

stream coming from what is now the basin of the Clyde, it stretched away south so far that it overflowed Anglesea, and, so to speak, overcame the force of the smaller tributary glaciers that descended from the mountains of North Wales; for the glacial striations of Anglesea point not to the Snowdonian range, but about 25° to 30° east of north, directly toward the mountains of Cumberland. South of Wales, in England, I know of no definite signs of the direct action of glaciers.

Much of the Lower Boulder-clay is known as 'Till' in Scotland; and it was only by slow degrees that geologists became reconciled to the idea that this Till is nothing but moraine rubbish on a vast scale, formed by those old glaciers that once covered the northern part of our country. In fact, Agassiz, who held these views, and Buckland who followed him, were something like twenty years before their time; and men sought to explain the phenomena of this universal glaciation by every method but the true one. Mr. Robert Chambers was, I think, the first after Agassiz who asserted that Scotland had been nearly covered by glacier ice, and now the subject is being worked out in all its details, thus coming back to the old generalised hypothesis of Agassiz, which is now accepted by many of the best geologists of Europe and America.

The general result has been that the whole of the regions of Britain mentioned¹ have literally been *moulded by ice*, that is to say, the country in many parts was so much ground by glacier-action, on a continental scale, that though in later times it has been more or less scarred by weather, enough remains of the effects to tell to the observant eye the greatness of the

¹ And equivalent regions in Ireland which in this book it is not my object to describe.