

labour and ingenuity of man. Let us briefly examine the results that have been accomplished.

The place of the great Coal formation, in relation to the other series of strata, is shewn in our first section (Pl. 1. Fig. 14.) This ideal section represents an Example of dispositions which are repeated over various areas upon the crust of the Globe.*

The surface of the Earth is found to be covered with a series of irregular depressions or Basins, divided from one another, and sometimes wholly surrounded by projecting portions of subjacent strata, or by unstratified crystalline rocks, which have been raised into hills and mountains, of various degrees of height, direction and continuity. On either side of these more elevated regions, the strata dip with more or less inclination, towards the lower spaces between one mountain range and another. (See Plate 1.)

This disposition in the form of Troughs or Basins, which is common to all formations, has been more particularly demonstrated in the Carboniferous Series, (See Pl. 65. Fig. 1, 2, 3.) because the valuable nature of beds of Coal often causes them to be wrought throughout their whole extent.

* The Coal Formation is here represented as having partaken of the same elevatory movements, which have raised the strata of all formations towards the mountain Ridges, that separate one basin from another basin.