

were deposited, some here and some there; some upon mountain summits,* and others at different heights, ruled by the circumstances of the earth's surface and the action of the subsiding waters. Few, indeed, would be imbedded in their *native* country, except those that perished, as above-mentioned, in caverns; though probably, in many cases, those of the same species might congregate, and so floating off together, might be buried together. It has been remarked that no fossil elephants have been found in the countries that those animals now frequent. It seems, therefore, by no means certain that the gigantic Saurians now found in our southern coasts, or that the Mammoths or other gigantic Pachyderms of Northern Russia, or Nova Zembla, were really natives of those regions.

What Geologist, then, however practised, however deeply conversant with his subject, can estimate and exactly calculate the action and operation of these mighty waters, both during their rise, prevalence, and subsidence for so extended a period; especially when those of an Almighty superintending and directing cause, upon the whole body of means that he employed to accomplish his purposes, and execute his decrees with regard both to the destruction and renovation of our globe, are duly considered?

By what I have here argued I do not mean to contend that there may not have been many *partial* convulsions which may have produced very important changes in different countries of our globe: it is not, moreover, at all improbable that while its population was concentrated, many regions when uninhabited, God so willing, by diluvial, volcanic, or other action of the elements, might be materially altered, new mountain ridges might be elevated,

* See above, p. 341.