

## CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I draw two practical lessons from Modern Geology, on the supposition of its conclusions being established:—

(1.) One lesson taught us by Modern Geology is the mutability of this world. I do not speak of its laws, which are strikingly uniform, but of its constituent matter as moulded by their operation. We have seen that the sea and the dry land have repeatedly exchanged places. The scenes we now traverse were once the channel of the ocean. We stand where the coral built its reef, or the sea monster sported. Beside us are the cliffs which the tides or breakers lashed, recording, in their wasted steeps, the severity and protractedness of the watery siege; while under us are the accumulated remains of an extinct aquatic population. The fathomless cavern has become the sheltered garden, or productive valley, and the plough turns up the wonders of the deep. Should the world be preserved till like