

CHAPTER IX.

Return to Charleston.—Fossil Human Skeleton.—Geographical Distribution of Quadrupeds in North America.—Severe Frost in 1835 in South Carolina.—White Limestone of the Cooper River and Santee Canal.—Referred to the Eocene Period, not intermediate between Tertiary and Chalk.—Lime-sinks.—Species of Shells common to Eocene Strata in America and Europe.—Causes of the increased Insalubrity of the Low Region of South Carolina.—Condition of the Slave Population.—Cheerfulness of the Negroes: their Vanity.—State of Animal Existence.—Invalidity of Marriages.—The Coloured Population multiply faster than the Whites.—Effects of the Interference of Abolitionists.—Laws against Education.—Gradual Emancipation equally desirable for the Whites and the Coloured Race.

Jan. 13. 1842.—FROM Savannah we returned to Charleston in a steam-ship, on board of which we found an agreeable party, consisting chiefly of officers of the U. S. army returning from Florida, where they had nearly brought to a close a war of extermination carried on for many years against the Seminole Indians. They gave a lively picture of the hardships they underwent in the swamps and morasses during this inglorious campaign, in the course of which the lives of perhaps as many whites as Seminoles were sacrificed. The war is said to have been provoked by the attacks of the Indians on new settlers.

In the Museum at Charleston, I was shown a fossil human skull from Guadaloupe, imbedded in solid limestone, which they say belongs to the same skeleton of a female as that now preserved in the British Museum, where the skull is wanting.