], cixiv;  
[Geology of the Massif Central, France], cxx

**1883-4: 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1884**

Presidential Address: L H Courtney, **X**:  
[The Instability of Nature], cxc;  
[Earthquakes and Volcanoes], cxci – cxciv.

**1885: 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Report**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, **X**:  
[The Pliocene Deposit at St Erth], ccxxii-ccxxiv;  
[Geological Classification and Nomenclature], ccxxv;  
[Geology and Mining of North America], ccxxvi-ccxxx;  
[Pike's Peak], ccxxvii;  
[The Nevada Mining District and its Downfall] ccxxviii-ccxxx;

**1886: 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth, **X**:

[The St Erth Deposit], cclx-cclxvii;  
[Mr Searles V Wood and Dr Gwyn Jeffreys], cclxi-cclxvii;  
[The Eruption of Krakatoa], cclxvii-cclxix]

**Annual Reports bound into Volume XI with Transactions, page numbers running from 1-741, with list of illustrations appended.**

**1886: 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report, publ 1887**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth  
[Tertiary Shells at St Erth], **XI**: 14;  
[Manganese Mining], **XI**: 15;  
[Earthquakes (recalling 1757 in West Cornwall)], **XI**: 15-24;  
[Tarawera Eruption, New Zealand], **XI**: 23-24.

**1887: 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1888**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth  
[Petrology], **XI**: 75-79;  
[Professor Bonney on Metamorphism], **XI**: 77-79.

**1888: 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1889**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth  
[Geological Division and Nomenclature], **XI**: 124-136;  
[Cornish Tertiaries], **XI**: 132-133;  
[The Quaternary Epoch], **XI**: 133-136.

**1889: 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1890**

Presidential Address: WW Smyth  
[Phenomena of Lodes], **XI**: 186-195;  
[Przibram Mines], **XI**: 191-192.

**1893: 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1894**

Presidential Address: Howard Fox,  
[A conversational review of findings in Transactions (first 11 vols) on Cornish Geology, 500-511 incl; Cornish Geological Problems], **XI**: 502-507;  
[Mullion Island Cherts], **XI**: 507-509;  
[List of Papers on Geology of Cornwall], **XI**: 512-514.  
List of Papers on Cornish Geology, *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* 1845 – 1893, **XI**: 512-14

**1894: 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Report, publ 1895**

Presidential Address: H Fox  
[Progress in Cornish Geology during the past year], **XI**: 578;  
[The Lizard Rocks], **XI**: 578-584;  
[Soda-felspar Rock at Dinas Head, Padstow], **XI**: 584-585;  
[Rate of Formation of Shingle], **XI**: 585-588;  
[Channel and Local Drift], **XI**: 586-588.

**1895: 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report (88 pages) publ 1896**

Presidential Address: Thomas Roxburgh Polwhele  
[The Relation of other Sciences to Geology], **XII**: 11-17;  
[Change of Axis of Rotation of the Earth: astronomical findings], **XII**: 16-17.

**Sequential page numbering resumes in 1896 (1-812, including index)**

**1896-7: 83<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Address: T R Polwhele**

[Formation of the Earth, **XII**: 13-18, continuing from 1895 remarks on 'Change of Axis of Rotation of the Earth'.]

**1897: 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1898**

Presidential Address: John Davies Enys

[A quick review of first 8 volumes of papers and authors concerning Cornish geology in previous Transactions], **XII**: 80-89.

**1898: 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1899**

Presidential Address: J D Enys

[The Submerged Forests], **XII**: 193-203.

**1901: 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1902**

Presidential Address: Sir Clement Le Neve Foster

[Formation of Mineral Veins], **XII**: 475-482.

**1902: 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1903**

Presidential Address: C Le Neve Foster

[Place names and mining], **XII**: 625-635.

**1903: 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1904**

Presidential Address: Joseph Henry Collins

[Development of Cornish Mining], **XII**: 731-736.

**1904: 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Report, publ 1905**

Presidential Address: J H Collins

[Summary of Geological and Mineralogical history of Cornwall and Devon, and aspects of mining], **XIII**: 11-19.

**1905: 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report, publ 1906**

Presidential Address: Dr Richard Pearce

[General Observations on the Mining Industry and Economy of Cornwall and elsewhere], **XIII**: 99-112.

**1906: 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report, publ 1907**

Presidential Address: R Pearce

[State of Cornish Mining and Notes on the Genesis of Ores, continuing previous theme], **XIII**: 161-174.

**1907: 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1908**

Presidential Address: Andrew Ketchan Barnett

[100<sup>th</sup> centenary of the Geological Society of London & the origination of geological research as a recognised department of science, established by chemists and mineralogists, 'the parent of geology' (Geilkie); a Cornish scientific literature review], **XIII**: 209-220.

**1908: 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1909**

Presidential Address: A K Barnett

[Comments on Cornish Geology Mining and Minerals], **XIII**: 266-273.

**1909: 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1910**

Presidential Address: William Colenso

[Submerged Forests and Raised Beaches], **XIII**: 313-18.

**1910: 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1911**

Presidential Address: W Colenso

[The Hydro-Geology of Cornwall], **XIII**: 437 - 443.

**1911: 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1912**

Presidential Address: Joseph Henry Collins

[Review of Cornish Mining History], **XIII**: 489-502.

**1912: 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, publ 1913**

Presidential Address: J H Collins

[Recent developments in Cornish Mining], illus, **XIII**: 547-550.

**1914: The Centenary Celebration** (labelled as **Vol XIV**).

[Anonymously rendered report in 30 pages of the 100 years of scientific work undertaken through the RGSC]

[Observations on the West of England Mining Region], J H Collins, **XIV**: 1-683, Being an account of the mineral deposits and economic geology of the region, and forming the whole of Vol. XIV].

**Volume 15:**

*Note at the top of the Contents page of Volume 15: 'Readers are advised that through an error, which is regretted, the numbering of pages 271 to 312 of this volume is repeated. They are, therefore, distinguished in the Index, etc. as Part I and Part II.'*

**1915: 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report publ 1916**

Presidential Address: John Batten Cornish

[Comments on Cornish Geology in the previous century necessarily affecting scientific reporting], **Part I, XV**: 93-98;

[Notes on the Coast of Mount's Bay], **Part II, XV**: 96-98.

**1916: 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report publ 1917**

Presidential Address: J B Cornish

[Geology & Agriculture – Soil], **XV**: 127-135.

**1917: 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1918**

Presidential Address: Rev D Gath Whitley

[Animal Bones from South Devon, etc], **XV**: 197-203;

[Pleistocene in Cornwall], **XV**: 204-211.

**1918: 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1919**

Presidential Address: D G Whitley

[Pleistocene and Landscape in Cornwall], **XV**: 253-260;

[Igneous Rocks and Landscape in Cornwall], **XV**: 260-262.

**1922: 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1925**

Presidential Address: R A Thomas

[Notes on Mining], **XV**: 350-354.

**1923: 110<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1925**

Presidential Address: S James



[Geological Features of the Witwatersrandt and observations during the working of Mines], **XV**: 395-99.

**1924: 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1926**

Presidential Address: F J Stephens

[Notes on Cornish Geology and Mining], **XV**: 475-486.

**1925: 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Report publ 1926**

Presidential Address: F J Stephens

[Statigraphical Notes], **XV**: 395-399.

**1930: 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Report**

Presidential Address: J M Coon

[Notes on the “the giants of those days” the first series of Presidents of the RGSC], **XVI**: 136-149.

**1933: 120<sup>th</sup> Annual Report**

Presidential Address: E H Davison

[The Mineral Associations of Tin Lodes], **XVI**: 256-261.

**1935: 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report publ 1936**

Presidential Address: F C Cann

[Notes on Cornish Lodes], **XVI**: 376-378.

**1946: 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report publ 1947**

133<sup>rd</sup> President's Address: J Robson

[Nature Reserves in Cornwall], **XVII**: 293-305.

Since the mid-20th century Presidential addresses, when they have been delivered, have contained mainly administrative or housekeeping content, together with memorials and obituaries of previous members.

End of Presidential addresses with scientific content