

mined, and all that is urged in them, with pious intention, and often able execution, be deliberately weighed.

PROOFS OF THE ANTIQUITY OF THE WORLD.

It must, in candour, be admitted that the more eminent geologists are now united in maintaining the greater age of the earth, and that the proofs of it which they advance are not easily withstood. The arguments for the antiquity of the globe are thus summed up by Professor Hitchcock :—

‘1. More than two-thirds of existing continents are covered with these rocks; which contain numerous remains of marine animals, so preserved as to prove incontestably that they died on the spot where they are now found, and became gradually enveloped in the sand, or other stony matter, which accumulated around them, their most delicate spines, and processes being preserved. In fine these rocks present every appearance of having been formed, just as sand, clay, gravel, and limestone are now accumulating in the bottom of the ocean, by a very slow process. Except in extraordinary cases, indeed,