

the south of France, are accompanied by evidences of an antiquity reaching much farther back than the date of Noah's Deluge; and that these cones of loose and light materials have never been exposed to the action of a rush or any even moderate force of water, or they would have been inevitably washed away. These geological facts stand thus powerfully in the way of our admitting that there ever was a *universal* deluge. Some other circumstances also were briefly alluded to, belonging to other departments of natural science. One of these was the impossibility of either the vegetable or the animal creations having all proceeded from one spot as a centre of ancestry; but that the surface of the earth is distributed into several distinct regions, each of which has its appropriate and exclusive tenantry, both vegetable and animal. It was also remarked how utterly impossible it would be for the inhabitants of many of those regions to have migrated from various others, or even to exist in them, if by an instantaneous miracle they were transported thither. We adverted to the difficulty, arising from the quantity of water requisite to cover the entire globe and to overflow the highest mountains, which would be an addition to the present ocean of eight times its actual quantity. For both the production and the subsequent removal of this body of water, we can imagine no cause but the miraculous intervention of Omnipotence; whereas the narrative in the Book of Genesis assigns two natural causes, raised to an extraordinary degree of action. Notice was also taken of the animals preserved with Noah in the ark; the number of existing species, so far exceeding what the commentators on the Bible have taken into their calculations; the very different kinds of receptacle which would be necessary, the amount of food, the necessity of ventilation and the cleaning out of the stables or dens; the provision for reptiles and insects; the fact that some fish