

copy? We are, I suspect, not yet in circumstances to answer the question. But to conclude, — I have said it is probable that our convoluted Grauwackes were raised at a very early period over the level of the sea. At least, in the beds of Red Sandstone which rest unconformably over their lower slopes, and along their deeper valleys, we detect the first traces in the south of Scotland of a terrestrial flora. The fauna is decidedly that of the Upper Old Red Sandstone; and, mingled with scales of *Holoptychius Nobilissimus*, and plates of *Pterichthys major*, there occur what seem to be fragments of calamites, and what are unequivocally the fronds of a fern. And though shadow and darkness still envelop the land upon which they grew, we may be permitted to indulge at least in the provisional belief, that its framework was formed of our convoluted Lower Silurians, already existing as solid rock, and charged, as now, with the remains of a creation that had perished; that it was encircled by an Old Red Sandstone ocean, inhabited by fishes of uncouth form and gigantic size; and that it presented on its sloping hill-sides its primæval denizens of the vegetable kingdom, now to the dews of the night, and anon to the light of day. Who would not wish to know somewhat regarding the geography, and the organisms, vegetable and animal, of this ancient land of the Lammermoors, — this Scotland emphatically of the olden time? But, save in a few tattered fragments, its chronicles have perished, and we can but darkly surmise, from the existing evidence, that such a land there once was.