

focus whence these mineral waters, in all probability, originate. Thermal springs are also very numerous throughout this district.

45. SUMMARY OF THE GEOLOGICAL PHENOMENA OF AUVERGNE.—In the calcareous and silicious limestones of Auvergne, and their associated laminated marls, gypsum, lignite, and conglomerate, we have a general analogy with the older fresh-water tertiary formations of Paris and the Isle of Wight; the shells and plants being similar, and the quadrupeds of the same genera. And if we suppose the Paris basin to have been elevated during the active state of neighbouring volcanoes, and that successive streams of lava had flowed over its sedimentary deposits, we should have a series of phenomena resembling those of Auvergne, with the exception that the presence of marine remains would denote that the basin had been filled with salt water. The facts submitted to our notice appear to establish the following sequence of physical events.

1st. The elevation, after the deposition of the secondary limestone, of the whole area of the primary rocks which form the foundation of central France.

2dly. A period of tranquillity, during which fresh-water lakes occupied the irregular hollows of the district; the neighbouring country being inhabited by palæotheria, anoplotheria, and other extinct mammalia, whose bones, together with the then existing vegetation, and the shells of the lacustrine