

course of ages, by a changed distribution of sea and land, the quarry supplies what the watery cavern received. Between the means and the end, what intervention of time! what complexity of operation! what revolutions of the globe! Who, looking on the mollusc as it extracted its testaceous secretion from the waters of the deep, could have recognised there the preparatory stages of human architecture? But why should we marvel at the connexion when all is of God, and known unto him are all his works, from the creation of the world? I notice finally,

III. METALS.

Analogous observations are applicable to them. It needs not be to be told that the metals are the foundation of the arts, and that the arts are identified with civilised life. And where do we find commodities so precious? They are found in mineral veins filling up fissures of rocks. These rocks are of all sorts—igneous and aqueous—more ancient and less ancient. The metals themselves are met with in great varieties of condition, now one only in a chink, now