

convinced of its errors, and of the truth of much which they had held up to scorn in the tenets of the Plutonists. Even among Jameson's own students, as already noticed (*ante*, pp. 241, 263), defections began to appear in the early decades of last century. His friends might translate into English, and publish at Edinburgh, tracts of the most orthodox Wernerianism, such as Werner's *Treatise on Veins*, or Von Buch's *Description of Landeck*, or D'Aubuisson's *Basalts of Saxony*. But his pupils, who went farther afield, who came into contact with the distinct current of opposition to some of the doctrines of the Freiberg school that was now setting in on the Continent, who began seriously to study the igneous rocks of the earth's crust, and who found at every turn facts that could not be fitted into the system of Freiberg, gradually, though often very reluctantly, went over to the opposite camp. Men like Ami Boué would send to Jameson notes of their travels, full of what a staunch Wernerian could not but regard as the rankest heresy.¹ But the Professor with great impartiality printed these in the Society's publications. And so by degrees the *Memoirs* of the Wernerian Society ceased to bear any trace of Wernerianism, and contained papers of which any Huttonian might have been proud to be the author.²

One important result of the keen controversies

¹ See *Mem. Wer. Soc.* vol. iv. (1822), p. 91.

² See, for example, the papers by Hay Cunningham in vols. vii. and viii. In an Address to the Geological Society in 1828 Fitton alluded to the universal adoption in Britain of "a modified volcanic theory, and the complete subsidence, or almost oblivion of the Wernerian and Neptunian hypotheses." *Proc. Geol. Soc.* i. p. 55.