http://www.geology.19thcenturyscience.org/books/1905-Geikie-FoundersGeol/README.htm

De la Beche appeared (1831) and at once established for itself a world-wide reputation for its ample and clear presentation of the science. It was translated into French and German, and an edition of it was also published in the United States. De la Beche's other works, more particularly his *Researches in Theoretical Geology* (1831) and his *How to observe in Geology* (1835), which showed his remarkable range of acquirement, his scientific insight and his wide practical acquaintance with rocks in the field, were important contributions to the science. But of all the English writers of general treatises on geology, the first place must undoubtedly be assigned to Charles Lyell (1797–1875) who exercised a profound influence on the geology of his time in all English-speaking countries. Adopting the principles of the Huttonian theory, he developed them until the original enunciator of them was nearly lost sight of. With unwearied industry he marshalled in admirable order all the observations that he could collect in support of the doctrine that the present is the key to the past. With inimitable lucidity he traced the operation of existing causes, and held them up as the measure of those which have acted in bygone time. He carried Hutton's doctrine to its logical conclusion, for not only did he refuse to allow the introduction of any process which could not be shown to be a part of the present system of Nature, he would not even admit that there was any reason to suppose the degree of activity of the geological agents to have ever seriously differed from what it has been within human experience. He became the great high priest of Uniformitarianism—a creed which grew to be