

## CHAPTER FOURTEENTH

### GEOLOGICAL SUCCESSION OF ANIMALS; OR, THEIR DISTRIBUTION IN TIME.

#### SECTION I.

##### STRUCTURE OF THE EARTH'S CRUST.

453. THE records of the Bible, as well as human tradition, teach us that man and the animals associated with him were created by the word of God; "the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is;" and this truth is confirmed by the revelations of science, which unequivocally indicate the direct interventions of creative power.

454. But man and the animals which now surround him are not the only kinds which have had a being. The surface of our planet, anterior to their appearance, was not a desert. There are, scattered through the crust of the earth, numerous animal and vegetable remains, which show that the earth had been repeatedly supplied with, and long inhabited by, animals and plants altogether different from those now living.

455. In general, their hard parts are the only relics of them which have been preserved, such as the skeleton and teeth of Vertebrates; the shells of the Mollusks and Radiata; the shields of the Crustaceans, and sometimes the wing-cases of Insects. Most frequently they have lost their original