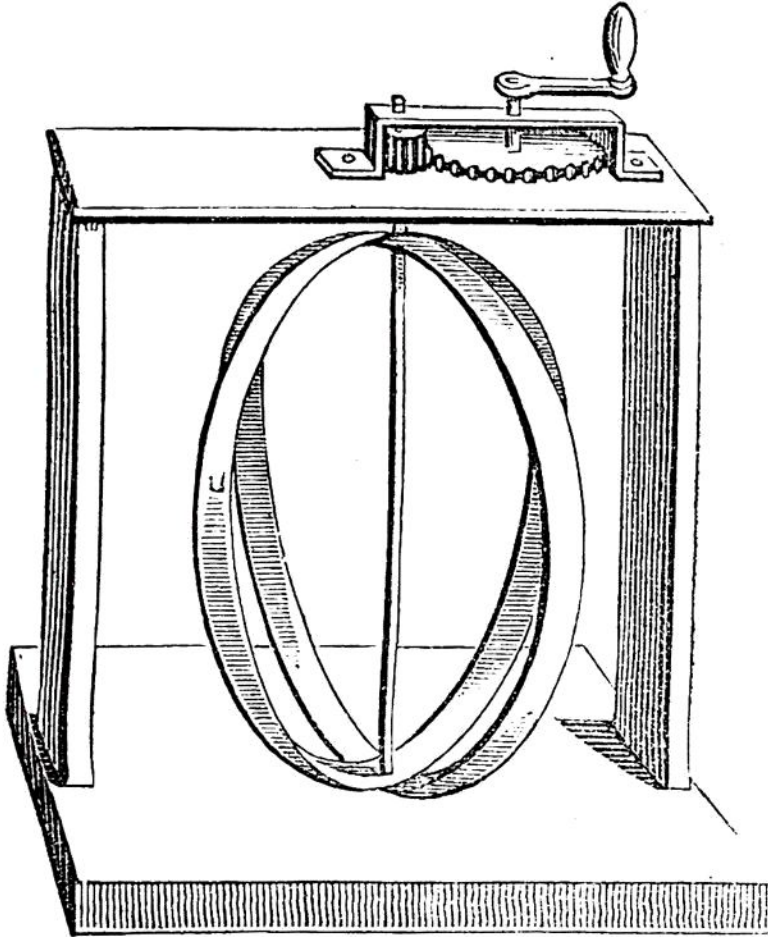


collects in its passage from one place to another ; and as it has always had the same force under the same circumstances



it must have done this from the beginning. But rocks are formed by the sediments deposited by water, and the detritus it accumulates ; therefore rocks must have been formed in greater amount round the equator than upon any other part of the earth's surface, and hence the greater equatorial diameter.

We do not assert that the earth must necessarily have derived its present form in this way, but that these theoretical considerations will account for the form which we know it to possess ; and we are thus led to observe the influence that one branch of science exerts upon another. The sciences are arbitrary classifications of the laws under which various causes act upon different kinds of matter, or matter under different forms, and of the phenomena produced. To suppose that the various physical sciences are distinct one from the other, would be to invade the unity of design and harmony of effect