

able and indefatigable Curator to the Geological Society, Mr. Lonsdale, has discovered microscopic shells in chalk, unutterably numerous. In all these cases, the densely associated and countless millions of once living beings, which inhabited those shells, must have died by the upheaving, out of the sea, of the compact masses consisting of them, and being thus left dry. Was not that as painful a death as if they had supplied food to larger cephalopods? It was probably much slower, and consequently involving more protracted distress. Some approach may be made to an idea of the number of animals thus become the prey of death, by considering the fact that, in a cube of tri-poli rock of but one-tenth of an inch, 500 millions of those shells are contained, each one an exquisitely formed dwelling, comprising several cells, most beautiful in material, and in general structure resembling the existing genus *nautilus*. We might in like manner argue from the mountain limestone, in Yorkshire, Derbyshire, on the banks of the Wye, and in innumerable other places, many miles in extent and hundreds of feet in thickness; and which, without a microscope, any man may see to consist of scarcely any thing besides the skeletons of the many-fingered crinoideal families, and the occasional beds of bivalve and some univalve shells, evidently not brought together by any moving body of water, which would have broken their tender carved-work, and have left them a huddled mass; but, on the contrary, lying together, orderly, and in all ages and degrees of growth.

It is a common supposition that, in the interval between their creation and the fall of man, all animals were gentle, and fed solely upon vegetable productions. Some have proposed the hypothesis that the carnivorous tribes were not created till after the fall, or even after the deluge. This hypothesis seems to lessen the difficulty, but it overlooks the fact that the grasses, leaves, seeds, and fruits, which are the food of the herbivorous races, swarm with insect life. The supposition that the carnivorous animals could at any time have fed upon vegetables, cannot be entertained for a moment, except it were by a person quite ignorant of the anatomical structure of those animals. Their bones and muscles, their teeth, claws, stomachs, and intestines, *demonstrate* that they were *created* to be nourished solely by animal food. Let it also be considered, that the tribes of *fish*, great and small, with very inconsiderable exceptions, so immensely filling rivers, lakes, and the ocean, are formed by the all-wise Creator, to be carnivorous. I have formerly thought that our first parents had never witnessed death, till they beheld with agony the first sacrifice, offered up by divine prescription. But I do not now see the necessity or the probability of such a state of things. Rather, the