

surveys them: to him they appear to involve positions or to warrant inferences fatal to the geologists: and then our well-pleased considerator marshals his doubts and objections, forms a theory of his own which delightfully harmonizes with his views of the Scriptural cosmogony: he favours the world with it: and, in the end, he is surprised and grieved, and perhaps irritated, that the geologists do not adopt his views.

With reluctance and pain I acknowledge myself under the obligation of mentioning some principal writers of this description.

Some twelve or thirteen years ago, a gentleman entitled to our high esteem, Mr. Granville Penn, published a large work which he entitled "A Comparative Estimate of the Mineral and the Mosaic Geologies." He endeavours to prove that the phenomena of stratification may be accounted for by referring them to the accumulated deposits of the antediluvian ocean, which he supposes to have become the habitable earth after the Deluge; and then introducing tremendous disruptions and forcible transportations of those accumulations, by the action of the diluvial waters. While professing, and I have no doubt, with the utmost sincerity, to hold the authority of Scripture in the supremacy of honour which is its due, Mr. Penn makes no scruple to deal with it in a very arbitrary manner. He even cashiered and rejects as spurious, in the face of all critical evidence, the entire passage which gives the topography of the country of Eden; because it is incompatible with his theory. Pleasing and in some respects useful as his volumes are, I am compelled to regard them as calculated to mislead the confiding reader.

Considerably later, another of our countrymen, Mr. Fairholme, published a work on the "Geology of Scripture," which he has lately amplified and republished. He