

simply the tops of great mountains, that at once sink sheer into deep water ; and the fiords, great glens, like Glen Nevis and Glencoe, that have not yet raised themselves out of the sea. One may voyage for many miles along this bold coast without finding a bit of shore on which to land ; and such must have been very much the appearance of our Western Highlands in the old ice-ages, when the sea stood from five hundred to a thousand feet higher along our steep hill-sides than it does now, or rather the land sat from five hundred to a thousand feet lower. Both Professor Forbes and Mr Chambers refer to the great freshness of the raised terraces which stretch at various heights along the coast, as if to show where the surf had beat during prolonged intervals in the course of upheaval ; and the latter gentleman seems to have been particularly struck by the freshness of the sea-shells that occur at great heights, and by their identity with those which now live on the neighbouring seas. Professor Keilhau showed Mr Chambers *serpulæ* on a rock face, scarce a mile from the busy city of Christiania, still firmly adhering to the spot on which the creatures that inhabited them had lived and died. And yet that rock is now one hundred and eighty-six feet over the level of the sea. The great abundance and freshness of the shells found on some of the raised beaches of the country is of itself an object of wonder. "Uddwalla," says Mr Chambers, in his "Tracings," "is a name of no small interest in science, because of a great bed of ancient shells found near it. The effect was novel and startling, when, on the hill-face o'erlooking the fiord, and at the height of two hundred feet above its waters, I found something like a group of gravel-pits, but containing, instead of gravel, nothing but shells ! It is a nook among the hills, with a surface which had originally been flat in the line of the fiord, though sloping forward towards it. We can see that the whole space is filled to a great depth with the exuviae of marine molluscs,