

mentioned are scarcely worthy of notice, the natural operations by which the tufa and travertine are produced, are extremely interesting.*

Our first stroll shall therefore be to the beds of tufa which have been formed in remote ages by this operation, and now constitute the terrace on which the Old Bath, and two other hotels, and the elegant modern Church, are situated. Proceeding from our Inn, the tufaceous rock may be seen protruding in masses on the right hand, in front of the beautiful parterres of the hotels; and upon crossing the road, where a narrow path leads down to the bed of the river, and nearly opposite to the new church, the lower beds of tufa are exposed in a quarry, from which large blocks of the coarse, porous stone, are extracted for grotto and rock-work. From this spot I collected very fine impressions of the foliage of the oak, elm, and hazel, leaves of adder's tongue (*scolopendrium*), &c. and large portions of moss, beautifully incrustated.†

The origin of this deposit of tufa, which covers

* If the proprietors of these springs could be induced to follow the example of the Italians at San Filippo (see *Wond.* p. 58.), or of the French, in Auvergne, elegant bas-reliefs, and other beautiful objects, might be obtained, for the incrusting power of the Matlock waters is very considerable.

† I could not obtain any specimens of this kind from the quarrymen, nor from the shops or museums, as they are termed; such objects not being deemed "curiosities" by the good folks of Matlock; and the workmen forbade me to search for more in the quarry!