

icate parts are, often, perfectly preserved; animals, with all their organs entire, and plants with their fibres and leaves in full expansion.

Occasionally, however, we find one stratum with its included mineralized organic bodies entire, and a contiguous one having them more or less broken, mutilated and dispersed.

Both the plants and animals, belong generally to races which are no longer found alive, or if *analogous* races exist, they are related to the ancient ones, rather by generic than by specific characters. These ancient animals, are commonly either zoophytes or, shell fish; always having a simple structure, and in many instances, they are destitute, or nearly so, of the power of locomotion; sometimes, however, they are furnished with organs for that purpose. Madrepores and encrinites, could move very little; the echinus, found abundantly in the chalk, a very recent rock of the secondary class, moved on his spine, which served him for a foot, and some of the early shell fish, had organs to enable them to rise and fall in the water. Sometimes, rocks rich in entombed animals, occupy great districts of country. In the transition marble for instance, animals reposing in the bowels of mountains, miles from day light, often form almost the entire mass, and they are so firmly united to the rock, as to constitute a part of its substance. Many of the architectural marbles owe much of their beauty to imbedded animals, myriads of which lie almost in absolute contact; the matter of the rock between them, only filling up the void occasioned by their angular and confused positions.

The trilobite is one of the early fossilized and imbedded animals; this animal, having in his back, a jointed articulation, could bend his body like a lobster, and we find him sometimes doubled, and sometimes expanded, as he lies in the rocks.*

Possible Mode of Consolidation.

There is little difficulty in understanding how the marine animals, for example, the crinoidea that fill, more or less, the transition limestone of the Peak of Derbyshire, came to be thus entombed. We cannot

* Grand trilobites, of singular size and perfection, were shown me by the late Mr. John Sherman, at Trenton Falls, near Utica, (New York,) where they were obtained. Dr. Eights, of Albany, in a voyage to New South Shetland, found the trilobite, *still a living animal*. Prof. Green, of Philadelphia, has illustrated this interesting family by a valuable monograph and admirable models, moulded and colored, in exact fac simile, with the originals.