

and weight and stability to all things on its surface. And when we ponder these and such like properties, we shall find that particle of matter becoming eloquent on morals, and all explicit and profound on the perfections of God, vindicating its own place in the averment, 'the whole earth is full of his riches.'*

God has witnesses in all epochs as well as in all objects. If the present were silent, the past would speak. The ichthyosaur would start from its lias, and the asterolepis from its bed of sand-

* Although nothing may appear less likely to excite curiosity, or to convey information, than a particle of sand scarcely perceptible to the eye, to the cultivated mind it suggests a long train of relations and harmonies. The mode in which its facettes reflect light enables us to ascertain the crystalline form of the mineral to which it belonged. But the train of thoughts does not end here: each crystalline form refracts the luminous ray in its own peculiar manner, hence the crystalline form gives the refractive characters, and this again gives the formula of its chemical composition. To select an example: if the grain of matter be calcareous spar, we discover its crystalline form to be a rhomboid, and this form of crystal possesses the power of double refraction, and again these two conditions involve a certain chemical character as belonging to carbonates of certain earths and metals. They seem to be correlative characters, and the one gives the other somewhat, as the teeth, claws, and stomach of a carnivorous animal are linked in mutual dependence.

S.