

carry into plains, from whence the rivers convey a part of them into the sea. Plains therefore are successively filled, and by degrees raised higher, while mountains daily diminish. Joseph Blancanus relates various facts on this subject, which were of public notoriety in his time, and which prove that mountains have been considerably lowered. In the county of Derby, in England, the steeple of the village Craich was not visible in 1572 from a certain mountain, on account of the height of another which intervened; in eighty or an hundred years after, not only this steeple but every part of the church became visible from that very spot. Dr. Plot gives a similar example of a mountain between Sibbertoft and Ashby, in Northamptonshire. The rain waters not only carry with them the lightest parts of the mountains, as earth, gravel, and small stones, but even undermine and roll down large rocks, which considerably diminish the height of them. The mountains of Wales are very steep and high, and the fragments of these rocks are to be seen in large pieces at their feet, which as well as all fragments of rocks met with in vallies are the works of frosts and water. It is not mountains of sand and earth
alone