

and matters of every kind, some part of which are deposited in other places in form of sediments, and which are the origin of the parallel and horizontal strata every where to be met with. We have proved in Article IX. that the inequalities of the globe have been caused by the motion of the sea, and that mountains have been produced by the successive masses and heapings of the sediments we have just described. It is evident by Article XIII. that the currents, which at first followed the direction of these inequalities, afterwards gave to them all the figure which they at present preserve ; that is, that alternate correspondence of the salient angles always opposed to the returning angles. It appears likewise by Articles VIII. and XVIII. that the greatest part of the matters which the sea has detached from its sides and bottom were, when deposited as sediments, in form of a fine impalpable powder, which perfectly filled the cavities of the shells, whether it was of the same nature or only analogous to that with which they were composed. It is certain, from Article XVII. that the horizontal strata which have been produced by the accumulation of sediments, and which at first were
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