

apparent hoof.¹ And this is all we yet know of these reptilian Triassic inhabitants of Scotland. Robinson Crusoe has gone down to the sea-shore, and seen, much to his astonishment, the print of a savage foot in the sand.

According to an old, but not very old, style of nomenclature, derived from mineralogical character not yet wholly obsolete, the two systems, Triassic and Permian, used to be included under one general head, as the New Red Sandstone, or the Bunter Sandstone of Werner and Jameson. And certainly the mere mineralogist might find it no easy matter to draw a line between them. Up to a certain point in the ascending scale there occurs on the Continent strata of a Red Sandstone known as the Lower Bunter; and immediately over it, a Red Sandstone known as the Upper Bunter.² They lie conformably to each other, as if they had been deposited in immediate succession in a still sea: there are no traces of physical convulsion;—the earthquake and the tornado had slept at the time: there was no devastating inundation of molten fire, nor overwhelming wave of translation,—

‘It was not in the battle; no tempest gave the shock:’

and yet that undisturbed horizontal line marks where one creation ended and another began. It was held at one time that there was not a single organism, vegetable or animal, common to the two great divisions to which these sandstone beds belong; but there now seems to rest some doubt on the point. In an insulated district of France, plants of the Coal Measures have been found in a deposit containing Belemnites; and it is held that the Belemnite belongs exclusively to the great Secondary division. But

¹ *Chelichnus Titan* and *Gigas Jardine*.—W. S. S.

² The Bunter sandstein and Bunter schiefer; of which the Bunter sandstein is now ranked as lowest, *Trias*, and the Bunter schiefer as upper, *Permian*.—W. S. S.