

among the Cuillin Hills of Skye,¹ and Charles Maclaren found glacier moraines in the valleys of Argyleshire.²

At first, however, the existence of former glaciers in the valleys of Britain was the main conclusion sought to be established. British geologists, and indeed geologists generally, were still for many years unwilling to admit that not only the mountain-valleys, but even the lowlands of the northern hemisphere were, at a late geological period, buried under sheets of land-ice. They preferred to call in the action of floating ice, without perceiving that in so doing they involved themselves in far more serious physical difficulties than those which they sought to avoid.

Important service towards the ultimate acceptance of Agassiz's enlarged conception of the glaciation of Europe was rendered by Robert Chambers (1802-1871), in a series of suggestive papers on the superficial deposits and striated rocks of Scotland,³ and in another contribution (*Tracings of the North of Europe*, 1851),

¹ *Edin. New Phil. Journ.* xl. (1845) p. 76. To Forbes glacial geology stands deeply indebted. He contributed to the *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal* an important series of letters from 1842 to 1851. He was likewise the author of excellent papers in the *Proceedings* and *Transactions* of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, of three memorable contributions on the viscous theory of glacier-motion in the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society of London (1846) and of two now classic works, his *Travels through the Alps of Savoy*, etc. (1843) and *Norway and its Glaciers* (1853).

² *Edin. New Phil. Journ.* xl. (1845) p. 125; xlvii. (1849) p. 161; xlix. (1850) p. 334; *Ib.* new series i. (1855) p. 189.

³ *Edin. New Phil. Journ.* liv. (1852) p. 229; *Ibid.* new ser. i. (1855) p. 103; ii. p. 184.