

and constantly proclaiming the Unity of the great divine Original."*

It has been stated in our Sixth Chapter, on primary stratified rocks, that Geology has rendered an important service to Natural Theology, in demonstrating by evidences peculiar to itself, that there was a time when none of the existing forms of organic beings had appeared upon our Planet, and that the doctrines of the derivation of living species either by *Development* and *Transmutation*† from other species, or by an *Eternal Succession* from preceding individuals of the same species, without any evidence of a Be-

* Buckland's Inaug. Lect. 1819, p. 13.

† As a misunderstanding may arise in the minds of persons not familiar with the language of physiology, respecting the import of the word *Development*, it may be proper here to state, that in its primary sense, it is applied to express the organic changes which take place in the bodies of every animal and vegetable Being, from their embryo state, until they arrive at full maturity. In a more extended sense, the term is also applied to those progressive changes in fossil genera and species, which have followed one another during the deposition of the strata of the earth, in the course of the gradual advancement of the grand system of Creation. The same term has been adopted by Lamarck, to express his hypothetical views of the derivation of existing species from preceding species, by successive *Transmutations* of one form of organization into another form, independent of the influence of any creative Agent. It is important that these distinctions should be rightly understood, lest the frequent application of the word *Development*, which occurs in the writings of modern physiologists, should lead to a false inference, that the use of this term implies an admission of the theory of *Transmutation* with which Lamarck has associated it.