

remarked, and to the end of his life he had abundant opportunity to gratify his desire in many widely separated areas. In 1845, at the age of 21, he was first employed as an assistant geologist on the survey of Great Britain, and received his earliest lessons in field geology, from no less a personage than Prof. A. C. Ramsay, who had the immediate supervision as local director of the work in England and Wales. Sir Henry de la Bèche, with the title of Director-General, had control of the whole organization of the Geological Survey. With Selwyn were associated as colleagues such well known men as W. T. Aveline, Edward Forbes, Sir W. W. Smyth, Sir Joseph Hooker, Dr. Lyon Playfair and others, while Oldham J. Phillips, Murchison, J. W. Salter, J. Beete Jukes and others, joined the Survey before Selwyn's retirement. Of Selwyn's work on the Survey, we find Ramsay saying, "His work there (on the Shropshire sheets) and here (North Wales) is the perfection of beauty," while Sir A. Geikie years afterwards states that "The geological structure is portrayed by Ramsay and Selwyn with a boldness and vigour, and at the same time with an artistic feeling which has hardly been equalled in geological section drawing." Towards the end of July, 1852, after seven years spent in the mountains of Wales, he was chosen by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the recommendation of his official chief, Sir Henry de la Bèche, as Director of the Geological Survey of the colony of Victoria, Australia. About the same time he was married to Matilda Charlotte, daughter of the Rev. Edward Selwyn, rector of Hemmingford Abbots, Hunts. To his new duties, Selwyn brought the wide experience gained in unravelling the intricate Lower Silurian rocks of North Wales, with their associated volcanic deposits which greatly assisted him in the mapping of the Silurian strata of Victoria. Under him were such able geological assistants as C. S. Wilkinson, H. Y. L. Brown, C. B. Brown, R. Etheridge, Jr., and others. He was almost continually in the field, and with the co-operation of his assistants, produced an admirable series of geologically coloured maps of the colony, accompanied by reports. At the time of Selwyn's appointment Victoria had just entered upon all the excitement attending the opening up of its wonderful gold-fields, so that almost his first work consisted in mapping out its