

thrown on them by the letters of Pliny, authenticated as these are by the existing remains of the buried cities, as well as the historical evidence which is proper to themselves?

Among the questions which geology is at present attempting to solve, is that of a different temperature of some regions of the earth at a remote age. The discoveries of Pallas and Adams, of a rhinoceros and elephant in Siberia, having coverings of hair fit to protect them from the cold of the northern regions, would seem to decide the question, so far at least to show, that there has been no change of temperature since the creation of animals. But the question does not seem yet so satisfactorily answered, so far back as to the age of the creation of vegetables. Does not the statement of Genesis, that the establishment of our present days and seasons was intermediate between the creation of vegetables and that of animals, give us a clew to direct our path in the inquiry?"*

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Having finished this long, but very important and apposite quotation from Prof. Jameson, we proceed to remark that we are aware, from much communication on this subject with eminent biblical critics and divines, how tenacious they are, of the common acceptance of the word day. On points of biblical criticism we have no right to speak with great confidence. But we may be permitted to remark, that from the best consideration we have been able to give the subject, aided by the light, afforded both by criticism and geology, it does not appear necessary to limit the word day in this account, to the period of twenty four hours.

1. This word could have had no definite application, before the present measure of a day and night was established by the instituted revolution of the earth on its axis, *before an illuminated sun*, and this did not happen until the fourth day.

2. The word day, is used even in this short history, in three senses,—for light as distinct from darkness,—for the light and darkness of a single terrestrial revolution, or a natural day; and finally for time at large.

3. In the latter case then, the account itself uses the word day in the sense in which geology would choose to adopt it, that is, for time or a period of time.

* On submitting the criticisms of Professor Jameson to an eminent Hebrew scholar, no fault was found with them, although the inferences with respect to geology, were not admitted.—*Ed.*