

III. I would entreat my friends to consider what are the proper ACCOMPANIMENTS of all human knowledge, if it be sought and employed in the manner that becomes reasonable and accountable creatures.

Science is the knowledge of truth. Its proper tendency is to augment our desire to obtain higher measures of that possession; and to increase our love to that truth of which it is the image. But all truth is connected with all other truth, by natural alliances numerous and ever multiplying. Physical truth, though the fact is often overlooked, has much in common with moral truth. From a sound acquaintance with the kingdoms of nature, innumerable benefits accrue to the comfort and always extending usefulness of the life that now is: and we thus

“A wide range of facts and an extensive course of induction are necessary to the satisfactory exhibition of geological truths; and especially to establish their connexion and harmony with the Mosaic history. It is a subject exclusively for the learned, or at least for the studious and the reflecting. *But it can no longer be neglected with safety by those whose province it is to illustrate and defend the sacred writings.* The crude, vague, unskilful, and unlearned manner in which it has been too often treated, when treated at all, by those who are to a great extent ignorant of the structure of the globe, or who have never studied it with any efficient attention, can communicate only pain to those friends of the Bible who are perfectly satisfied, after full examination, that the relation of geology to sacred history is now as little understood, by many theologians and biblical critics, as astronomy was in the time of Galileo. There is but one remedy. *Theologians must study geology:* or, if they will not, or from peculiar circumstances cannot do it, they must be satisfied to receive its demonstrated truths from those who have learned them in the most effectual way, not only in the cabinet, but abroad on the face of nature and in her deep recesses. They will then be convinced, that geology is not an enemy but an ally of revealed religion; that the subject is not to be mastered by mere criticism; that criticism must be applied to facts as well as to words; and that there is, at most, only an apparent incongruity, an incongruity which vanishes before investigation.” Dr. Silliman (Prof. Chem. Yale Coll. U. S.) in his App. to a republication of Mr. Bakewell’s Geology, near the close; published separately in London, by Mr. J. S. Hodson, with the title, *Consistency of the Discoveries of Modern Geol. with the Sacred Hist.* 1837.