

Greenland is suffering a gradual depression. The state, therefore, is one of oscillation, the waters appearing to sink at Torneo, and to retain their former level at Copenhagen. The opinion that Sweden is in this state of change, is no new idea; it was long since noticed by Celsius,* and other Swedish philosophers. Mr. Lyell has twice visited Scandinavia within the last few years, with the view of determining this interesting question; and has fully convinced himself that certain parts of Sweden are undergoing a gradual rise, to the amount of two or three feet in a century; while other parts, farther to the south, appear to have experienced no movement.† He visited some parts of the shores of the Bothnian Gulf, between Stockholm and Gefle, and of the western coasts of Sweden, districts particularly alluded to by Celsius. He examined the marks cut by the Swedish pilots, under the direction of the Swedish Academy of Sciences, in 1820, and found the level of the Baltic, in calm weather, to be several inches lower than the marks, and several feet below those made seventy or a hundred years ago. Similar results were obtained on the side of the ocean, and in both districts the testimony of the inhabitants agreed with that of their ancestors, recorded by Celsius. On the shores of the Northern Sea, there are banks of recent shells,

* Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory, p. 436, edit. 1822.

† Philosophical Transactions. Principles of Geology, Fifth Edition, vol. ii. p. 286.