

Nor indeed do I think, and I expressed this opinion nearly twenty years since, that the organic remains of the gravel beds and the caverns can be, on even mere philosophical grounds, adduced as physical proofs of the Mosaic deluge. For as according to the Mosaic record it was the intention of the Deity on that occasion, in the midst of a very general destruction of *individuals* to preserve *species*, we should in reason expect, among the organic remains of that catastrophe, a preponderance, at least, of the remains of existing species : since, although some species may have been lost subsequently to the deluge, these naturally would be comparatively few. But the fact is just the reverse ; for by far the greater number of the organic remains of the gravel, as of the caverns, belong to species not known now to exist. And with respect to those remains which appear capable of being identified with living species, Cuvier allows that they belong to orders of animals, the species of which often differ only in colour, or in other points of what may be called their external or superficial anatomy ; and cannot therefore be satisfactorily identified by the remains of their bones alone.

I do not consider it right to enter into a more extended examination of the question on the present occasion : but, could it be proved that *visible* traces of the Mosaic deluge must necessarily exist, arguments might be adduced to