

proof of the truth of my proposition—the ennobling effects of the study of God’s works upon a well-regulated mind. Fortunate, indeed, is it for the youth of either sex, who early imbibes a taste for natural objects, and whose pursuits are not thwarted by injudicious friends.”

And while Geology has the hallowing tendency so well expressed in the above remarks, in common with every other department of natural knowledge, it has, in my estimation, this great advantage, that it offers fields of research adapted to every capacity. On some of its investigations the highest intellectual powers, and the most profound acquirements in exact science may be brought to bear ; while many of its problems can be solved by any one who has eyes and will use them, and possesses but an average share of diligence and observation.

But I need not dwell longer on the interest and importance of a study, which instructs us that every pebble we tread upon bears the impress of the Almighty’s hand, and evidence of Creative wisdom and goodness ;—that every grain of sand, every particle of dust scattered by the wind, may be composed of the petrified skeletons of beings, so minute as to elude our unassisted vision, yet were once teeming with life and happiness, and possessed an organization as marvellous as our own ; a science whose discoveries have realized the wildest imaginings of the poet—whose realities far surpass in grandeur and sublimity the most imposing fictions