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EXCURSION TO BROMLEY AND CHISLEHURST.

JUNE 15TH, 1872.

Directors.—JAMES W. ILLOTT, Esq., and COLES CHILD, Esq.,
F.G.S.

This excursion was rendered noteworthy by the large attendance of Members, who quite filled the railway station at Shortlands, at which place the party left the train in order to visit the neighbouring West Kent Water Works, where a well had recently been sunk into the Chalk. The well had been completed with highly successful results, a most abundant supply of excellent water having been obtained. The resident engineer, Mr. Morris, kindly described the operations, and exhibited a detailed section of the well. Walking along the railway the Members attentively examined the sections of the Pebble-beds of the Woolwich Series, near Bromley Station, and then entered the park of Bromley Palace, the residence of Mr. Coles Child, and under that gentleman's guidance inspected a section of the Shell-beds of the Woolwich Series, exposing a bed nearly entirely composed of *Cyrena*, with another bed made up of *Ostrea*.

Mr. Child hospitably entertained the party in the beautiful gardens of the Palace, in which some of the evergreens are of remarkable size, and then led the way to his brick-works at Widmore, where an interesting section of the Woolwich Series with a capping of what may represent the Basement-bed of the London Clay is exposed. The lower beds have yielded plant remains in a fine state of preservation. A pleasant walk through Sundridge Park brought the party to the well-known section of the Woolwich Series in the woods of this beautiful domain, in which the *Cyrena* and *Ostrea* are found together, and not in separate beds as at the section previously mentioned. The lodge at the park gates is built of material from these beds, and the abundance of fossil shells displayed gives to the structure a very curious and picturesque appearance.

Leaving Sundridge Park the party proceeded to the caves or excavations in the Chalk under Camden Park, which ramify and extend to a considerable distance from the entrance. Nathaniel Strode, Esq., the owner of Camden Park, had with great courtesy caused the caves to be illuminated for the occasion, and thus the Members were enabled to observe the structure of the Chalk as displayed in the numerous faces of these branching excavations. Mr. Pott narrated his discovery of ancient excavations and antiquities at this place, where, as at many other localities in this part of Kent, cavernous hollows in the Chalk have existed since the times of the pre-historic inhabitants of Britain.

Leaving the Chalk Caves, the party walked to Chislehurst village, by way of Camden Park, and after a little time devoted to rest and refreshment, returned to London from Chislehurst Station.