at length by the late Sir James Paget in one of his most felicitous speeches. In 1898 he delivered at Charing Cross Hospital the Huxley Lecture, in the English language.

Prof. Virchow has from very early in his career devoted considerable attention to practical hygiene and anthropology. His work upon prehistoric cave-men and Swiss lake dwellings may be taken as a type of the thoroughness with which he accomplished anything he undertook. Last, but not least, the great pathologist was, and indeed is, a politician of no mean order. He entered the Chamber in 1862 and served there till 1878. His work as a politician was devoted to the cause of liberty and truth, and even those who did not agree with his doctrines were unanimous in their respect of his motives.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the aged Professor may for many years to come continue his valuable work, and to all students of science no item of the varied programme of the Virchow celebration was more welcome than the astonishing vigour and youthful earnestness with which the object of their congratulations for two hours, addressed them.

F. W. T.

THE RECENT WORK AT STONEHENGE.

AT a meeting held last March at Stonehenge and attended by representatives of the Society of Antiquaries, of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Monuments and the Wiltshire Archæological Society, various plans and measures were discussed and suggested for the better preservation of Stonehenge. The whole state of the surrounding neighbourhood being changed from its former quietude by the introduction of new elements, such as the military camps at Bulford, &c., the making of the new branch line of the South-Western Railway (from Grateley to Amesbury), it became necessary to meet the altered circumstances by the exercise of greater precautions for the care of the beautiful old Sun Temple standing in the midst of the grass-clothed downs —a thing of wonder and mystery to behold. The advice given to Sir Edmund Antrobus by the representatives of these societies was as follows, published in the *Times* of April 3.

Resolutions.

(1) That this Committee approves of the suggested protection of Stonehenge by a wire fence not less than 4 ft. high, following on two sides the existing roads and crossing on the west from the 331-foot level on the north road to the 332-foot level on the south road shown on the O.S. map (1–2, 500), Wilts sheet liv. 14.

(2) That the Committee recommends, without prejudice to any legal question, that the local authorities be requested to agree to divert the existing track-way or ridge-way from Netheravon now passing through the earth circle so as to pass from the 302-foot levels in the O.S. map immediately west of Stonehenge.

(3) That stones 6 and 7 with their lintel, and stone 56 (according to the numbering on Mr. Petrie's plan) be first examined, with a view of maintaining them in a position of safety.

(4) That, in the opinion of this Committee, stone 22 should be replaced, stone 21 be made safe, and the lintel of 21 and 22 be replaced in the most safe and conservative manner. The Committee also recommends the re-erection of stones 57 and 58, and their lintel 158.

(5) That the instructions to custodians already in force be approved with a few suggested alterations.

(6) That this Committee feels that it is impossible to overstate the value of the assistance which the County Council of Amesbury can give to the efforts made to preserve this unique monument.

(7) That these resolutions be sent to Sir Edmund Antrobus with the earnest thanks of the Committee, for the part he is proposing to take in the preservation of Stonehenge, also that it be left to him to communicate with the Press.

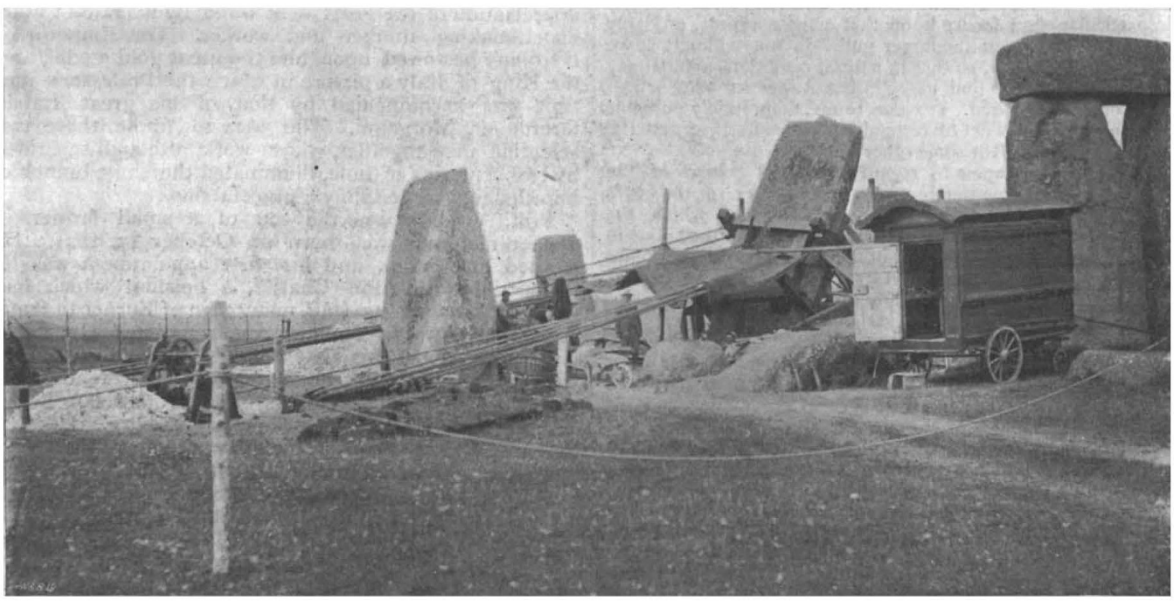

FIG. 1.—The work at Stonehenge. Raising the leaning stone.

The fence was erected by Whitsuntide and is 1700 yards in circumference and composed of lightest barbed wire of a neutral tint and absolutely invisible at a distance, so that the traveller gets the whole effect of Stonehenge in its full grandeur instead of, as in former days, the view of the stones mingled with two or three flys, a cart, an old waggonette, and photographer's van, &c., to say nothing of picnic luncheons, spread out within the sacred circle. This fence encloses as large an area as possible,

being well outside the vallum except on the west side, where a right of way interferes with the true circle. The next work undertaken—the most difficult and important of the whole—was the raising of the "leaning stone"—the largest monolith in England except Cleopatra's needle—to an upright position. This stone formed one of the uprights of the trilithon the fall of which was said to have been caused by the digging and researches of the Duke of Buckingham in 1620. The horizontal and the other upright (the latter broken in two pieces) now lie prostrate across the altar stone.

The great stone leaned considerably towards the N.E. and appeared to rest upon (actually touching at one point) a beautiful little pillar stone of syenite, the danger being that in some storm, especially after a heavy fall of snow and sudden thaw, the great stone would break in three pieces (having three veins) in falling, and also crush the smaller stone beneath it.

That a forward movement was continually taking place is shown by observations taken by Mr. Flinders Petrie some years ago. It then leaned at an angle of 62, which has been increased to one of 65 degrees lately. The work of the raising of the stone was begun on August 18 and finished September 25, and was under the direct supervision of Dr. Gowland, Mr. Detmar Blow, architect, and his assistant Mr. Stallybrass, and Mr. Carruthers, engineer. The first thing done was to make a fitting to the stone of a strong timber cradle so as to protect it from injury by the immense iron chains and ropes placed round it, these being attached to winches worked by men, so that the stone was actually "wound up," so to speak, into an upright position. Hydraulic jacks were also used. The whole thing was most carefully and slowly done, and devotedly watched over by workers. A rectangular excavation was made in front of the stone, a square excavation at the back. A frame of wood with numbers at equal distances apart was placed over the ground, which was excavated in sections, and the earth was most carefully sifted in layers through four grades of sieves in such a manner that the position of every object found could be recorded. The excavations round the base of the stone are now filled with concrete, and the large struts which uphold it will remain in their positions for six months, until the concrete be thoroughly set.

The objects found were one Roman coin at a shallow depth, and many chippings of both the blue and sarsen stones. Numerous flint axe heads and large stone hammers were also found at a depth of from two feet to three feet six inches underground; all tending to prove the great antiquity of Stonehenge—at least Neolithic. But all this will be discussed scientifically later on.

FLORENCE C. M. ANTROBUS.

BIRD LIFE IN THE CANARIES AND SOUTH AFRICA.[1]

ALTHOUGH the author can scarcely be congratulated on his choice of a title, which in our opinion is too prolix and disconnected, he has succeeded in producing a very readable and interesting little work, based on a stay of six months in the Canaries and a sojourn of about the same duration in South Africa. Much of the contents is devoted to the ordinary incidents of travel, but the special feature of the book is formed by the excellent series of photographs of birds in their native haunts. As every one who has tried bird-photography is aware, but little can be done with the camera in this respect except during the nesting season; but the author's object has been, not to obtain pictures of the birds while actually sitting, but in their natural attitudes when in the neighbourhood of their nesting places. In this way it is possible to show birds in positions which could not be attempted in a drawing; and the value of such pictures for the guidance of the taxidermist who desires to be true to nature cannot be over-estimated. Apart from getting near enough to the bird without disturbing it, there are, however, difficulties connected with this branch of photography which can only be fully realised by those who have had practical experience.

The ideal way of showing a bird, as the author tells us, is perhaps to portray it amid its natural surroundings, but, with rare exceptions, this is unfortunately a practical impossibility in photography. The chief difficulty with which the photographer has to contend is the background—whether this should be in proper focus at the expense of the bird, or *vice versâ*. In most of the photographs the background has been sacrificed; the birds standing out against a dark background, due to out-of-focus distance behind them. This method has the advantage of bringing into relief the various markings and details of the plumage in a manner that would otherwise be impracticable; and, at any rate from the naturalist's point of view, the author is to be congratulated on the success of his method, many of the pictures being perfect representations of bird life.

In the section of the work dealing with the Canaries, a very considerable portion of the text, as well as some of the illustrations, are devoted to the description of the country, its inhabitants and its buildings, so that it is only here and there natural history subjects are discussed at any length. There are, however, several excellent photographs of the nests and eggs of birds—notably the stone-curlew and the Egyptian vulture; and we may call especial attention to the pictures of a malachite sun-bird and its nest (Plate xxii) as first-rate examples of what can be done by photography in portraying the smaller types of bird-life.

In the second part of the volume, which treats of the author's experiences in South Africa, the bird-lover will find a very large amount of interesting matter. Personally, we have been much attracted by the author's account of his visit to Bird Island and St. Croix, two islets lying off Port Elizabeth. Apparently no one is allowed to visit these bird-haunted islets without a special permit, and an amusing story is told of the difficulty of obtaining such permission in this particular instance. Bird Island is the chosen resort of the Cape gannet, and the following account, illustrated by two photographs, gives a good idea of the numbers of these birds in the nesting season:—

"We rounded the north end of Bird Island first," writes Mr. Harris, "and then, close to the lighthouse, and covering quite an acre and a half of ground, were to be seen thousands of Cape gannets. The ground was white with the birds themselves, while above them in the air a kind of kaleidoscopic effect was produced by the ever-moving wings. Among a crowd of birds so thickly packed together as these gannets were, one naturally wonders if it is possible for them to keep to their own eggs; perhaps each bird recognises its own special place from the position of its neighbour. . . . The men at the lighthouse say that these birds arrive in a mass at this, their breeding season, and that when the season is finished the island is untenanted as to bird life until the following year. The spectacle was not so imposing as that presented by the gannets on the Bass Rock in Scotland, where the birds, as seen from a distance, have the appearance of bees swarming round a hive. Here the birds were shown horizontally instead of vertically."

Penguins are likewise abundant on these islands, and the author was fortunate in obtaining two photographs of these birds, in one of which they are shown swimming, and in the other standing on the rocks.

Perhaps the most interesting chapter in the whole book

[1] "Essays and Photographs. Some Birds of the Canary Islands and South Africa." By H. E. Harris. Pp. xvi+212. 8vo. Illustrated. (London: Porter, 1901.)