

and healthful circulation : the plains have been made salubrious, and the damps which hung on the low grounds have gathered on the mountains in clouds, so that refreshing showers have brought down the soil to fertilize the plain. In this manner have been supplied the means necessary for man's existence, and objects suited to excite his ingenuity, and to reward it, and fitted to develope all the various properties both of his body and of his mind. And thus it is "that the invisible things from the creation of the world are perceived by what we do see."

There is extreme grandeur in the thought of an anticipating or prospective intelligence : in reflecting that what was finally accomplished in man, was begun in times incalculably remote, and antecedent to the great revolutions which the earth's surface has undergone. Nor are these conclusions too vast to be drawn from the examination of a part so small as the bones of the hand ; since we have shown that the same system of parts which constitutes the perfection of that instrument adapted to our condition, had its type in the members of those vast animals which inhabited the bays, and inland lakes of a former world. If we seek to discover the relations of things, how sublime is the relation established between that state of the earth's surface, which has resulted from a long succes-