

tertiary strata, in their inestimable history of the deposits above the chalk near Paris. For a short time, these were supposed to be peculiar to that neighbourhood; further observation has discovered them to be parts of a great series of general formations, extending largely over the whole world, and affording evidences of, at least, four distinct periods, in their order of succession, indicated by changes in the nature of the organic remains that are imbedded in them.\*

Throughout all these periods, there seems to have been a continually increasing provision for the diffusion of animal life, and we have certain evidence of the character and numbers of the

\* We owe to Mr. Webster, the first discovery of the Tertiary strata in the I. of Wight, and S. E. Part of England. (See Geol. Trans. Lond. O. S. Vol. 2. p. 161.)

Mr. Lyell, in Vol. II. of his Principles of Geology, has given an interesting map, showing the extent of Europe, which has been covered by water since the commencement of the Tertiary strata.

M. Boué, also, has published an instructive map, representing the manner in which central Europe was once divided into a series of separate basins, each maintaining, for a long time, the condition of a fresh-water lake; those which were subject to occasional irruptions of the sea, would, for a while, admit of the deposition of marine remains; the subsequent exclusion of the sea, and return to the condition of a fresh-water lake, would allow the same region to become the receptacle of the exuvixæ of animals inhabiting fresh water.—*Synoptische Darstellung der Erdrinde*. Hanau, 1827. The same map, on a larger scale, appears in the 2nd series of the Trans. of the Linn. Soc. of Normandy.

In the Annals of Philosophy, 1823, the Rev. W. D. Conybeare published an admirable memoir, illustrative of a similar geological map of Europe.