

it were a monarch of the forest, would be laid prostrate, and its deepest roots and most aspiring branches would become equally the spoil of the monster assailant.

EXTINCTION AND INTRODUCTION OF SPECIES.

Allied to the Megatherium were various gigantic species which may be grouped together as 'megatheroid animals.' But they have all disappeared from the scene of life, and though they are of comparatively modern date, centuries have elapsed since the last of them looked vainly for its companions, and lay down to expire in sickness and in solitude. Many species of animals have shared the same fate. The nautilus and the ammonite are two shells which are found together, in all the ancient strata, till we rise to the chalk, and there the entire genus of the ammonites bids farewell to animated nature. Mr. Richardson becomes poetical at this thought, and gives some pretty verses, from which I select the following :—