

one will contend that Maillet was a geologist. Geology has no place among the sciences in the age in which he lived, and even no name. And yet there is a translation of his

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what writers such as Drs. Chalmers, Buckland, and Pye Smith have written on the other side. But for the *demonstration* which he asks, as I have conducted it, I beg leave to refer him to the seventeenth chapter of my little work, "First Impressions of England and its People." I am, however, inclined to suspect that he is one of a class whose objections are destined to be removed rather by the operation of the laws of matter than of those of mind. For it is a comfortable consideration, that in this controversy the geologists *have* the laws of matter on their side; — "the stars in their courses fight against Sisera." Their opponents now, like the opponents of the astronomer in the ages gone by, are, in most instances, men who have been studying the matter "for nearly thirty years." When they study it for a few years longer they disappear; and the men of the same cast and calibre who succeed them are exactly the men who throw themselves most confidently into the arms of the enemy, and look down upon their poor silent predecessors with the loftiest commiseration. It is, however, not uninteresting to remark how thoroughly, in some instances, the weaker friends and the wilier enemies of Revelation are at one in their conclusions respecting natural phenomena. The correspondent of the *Scottish Press* merely regards the views of the author of the "Vestiges" as possessing "the advantage, in point of likelihood," over those of the geologists his antagonists: his ally the Dean of York goes greatly further, and stands up as stoutly for the transmutation of species as Lamarck himself. Descanting, in his *New System of Geology*, on the various forms of trilobites, ammonites, belemnites, &c. Dean Cockburn says, —

"These creatures appear to have possessed the power of secreting from the stone beneath them a limy covering for their backs, and, perhaps, fed partly on the same solid material. Supposing, now, that the first trilobites were destroyed by the Llandoilo Slates, some spawn of these creatures would arise above these flags, and, after a time, would be warmed into existence. These *molluscs*, [!] then, having a better material from which to extract their food and covering, would probably expand in a slightly different form, and with a more extensive mantle than what belonged to the