put to use whereby the stratigraphical order could be satisfactorily established from one country to another. A prodigious impetus was now given to the study of geology. The various stratified formations, arranged in their true chronological sequence, were seen to contain the regular and decipherable records of the history of our globe, which could be put together with at least as much certainty as faded manuscripts of human workmanship. The organic remains contained in them were found to be not random accumulations, heaped together by the catastrophes of bygone ages, but orderly chronicles of old sea-floors, lake-bottoms, and land-surfaces. The centre of gravity of geology was now rapidly altered, especially in Western Europe. Minerals and rocks no longer monopolized the attention of those who interested themselves in the crust of the earth. The petrified remains of former plants and animals ceased to be mere curiosities. Their meaning as historical documents was at last realised. They were seen to have a double interest, for while they told the story of the successive vicissitudes which the surface of the earth had undergone, from remote ages down to the present, they likewise unfolded an altogether new and marvellous panorama of the progress of life upon that surface. They had hitherto shared with minerals and rocks the usage of the term "fossil." As their importance grew, they were discriminated as "organized fossils." But the rising tide of awakened interest, following Lamarck's lead, swept away the qualifying participle, and organic remains became sole possessors of the term, as if they were the only objects dug out of the