

Now all these false notions would be avoided, if men of science and theologians would cultivate a closer acquaintance. If men of science were often to come into contact with divines, instead of finding them narrow-minded, bigoted, and unfriendly, as they now suppose, they would, in general, be gratified by their enlarged and liberal views, their ability and candor in looking at scientific truth, and their ardent love of all kinds of knowledge, and cordial efforts to promote it; and many they would find to be successful and eminent cultivators of science. In like manner would scientific men appear in a quite different light to theologians. Instead of subtle and designing enemies of Christianity, they would find many to be its firm friends; and nearly all entertaining for revelation the

Silliman, Buckland, Coneybeare, Mantell, Sedgwick, Lyell, MacCulloch, Miller, &c. But I will refer only to a recent work by two eminent French geologists, C. D'Orbigny, and A. Gente, published in Paris in 1851, entitled "*Geologie appliquee aux Arts et à l'Agriculture.*" Coming from a city generally regarded as the centre of European scepticism, and whose learned men have been considered as unfriendly to the Bible, it is gratifying to find that these authors, after a laborious attempt to bring revelation and geology into harmony, pass the following noble eulogium upon the sacred volume:—

"In view of the chronological agreement between Genesis and the most authentic geological facts, we cannot but accord to this mysterious book something profound and supernatural. If the mind is not convinced, it at least bows reverently before such writings, brought out in an age when we cannot suppose the first elements of the natural sciences were known, and which embraces a development of the principal events of which our globe has been the theatre. We find in Genesis something so simple, so touching, and so superior in respect to morality and philosophy, that the sceptic, astonished moreover at the genius that could foretell facts which scientific researches should demonstrate so many ages afterwards, is forced to acknowledge that there is in this book the evidence of an inspiration secret and supernatural; an inspiration which he cannot comprehend, which he cannot explain, but which strongly affects him, presses upon him, and controls him."

—p. 107.