

that a hundred thousand feet of sediments would have been deposited in one hundred and fifty days, or at the rate of one eighth of a mile a day?

Consider, also, the myriads of organic remains entombed in these sediments. Their number is fifteen or twenty times as great as that of all existing animals. No evidence exists that the waters of the Mosaic flood were so immensely populous, nor that they were endowed with such destructive energy, as to sweep from existence cubic miles of aquatic forms. And, lastly, it will be noted that four fifths, at least, of the fossil species are now extinct; and, if they were exterminated by the deluge, the objector to geological teaching trips his own feet, for Moses says that Noah preserved pairs of "all flesh wherein is the breath of life, and of every thing that is in the earth." The objector asserts that these animals, now admitted to be extinct, were living at the time of the Deluge, and were exterminated by that event. The sacred historian asserts that the animals living at the time of the Deluge were preserved from extinction by the hand of Noah.

Equally improbable and equally illogical is the position of certain petrified philosophers, who maintain that God created every portion of the earth's crust as we find it. We must thus ignore the indications of every one of a myriad of facts. As well deny that human hands built the Roman aqueduct, or made the pottery exhumed from buried cities or Indian mounds. As well avow our disbelief that Vesuvius ejected the lavas which incrust its sides—that the lightning has struck the riven oak—that the pebble upon the sea-shore has been rounded by the action of the waves—or that the vacated shell by its side was, not long since, the home of an animal enjoying its existence in the brine. Such a belief is to contradict all appearances—to reject that which is most probable and al-