

Palæontological branch, indefatigable in the arduous toils of personal examination in the most interesting regions of Great Britain, an independent thinker, and yet a man who delighted to do homage to the government and the word of God. The work was written in 1821, and therefore some modifications and corrections will accrue, by comparing it *seriatim* with Mr. John Phillips's books. Yet we must confess that it has serious faults of style and manner. It ought also to receive, as a most important supplement or companion, the following posthumous work of the same author; which is indeed a little too prolix, and its arrangement might admit of much improvement, had not death put upon it the sacred seal of inviolability. *Proofs and Illustrations of the Attributes of God, from the Facts and Laws of the Physical Universe; being the Foundation of Natural and Revealed Religion.* 3 vols. 1837.

Finally, let me entreat the student to be on his guard against expecting, that a few months of light reading will make him a geologist. The study is indeed one for life; and that general acquaintance with it which a person of liberal education ought to possess, must be acquired with long-continued diligence and care to be minutely accurate, or it will be liable to fall into perpetual and most serious errors. "Those who have taken a narrow view of this great and growing branch of human knowledge, who have satisfied themselves with collecting a few fossil shells, naming a few compound rocks, and constructing a few sections and maps, may possibly be startled at the *mighty circle of perpetual research* in which they are unconsciously engaged." *Phillips's Treatise*, p. 4.

Homerton, Nov. 10, 1837.

J. P. S.

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Aug. 1839. I cannot resist the transcribing of some paragraphs from an unknown writer in the *Christian Observer*.

"As one who—has taken great interest in Geology, though no geologist, I beg to offer a few observations upon the idea that the inferior animals were not subject to death before the fall—Perhaps, the remarks of a mere *Christian* observer might, so far as they are of value, be received with less suspicion than those of a professedly scientific man.—I was accustomed to entertain the idea of death having passed generally upon the whole creation, at the fall of man. But, when I heard of the discoveries of geologists, I was led to examine into the foundation of this opinion. I referred to Scripture; but upon examination I found no passage which supports such a notion.—Not finding it declared in Scripture, I began to consider