method and more systematic form. His attempts at theorizing must now appear to all but his most devoted adherents, among the most unsuccessful and unphilosophical ever made, and even these are gradually abandoning one by one all his most characteristic opinions. There was, however, in his character an energetic determination of all his powers to the advancement of his favorite pursuit, which communicated itself to his whole class, and doubtless he has done more than any other individual to promote its career.

The travels of Saussure in the Alps, and of Pallas in various parts of the Russian territory, but especially the former, afforded however contributions to the advancement of true geological science, more important perhaps in themselves than the methodical arrangements of the Freyberg school, and certainly much more so than all its theoretical accompaniments.

In 1790 Mr. William Smith, (a name which can never, in tracing the history of English geology, be mentioned without the respect due to a great original discoverer) appears to have commenced his researches in the neighbourhood of Bath, having in that year drawn up a tabular view of the strata exhibited in that district, which in fact contained the rudiments of his subsequent discoveries. Ten years afterwards he circulated proposals for publishing a treatise on the Geology of England to be accompanied by a coloured map and sections, and in the interval had freely communicated the information he possessed in many quarters, till in fact it became by oral diffusion the common property of a large body of English geologists, and thus contributed to the progress of the science in many quarters where the author was little known. In this same interval, between 1790 and 1800, several volumes of reports were published by the Board of Agriculture, many of them containing much local geological information; and *to this board must undoubtedly be ascribed the honour of having produced the earliest geological maps of any part of England*; for its first series of reports published in 1794 contains very adequate geological maps of the North riding of Yorkshire, of Derbyshire, and of Nottinghamshire, and a less perfect one of Devonshire; that of Kent, published in 1796, has a regular geological map of that county (which indeed after the treatise of Packe in the beginning of the century it was easy to construct). Between this date and 1813, the same board has also given useful maps of Sussex, Surrey, Berks, Bedford, Gloucester, Wilts, Lincoln, Durham, and Cheshire, besides publishing a second report of Derbyshire dedicated exclusively to its mineralogy by Mr. Farey. Maton's tour through the western