

waters, and that, as a matter of fact, the loftiest peaks have been actually submerged. Sir C. Lyell says, that if the deluge be understood to have covered only 'that portion of the earth which was then inhabited by man, there are two classes of phenomena in the configuration of the earth's surface which might enable us to account for such an event: First, extensive lakes elevated above the level of the ocean; secondly, large tracts of land depressed below that level.'\* Here, then, is another instance in which a bold and seemingly decisive objection to scriptural narrative has perished before the progress of science. It is now proved and conceded that vast regions have been laid under water: and if we believe that the deluge was universal only in respect to man, beyond whose domains the judgment would have been unmeaning, then, in such events as have incontrovertibly happened, we have an appropriate power of destruction quite equal to the results. It is of great consequence to observe that deluges are thus shown to be a part of the course of nature. When this is admitted, and no one now denies it, all that we

\* Vol. iv., b. iv., ch. xix.