

selves here with adding, that the different strata which cover the terrestrial globe, being materials to be considered as actual vitrifications or analogous to glass, and possessing its most essential qualities; and as it is evident, that from the decomposition of glass and flint, which is every day made before our eyes, a genuine clay remains, it is not a precarious supposition to advance, that clays and sands have been formed by scoria, and vitrified drops of the terrestrial globe, especially when we join the proofs *a priori*, which we have given to evince the earth has been in a state of liquefaction caused by fire.

## ARTICLE VIII.

ON SHELLS, AND OTHER MARINE PRODUCTIONS  
FOUND IN THE INTERIOR PARTS OF THE  
EARTH.

**I** HAVE often examined quarries, the banks of which were filled with shells; I have seen entire hills composed of them, and chains of rocks which contained them throughout their