

The occasional intervention of igneous irruption, whether submarine or subterrene, below or among the strata of aqueous origin, or upon them, only increases the necessity of time, and when these coincidences occur, they add to the evidence of grand geological cycles.

But diluvial agency is, usually violent, sudden, and of short duration.

If the universal deluge recorded in Genesis, be taken as the type of diluvial action and the time and the elevation stated in the history be taken into the account, nothing could be more violent, destructive, overwhelming; and certainly upon the face of the earth are every where recorded, in legible characters, the necessary physical effects of such a debacle.

It has entered but little into the views of any except geologists to discriminate between these two classes of effects. They are as wide apart as possible, and nothing in science is more unskilful or more unhappy than to confound them.

The surface of our planet has been swept by violent, agitated torrents of water, which covered the earth every where with its own ruins, but probably this cataclysm did not form any of the firm strata filled with organized remains.

*Miscellaneous Illustrations, from Mantell's Geology of the South East of England.**

From this volume, the most recent in time, and not surpassed in authority by any work on Geology, we now cite some miscellaneous facts and conclusions, principally in the words of the respected author.

His labors, ably seconded and illustrated by the talent and taste of Mrs. Mantell, have shed a most unexpected light on the geology of the South East of England; and with the efforts in the same region, of Webster, Murchison, Fitton, Buckland, and other eminent men, have amassed materials upon which are erected general conclusions of the greatest importance. Mr. Mantell's publications on local geology entitle him to rank with Cuvier and Brongniart, whose grand work on the environs of Paris, led the way in this species of research, which, has since, been so ably and successfully followed in many places, and in several countries.

Chapter XI of Mr. Mantell's late work, from which our citations will now be made, forms the conclusion of the volume, and presents

* The preface of which is dated in April, 1833.