fragile organisms of the deposit, could not possibly have travelled far. The fossils of our chalk flints and of the underlying greensand are sufficiently numerous and characteristic to serve the purpose of identifying the worn and scattered deposits in which they occur with the amply developed chalks and greensands of England, but perhaps not sufficiently so, nor yet always in a sufficiently fine state of preservation, to render the district a very hopeful scene of labour to the collector desirous absolutely to extend our knowledge of the extinct forms of life. I have seen, however, especially in the collections of Dr. Fleming, the Rev. Mr. Longmuir of Aberdeen, and Mr. Fergusson of Glasgow, fine and very characteristic specimens of the Scotch Chalk,—delicate flustra sponges and corals locked up in flint,—well-marked portions of the sea-egg order (Echinidæ) belonging to the cidarite, galerite, and spatangus families,—terebratulæ of various species,—good specimens of that very characteristic conchifer of the Chalk, the Inoceramus,—with casts of minute belemnites and portions of ammonites and baculites. The group of remains preserved is unequivocally that of the Cretaceous fauna, just as Scotland has also a group of archæological remains decidedly Roman; though in either case these remains serve but for purposes of identification with larger groups elsewhere; and in order thoroughly to study either the one or the other, the antiquary or geologist would have to remove from what is equally the outskirts of the old Roman or old Cretaceous empire, towards its centre in the south.

All our geologists agree in holding that the Chalk was deposited in an ocean of very considerable depth, and of such extent that it must have covered for many ages the greater part of what is now southern and central Europe. It has been traced in one direction from the north of Ireland to the Crimea in Southern Russia, a distance of about twelve hundred miles, and in another direction from the