

No less than 46 species of British Devonian corals are described in the Monograph published in 1853 by Messrs. M. Edwards and Jules Haime (Paleontographical Society), and only six of these occur in America; a fact, observes Prof. E. Forbes, which, when we call to mind the wide latitudinal range of the Anthozoa, has an important bearing on the determination of the geography of the northern hemisphere during the Devonian epoch. We must also remember that the corals of these ancient reefs, whether American or European, however recent may be their aspect, all belong to the *Zoantharia rugosa*, a suborder which, as before stated (p. 403, *et seq.*), has no living representative. Hence great caution must be used in admitting all inductions drawn from the presence and forms of these zoophytes, respecting the prevalence of a warm or tropical climate in high latitudes at the time when they flourished,—for such inductions, says Prof. E. Forbes, have been founded “on the mistaking of analogies for affinities.”*

This calcareous division also contains *Goniatites*, *Spirifers*, *Pentremites*, and many other genera of Mollusca and Crinoidea, corresponding to those which abound in the Devonian of Europe, and some few of the forms are the same. But the difficulty of deciding on the exact parallelism of the New York subdivisions, as above enumerated, with the members of the European Devonian, is very great, so few are the species in common. This difficulty will best be appreciated by consulting the critical essay published by Mr. Hall in 1851, on the writings of European authors on this interesting question.† Indeed we are scarcely as yet able to decide on the parallelism of the principal groups even of the north and south of Scotland, or on the agreement of these again with the Devonian and Rhenish subdivisions.

* Geol. Quart. Journ. vol. x. pl. lx. 1854.

† Report of Foster and Whitney on Geol. of Lake Superior, p. 302, Washington, 1851.