

If we pulverize some of this chalk and examine the particles with a microscope, we discover that the greater part consists of minute shells or shell-fragments. Indeed, here is *Globigerina* again! We found *Globigerina* in our "Walk Under the Sea" (Talk IX.) Billions upon billions of these minute shells accumulated together, have formed that white ooze which overspreads so large a part of the deep sea-bottom. If some of that ooze should be compressed and dried, it would be exceedingly like chalk. There is little doubt that the real chalk so abundant in Europe, was originally a white ooze in the bottom of the ocean—the deep parts of the ocean—when much of Great Britain and the continent was buried in abyssal waters. What we found in the depths of the Atlantic must be a modern picture of the condition of the ancient ocean which covered Europe some millions of years ago. The bottom of the Atlantic was then the bottom of the Atlantic. Its present condition has been perpetuated from the Cretaceous Age; and many of the minute forms accumulating there to-day are generically identical with the forms which lived when the chalk was a sea-bottom.

A few years ago, when these things were first ascertained, and the first announcement was made that the fossil forms of the chalk were still living in the Atlantic a triumphant outcry was made through the newspapers by the ignorant enemies of geological science. It has since Cuvier, always been a fundamental doctrine in geology, that the earth's surface has been occupied by a succession of populations showing progressive advancement toward the modern aspects of the world. But "here," they affirmed, "we find no change since the chalk. The foundation of geology is disrupted. The so-called science is a baseless mass of 'theories!' There is no sound evidence of the great age of the world. The 'days' of Genesis were twenty-four hours long. Hurrah!"

The life of geology was scarcely conscious of a ripple. The old principles rest firmly. The facts cited, instead of proving destructive, confirm another doctrine even more dreadful than that of successive faunas and great antiquity—the doctrine