

grown by succulent trees of exceedingly great magnitude, *resembling* families chiefly cryptogamic, which now exist in only small species, except in hot climates, and which we have great reason to think must have flourished in an atmosphere essentially different from that which is necessary to animal life, under the existing system of creation ; all of which conditions will agree with Mr. Phillip's hypothesis, understanding a very small distance of removal by the flooding off. On the contrary, Dr. Y.'s object is to establish that all this vegetation had grown in the sixteen or seventeen centuries before the deluge, and that the coal-beds are due to being floated away and deposited by the diluvial waters ; and his whole reasoning seems to imply the transport from considerable distances. This is the object for which he proposes his theory. But apart from all the reasons furnished by the phenomena of stratification and animal remains, those naturalists whom all reason binds us to regard as the best qualified to form a correct judgment, draw the opposite conclusion. " That the face of the globe has successively undergone *total changes*, at *different remote epochs*, is now a fact beyond all dispute ; as also that, long anterior to the creation of man, this world was inhabited by races of animals to which no parallels are now to be found ; and those animals themselves made their appearance, *after the lapse of ages*, during which no warm-blooded creatures had an existence. It has been further remarked by zoologists, that the animals which first appeared in these latitudes were analogous to such as now inhabit tropical climates exclusively ; and that it was only at a period immediately antecedent to the creation of the human race, that species similar to those of the existing era began to appear in northern latitudes. *Similar peculiarities* have been also found to mark the *vegetation* of correspondent periods."—Foss. Flor. I. ix. x.

I annex a passage from a high American authority:—" Coal, being peculiarly limited in its local relations, and often contained in basins, it seems probable that it generally arose from local circumstances, with all its attendant and alternating strata of shales, sandstones, limestones, clays, iron ores, puddingstones, &c., and, as these depositions are often repeated several times in the same coal-basin, and the mines are occasionally worked to a great depth, (even to 1,200 feet, in some places in England), it is plain that no sudden and transient event, like the deluge, could have produced such deposits, although it might bury wood and trees, which, in the course of time, might approximate to the condition of lignite, or bituminized, or partially mineralized, wood, which is often found under circumstances indicating a diluvial origin." Prof. Silliman's Outline of Geology, p. 122.