

where it is not merely assumed to serve an end, is more a thing of impression than of argument, and results from the power which things seen wield over our feeble nature. What we

animals at double the amount. Assuming that the ancient epochs of the history of our globe were analogous, in as far as general laws are concerned, to our present world, we may now form some idea of the extent and richness of creative power which this retrospective history displays. Such inductions give us a magnificent idea of the successions of organised bodies during the immense series of ages which are included in our geological chronology, but they are by no means necessary to establish the fact of repeated creations. The simple inspection of any sufficiently complete and accurate list of the organic fossils found in the different formations, affords ample evidence for all purposes of inference and argument, always bearing in mind that the evidence is above all doubt, and that no future progress in our knowledge can assail it, any more than improvements in botany and zoology can ever change the great facts we know respecting the geographical distribution of our present species.

We are here presented with two orders of facts, both of them well ascertained, and both, in our present knowledge, difficult of solution. We have, in the first place, the extinction of multitudes of plants and animals, and that not once but repeatedly; and, in the second place, we have repeated creations of new races. With respect to the extinction of species, the case admits of partial explanation, although it is doubtful if we can fully solve all difficulties. We know that among other geological phenomena the interchange of land and water has repeatedly taken place;—if mountains are elevated in one place, islands and continents are sub-