

# LECTURES ON GEOLOGY.

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## LECTURE FIRST.

Junction of Geologic and Human History—Scottish History of Modern Date—The Two Periods previous to the Roman Invasion: the Stone Age and the Bronze Age—Geological Deposits of these Prehistoric Periods—The Aboriginal Woods of Scotland—Scotch Mosses consequences of the Roman Invasion—How formed—Deposits, Natural and Artificial, found under them—The Sand Dunes of Scotland—Human Remains and Works of Art found in them—An Old Church disinterred in 1835 on the Coast of Cornwall—Controversy regarding it—Ancient Scotch Barony underlying the Sand—The Old and New Coast Lines in Scotland—Where chiefly to be observed—Geology the Science of Landscape—Scenery of the Old and New Coast Lines—Date of the Change of Level from the Old to the New Coast Line uncertain—Beyond the Historic but within the Human Period—Evidences of the fact in remains of Primitive Weapons and Ancient Boats—Changes of Level not rare events to the Geologist—Some of these enumerated—The Boulder-Clay—Its Prevalence in the Lowlands of Scotland—Indicated in the Scenery of the Country—The Scratchings on the Boulders accounted for—Produced by the grating of Icebergs when Scotland was submerged—Direction in which Icebergs floated, from West to East—‘Crag and Tail:’ the effect of it—Probable Cause of the Westerly Direction of the Current.

IN most of the countries of Western Europe, Scotland among the rest, geological history may be regarded as ending where human history begins. The most ancient portions of the one piece on to the most modern portions of the other. But their line of junction is, if I may so express myself, not an abrupt, but a shaded line; so that, on the one hand, the human period passes so entirely into the geological, that we found our conclusions respecting the first human inhabitants rather on what may be deemed