Anterior. Before in time or place,	Page 81
Ape. Anatomy of, compared with that of man, .	110
Argillaceous. Clayey, composed of clay.	
Arran. The rocks of,	13
Articulated. (Articulus, a joint) jointed, or having	63
joints,	80
Assimilation. A process by which animals and ve-	
getables transform into their own peculiar sub-	
stance the materials they receive from without,	
Asterolepis. This name signifies star-scale, and was	
applied to a fossil fish of the celacanth family, on	
account of the stellar aspect of the scales. Mr.	
Miller states that its true scales were not stellife-	
rous, and that the stellate markings were restrict-	
ed to the dermal plates of the head. The aste-	
rolepis presents the oldest example of vertebral	
structure discovered, as yet, in the most ancient	
geological system of Scotland,	141
Atheism. (a, priv, and $\theta \epsilon \circ s$, God;) a system main-	
taining that there is no God,	142
Atom. (α, priv, and τεμνω, to cut;) an ultimate	
particle of matter; a particle so minute as to be	
invisible. Atoms are conceived to be the first	
principles or component parts of all bodies, .	172
Azote. (a, priv, and $\zeta \omega \eta$, life;) a gas, called also	
nitrogen. It forms a principal part of the at-	
mospheric air; and it exists, in various quantities,	5/
in different animal substances. Substances are	
said to be azotised when they contain azote in	
their composition,	128