

have seen that our present plains and valleys were submerged beneath the ocean, at a period when large mammalia, apparently unrestricted by existing limits of climate, were inhabitants of regions which are now no more—and we have obtained additional proof that—

New worlds are still emerging from the deep,
The old descending in their turn to rise!

Even in this early stage of our progress, we have conclusive evidence of the extinction of whole tribes of animals, equally admirable in their adaptation to the conditions in which they were placed, as the races which now exist. And delightful it is to the geologist, to find that this fact, which but a few years since was received with hesitation by most, and condemned and rejected by many, is now adduced by the moralist and the divine, as affording new proofs of the wisdom and overruling providence of the Eternal. Reflecting on these phenomena, the mind recalls the impressive exclamation of the poet—

My heart is awed within me, when I think
Of the great miracle which still goes on
In silence round me—the perpetual work
Of THY creation, finished, yet renewed
For ever!