

gress of truth. Now, Mr. Kirby's reputation as an Entomologist, and perhaps we may add also as a Helminthologist, is deservedly high. But this does not prove that he is at all qualified to decide difficult Geological questions; especially when he himself testifies that he is not. Yet his opinions on Geology will have nearly as much influence, except among Geologists, as if he were well acquainted with the science. Nay; with not a few, there exists no small jealousy respecting the views of Geologists, as if hostile to revelation; and such will be very glad to range themselves under the banner of a leader in Natural History, especially of one whose great object appears to be, to bring philosophers back to the word of God."\*

With regard to Mr. Penn and Mr. Fairholme, I must now say that a passage of Professor Hitchcock which was quoted in the first lecture, but suppressing the names, referred to those authors. It needs not to be repeated. The tenor of it is to complain of them for their unreasonable positiveness of opinion upon subjects in which they betray their want of practical acquaintance, their intolerant spirit and injurious language, their wrong representation of facts, and their calling upon us to receive theories of their own which, says Mr. Hitchcock, "appear" to a person acquainted with Geology, "a thousand times more extravagant and opposed to facts, than any opinions that have been entertained by the cultivators of this science, and which Penn and Fairholme so violently oppose." This comparison shows the strong sense which Hitchcock entertains of the folly and presumption which provoked his censure; but I ought to caution my hearers against understanding it too largely. The Professor did not design to cast a veil over the irreligious opinions of some foreign geologists, which, in the Dissertations from which I have quoted, he has strenuously exposed and refuted. But his observation is strictly correct in relation to the subject upon which he is treating, the theories of really well-informed geologists.

\* Americ. Biblic. Repos. Jan. 1837; pp. 100 to 104.