CHAPTER XIV

Progress of Stratigraphical Geology continued. Influence of Charles Darwin. Adoption of Zonal Stratigraphy of fossiliferous rocks. Rise of Glacial Geology, Louis Agassiz. Development of Geological map-making in Europe and North America.

The fundamental principles of Stratigraphy having been well established before the middle of last century, this branch of geological science has during the last fifty years undergone a remarkable expansion from four influences. Firstly, it has been profoundly modified by the writings of Darwin; secondly, it has been greatly affected by the introduction of zonal classification among the fossiliferous formations; thirdly, it has been augmented by the rise and extraordinary development of Glacial Geology; and lastly, it has enormously gained by the multiplication of detailed geological maps.

I. Charles Darwin (1809-1882) contributed several valuable works to the literature of geology. But it is not for these that I now cite his name. The two geological chapters in his Origin of Species produced the greatest revolution in geological thought which has occurred in my time. Younger students, who are familiar with the ideas there promulgated, can hardly realise the effect of them on an older generation.