

deep, producing geographical changes, more or less rapid, which should prepare the way for the next stage in our planetary existence,—its new framework, and its fresh burden of vital beings.

The other great break in the continuity of fossils, which occurs between the Chalk and the Tertiary, seems to be very much in the same condition with that of which we have just spoken. New connecting *genera* have been discovered, but still not a single identical species. Jukes, in his *Manual*, published at the end of last year, says,—‘Near Maestricht, in Holland, the chalk, with flint, is covered by a kind of chalky rock, with grey flints, over which are loose yellowish limestones, sometimes almost made up of fossils.’ Similar beds also occur at Saxoe in Denmark. Together with true cretaceous fossils, such as pecten and quadricostatus, these beds contain species of the genera *Voluta*, *Fasciolaria*, *Cyprea*, *Oliva*, etc. etc., several of which GENERA are only found elsewhere in the Tertiary rocks.¹

Sir Roderick Murchison’s late explorations in the Highlands,—although, of course, local in their character,—have made a considerable change in the GEOLOGY OF SCOTLAND. The next edition of the *Old Red Sandstone* will be the most fitting place to speak of these at length; and I have some reason to believe that Sir Roderick himself will then favour me with a communication giving some account of them. Suffice it at present to say, that the supposed Old Red Conglomerate of the Western Highlands, as laid down in the year 1827 by Sir Roderick himself, accompanied by Professor Sedgwick, and so far acquiesced in by my husband,

¹ A doubt has nevertheless been expressed whether these are not broken-up Tertiaries.