

of shells, and crinoidea (see p. 317 and 439.). These rocks are also the grand depository of the ores of lead (see *Wond.* p. 609.), calamine, &c., and contain a variety of minerals of great beauty and interest. This district has also been the theatre, in very remote periods, of great physical changes, and the strata have been upheaved and displaced by volcanic action, the solid rocks rent asunder, and beds of mineral substances, rendered fluid by intense heat, have been injected between the layers, and into the fissures of the sedimentary strata; to these revolutions, the present bold and picturesque features of the country are attributable. Here then are phenomena replete with the highest interest; the very beds of molten lava may still be seen—the rents and fissures caused by their explosive action, and now lined with rich metallic ores and spars, may be examined—and the thermal waters, rising in perpetual fountains from an incalculable depth, testify that the internal fires, the sources of these catastrophes, though latent, are not extinguished.

A WALK TO THE INCRUSTING SPRINGS.—The so-called “petrifying springs and wells” of Derbyshire, are celebrated throughout England, for the incrustated birds’ nests, baskets, &c. which are very generally purchased by visitors, as mementos of a trip into this county. The nature of this deposition of calcareous matter has already been explained (see p. 52; and *Wond.* p. 58.); and although the objects above