

of the Pliocene or English "Crag." The stratigraphy of the Tertiary deposits so ably described by Brongniart was further investigated by several eminent French geologists, a very suggestive paper on differences of facies being contributed in 1838 by C. Prévost (cf. p. 503). Hébert in 1848 threw new light upon many of the stratigraphical features, especially the structural relations at the margins of the basin.

In England, Joseph Prestwich¹ had commenced his studies of the two Tertiary basins of Hampshire and London in the year 1846. He contributed a series of memoirs to the *Journal of the Geological Society*, all of which display remarkable scientific judgment and accuracy of observation. Prestwich demonstrated for the first time the presence of Thanet Sands as a well-defined zone below the London Clay, and showed that the latter was not the equivalent of the Bracklesham and Barton strata, nor of the "Coarse limestone" of the Paris basin, but belonged to a deeper horizon. In a memoir published in 1855, Prestwich made an attempt to compare the older Tertiary groups of England with those of the Paris basin and Belgium, relying upon the results of D'Archiac and Dumont for his data regarding the Continental deposits. Both these authors had previously drawn up synchronous tables for the English and Continental developments, but the subsequent researches of Prestwich enabled him to make certain alterations from the English standpoint.

The only foreign equivalent which Prestwich could find for the *Thanet Sands* was the lower part of the Belgian Landenien (Heersien); in the Paris basin he regarded the lower glauconitic marine sands (Sables de Bracheux), the plastic clay, the lignite and the conglomerate of Meudon as equivalent of his *Woolwich Series*; true *London Clay* seemed absent in the Paris basin, but was represented in Belgium by the lower *Yprésien* of Dumont. The Lower Bracklesham or Bagshot strata were represented by the sands of Soissons, Cuise, Aizy, and Laon in the Paris basin, as well as by the upper part

¹ Sir Joseph Prestwich, born 1812 at Pensbury near London, was educated partly in England, partly in Paris, and after the completion of his studies at University College in London, he entered his father's business, from which he only retired in 1872. All his leisure was devoted to geological researches, and in 1874 he succeeded J. Phillips as Professor of Geology in Oxford. In 1888 he was President of the Fourth International Geological Congress in London; he died on the 23rd June 1896.