

of romance ; a science, whose empire is the earth, the ocean, the atmosphere, the heavens—whose speculations embrace all elements, all space, all time—objects the most minute, objects the most colossal—carrying its researches into the smallest atom which the microscope can render accessible to our visual organs—and comprehending all the discoveries in the boundless regions above us, which the most powerful telescope can reveal.

I may add that, while none of the physical sciences can more strongly impress on the mind, that deep sense of humility and dependence, which a proper knowledge of the works of the Eternal is calculated to inspire, so none can more powerfully encourage our aspirations after truth and wisdom. Every walk we take offers subjects for profound consideration—every pebble that attracts our notice, matter for serious reflection ; and contemplating the innumerable proofs afforded us of the incessant dissolution and renovation which are taking place around us, we feel the force and beauty of the 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 ! ”