

The Rev. H. H. Higgins drew attention to the fact that a memorial of some kind is about to be erected in Chester to the late Canon Kingsley, and expressed a hope that this Society would give practical aid.

The President alluded to the discoveries of Mr. J. T. Wood at Ephesus, and expressed a hope that on his return, in May, from the United States, whither he is now proceeding, he might be able to lecture in Liverpool on the subject.

Mr. Boulton drew attention to a recent work by Mr. Furley, on *The Weald of Kent*, some of the facts in which and inferences deduced appear to be highly favourable to his views respecting the causes which have brought animal and vegetable remains to the sea beach of Cheshire. He remarked as follows:—

Referring to the discussions which had taken place at various times on the origin of the arboreal remains near Hoyleake and elsewhere on the adjacent coasts, he drew attention to a recent work on *The Weald of Kent*, by Mr. Furley, in which mention was made of similar remains in the marshes of Romney and Walland, which the author stated could not, in his opinion, have formed part of the forest, but were swept into the Dowles by inundations and tempests. Mr. Furley cited, in confirmation, the opinions of Mr. James Elliott of Dymchurch, and Mr. Thomas Elliott of Playden. The former said many of the trees were found in such a position as to give a strong impression of their having grown there; but when, and under what circumstances? The surface of the land is now thirteen feet under high water. No trees could have grown in such a position, that is certain; and the relative levels of sea and land must have wonderfully changed if they really grew where now found. The whole country around is full of timber a few feet under ground. Some enormous oak trees had been found, and he might say bushels of hazel nuts, as bright and sound as they fell from the trees, as well as a great variety of leaves of oak, hazel, &c., showing most unmistakably that there had been no action of the water over them, no rubbing, no scouring going on. What a state of things, he adds, to reconcile with the present thirteen to fifteen feet *below* present high water mark!

Mr. Thomas Elliott is quite of Mr. Furley's opinion, that no portion of Romney or Walland Marsh formed at any period part of the forest of Anderida; and thinks there is sufficient proof that it could not have been so. If it had been a submerged forest, there would have been, in some places, remains of the soil in which the timber grew; whereas this timber and peat rest on the *sea sand*, covered by the alluvial soil from the after deposit; and further, the bulk of the *timber* is found immediately in front of the entrances of the valleys through which the Weald poured its waters to the sea. (Vol. ii, pp. 761-2.) Mr. Boulton had much pleasure in quoting the opinions of these practical men in corroboration of the suggestions he had offered as to the local remains.

The following paper was then read—

ON STATISTICS OF THE EUROPEAN FLORA,\* by Thomas Comber, Esq.

\* Transactions, p. 13.