

not a few instances, by rounded fragments of shells, and a general conformity in its colour to that of the rocks on which it rests,—where in nature shall we find the analogues of the producing rafts themselves? A native of Newfoundland, who season after season had seen the Arctic icebergs grating heavily along the coasts of the island, would experience little difficulty in solving the riddle. For rafts of wood we have but to substitute rafts of ice, a submerged land, covered by many fathoms of water, for the shallows of the river of my illustration, and some powerful ocean current, such as the gulf or arctic stream, for the river itself, and we at once arrive at a consistent theory of the boulder-clay and its origin. Nor must we deem it a thing improbable, that a country like Scotland, which lies between the fifty-fifth and the fifty-ninth degrees of north latitude, should be visited every year by icebergs. Newfoundland lies from five to eight degrees to the south of Scotland, and yet its northern shores are included in that vast cake of ice which, when winter sets fairly in, is found to stretch continuously, though in a winding line, over the surface of the ocean, from Nova Zembla in the Old World to Labrador in the New; and the drift ice-floes in spring, borne southwards on the Arctic current, brush every season over its southern shores, or ground by hundreds upon its great bank; nor do they finally disappear until they reach the fortieth, and, in at least one recorded instance, the thirty-sixth, degree of north latitude. I need scarce remind you that the temperature of a country depends on other causes than its distance from the equator or the pole. The isothermal line, or line of mean temperature, of the capital of Iceland, *Reikiavik*, in latitude  $64^{\circ}$ , is nearly as high as that of St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland, in latitude  $47^{\circ}$ ; and *old* York, in the fifty-fourth degree of north latitude, enjoys as much average warmth throughout the year as *New* York, in the forty-first degree. Now, the causes which give to countries in the same latitudes climates so