

reckoned British, so delicately sensible of cold, that their northern limit barely touches the southern shores of Britain. That fine bivalve *Cytherea chione* is one of these, never getting further north than Caernarvon Bay; *Cardium rusticum*, so graphically described by Mr. Kingsley in his *Glaucus*, under the style and title of Signor Tuberculato, is another, ranging southward to the Canaries, but barely impinging, in its northern limits, on the shores of Devon and Cornwall; and our splendid Haliotus, or ear-shell, *H. tuberculata*, though reckoned British by courtesy, does not even touch the British shores, but finds its northern limit at the Channel Islands. Nor are the northern shells more tolerant of warm than the southern ones of cold water. We have already referred to *Astarte elliptica* as finding its southern line of boundary on the Scottish coasts; *Pecten Niveus* has not occurred to the south of the Firth of Clyde; and *Trochus undulatus*, though it ranges to Greenland, barely reaches our northern and western shores. Such and so nice is the dependence of shells on conditions of temperature, and such and so nice is their restriction to climatal areas. Nor could they have had a different nature in the past. How, then, could the cold *Natica clausa* and *Trophon scalariforme* of Spitzbergen and boreal America, and the *Tellina proxima* and *Mya Uddevallensis* of Greenland and the North Cape, have been at one time living denizens of the bay of Rothesay? Under what strange circumstances could whole scalps of the *Pecten Islandicus* have thriven in the Kyles of Bute, accompanied by groups of boreal *Saxicava*, that dug themselves houses in the stiff clay, and massive *Panopea*, that burrowed in the mud? The island of Bute is famous for now possessing perhaps the finest climate in Scotland: exotics blow in its gardens and shrubberies, that demand elsewhere the shelter of a green-house: and yet there was a time when, judging from the extreme boreal character of its shells, it pined under a severe and ungenial.