

developed powers, as if they had shrunk under some chill and wintry influence, — exhibiting in the concluding section a broader and more general blow of sentiment and faculty than that of his earlier spring-time, — nay, demonstrating the fact of a more confirmed maturity, in the very existence and arrangement of such a many-volumed History of the Earth and its productions as this great collection constitutes. I found, in the geological department, — splendid, as an accumulation of noble specimens, beyond my utmost conception, — that much still remains to be done in the way of arrangement, — a very great deal even in the way of further addition. The work of imparting order to the whole, though in good hands, seems barely begun; and years must elapse ere it can be completed with reference to even the present stage of geologic knowledge. But how very wonderful will be the record which it will then form of those earlier periods of our planet, — its ages of infancy, childhood, and immature youth, — which elapsed ere its connection with the moral and the responsible began! From the Graptolite of the Grauwacke slate, to the fossil human skeleton of Guadaloupe, what a strange list of births and deaths — of the production and extinction of races — will it not exhibit! Even in its present half-arranged condition, I found the general progressive history of the animal kingdom strikingly indicated. In the most ancient section, — that of the Silurian system, — there are corals, molluscs, crustacea. In the Old Red, — for the fish of the Upper Ludlow rock are wanting, — the vertebræ begin. By the way, I found that almost all the older ichthyolites in this section of the Museum had been of my own gathering, — specimens I had laid open on the shores of the Cromarty Frith some ten or twelve years ago. Upwards through the Coal Measures I saw nothing higher than the reptile fish. With the Lias comes a splendid array of the extinct