

this part of the subject. In this portion of time or eternity, we may place the formation of our elementary matter; the composition and arrangement of the vast central and interior contents, whatever they may be; and the construction, circumambieney, and consolidation of all the primordial rocks; and indeed the production of all things to which light was not essentially necessary.\* If this be admitted, the chief point is secured; and we may indulge the hope that more ample examination, and its results in more accurate knowledge, will show to this respectable writer the perfect untenableness of the theories which he has advanced on the formation of strata and the character of imbedded remains. I may be allowed also to add, that the beautiful sentence of the archaic record,—“Be light, and light was,”—upon which Mr. Turner expatiates with just feeling, will be perceived by no means to signify a first creation of light, or a first production of the conditions of which it may be an effect; but is perfectly reconcilable with the belief that the phenomena of light had existed long before, and that the instance under consideration declares only a new development and application of it.

A book has been lately published by some one who honours himself with the appellation of “Biblicus Delvinus;” entitled, “Facts, Suggestions, and Brief Inductions in Geology.” The apparent rapidity of composition, the unscrupulous facility of assertion, and the tone of self-complacency, which distinguish the book, would appear ludicrous; were it not that our minds are wounded and mortified by the reflection, that errors so egregious and reasonings so inconsequent as are found here, united with professions of pious reverence for the Bible, are not unlikely to work great mischief. That mischief may be

\* Sacred History of the World; Vol. I. pp. 490, 491.