

tackle generally would be much improved, and the efficiency and economy of bolts and nuts be thereby increased.

He recommends also standard gauges of the diameters and threads, as they would form a convenient adjunct to the screwing apparatus, and would be applicable to other useful purposes.

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Mr. Field. Mr. Field claimed for the late Mr. Maudslay the credit of the first attempt to introduce uniformity of thread—it was well known how incessantly his attention and skill had been devoted to this object, and with what success his efforts had been attended. He would at the same time accord great merit to Mr. Whitworth, not only for his present effort to introduce a very desirable measure, but also for the general excellency of the screwing tackle made under his directions.

Mr. S. Seaward. Mr. Seaward corroborated all that Mr. Field had advanced: he had always considered that to Mr. Maudslay the mechanical world was indebted for the accuracy with which screws were now made. He considered the plan proposed by Mr. Whitworth to be good, but difficult of attainment in old-established manufactories, where very extensive assortments of screwing tackle already existed.

The President. The President concurred in the opinion, that it was to Mr. Maudslay's well-known talent and skill that the mechanical world was indebted for the great improvements in the form of the screw, and the mode of its manufacture; but it was to Mr. Whitworth that the Institution was indebted for having brought the subject before the meeting: he trusted that this example would not be lost upon the numerous members, who could contribute so largely to the interests of the meetings, by recording the facts which came under their notice in the course of their diurnal employments.

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“Account of the original construction and present state of the Plymouth Breakwater.” By William Stuart, M. Inst. C. E.

Plymouth Break-water. In the year 1806, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty instructed the late Mr. John Rennie, C. E., and Mr. Whidby, then Master-Attendant at Woolwich Dock Yard, to make a survey of Plymouth Sound, with a view to the construction of a breakwater for sheltering vessels.