

and proceeding to another, both of which will have ceased to be countries, and long since presented continuous ocean on the map of the globe! These are, no doubt, fancies, and they may be deemed very extravagant; but they are such fancies as must be realised, if what has occurred already and repeatedly occur again. They suppose such changes as have already happened, such as are even now in progress, and will insure these catastrophes, if changes still greater do not, in the meantime, befall our planet, and cast anew its destinies. It is true that though the world were permanent, its permanency would little avail us when we must shortly—very shortly—forsake its scenes for ever. But the vanity of the creature is more perceptible to our dull apprehension when exhibited on a scale so vast; when the solid globe is seen to be inscribed with characters of change; when the mightiest continents appear as temporary elevations of the ocean's channel, and the boasted kingdoms of the earth present no boundary which the shifting billows have not fashioned, and may not again obliterate.

(2.) Modern Geology smiles contempt on the