

MR. C. MOORE, F.G.S., of Bath, delivered an able address on

The Geology of the District.

The palæontology, the ancient natural history, of the district, he said, exceeded in interest that of any district in England. The Carboniferous limestone was very full of organisms, and the coal beds were very full, and when they came into the upper beds of the Keuper they had organic remains in the greatest abundance. He cited instances of his discoveries at Hollwell, in the neighbourhood of Frome, and the Vallis where a few yards of earth contained a million specimens of organic remains. With regard to the mineralogy of the locality, they had the Ham iron and manganese mines very close to them. Although there was iron to be found there it was not in such quantities as to pay for working, the manganese being much more plentiful. He had made some explorations at Mells, with the view of finding lead ore; the very first blow of the pick axe brought to light a piece of what they

were looking for, and if it increased as it had done, and he hoped it to do, the yield would be very good. Mr. Moore concluded by giving greater details as to the contents of the various beds around Shepton.