

of animals did the same. With relation to the vegetable kingdom, the correspondent theory is commonly maintained, as consistency requires. If there be any who do not explicitly declare it, the omission is more likely to have arisen from inadvertence, than from a perception of incongruity.

It is not Geology merely, but other branches of Natural History, that are contradicted by this interpretation of the Scriptures. The fossil remains, whether animal or vegetable, which are found imbedded in the strata of different formations, are in general spread over a large surface; especially so, as we go back to the earlier classes of rocks: but the extent of surface is limited, in both latitude and longitude. This also is the case in the most striking manner, with respect to the present distribution of the earth's vegetable and animal tenantry; the condition to which the subject before us precisely refers. Eden, the region occupied by the first human pair and the animals and plants associated with them, provided for their use, and subjected to their dominion, was in the finest part of the temperate zone. The persons who implicitly receive the opinion just mentioned, have perhaps never asked themselves how animals, which the Creator has formed with the most precise and perfect adaptations to widely different conditions of habitation, could subsist, even for a few days, in or around the original paradise: or, if this difficulty be evaded, by a presumptuous evocation of miracles, or some other arbitrary supposition, the further inquiry presents itself, by what means the respective races, whether progenitors or descendants, could make their way to congenial climes; some to the regions of fierce equatorial heat, others to those of eternal ice and a rigour of cold which no animal can endure for but a few hours, if not protected by the power and skill of man; excepting those which are fitted for it by a wise