

facts of geologic science with what is termed the Mosaic geology. We inquire whether, in its leading features, the Mosaic does not correspond with the geologic record ; and whether the *days* of the retrospective prophecy of creation are to be regarded as co-extensive with the vast periods of the geologist, or as merely representative portions of them, or as literal days of twenty-four hours each ? But though we thus seek to harmonize the two records, we continue to regard their grounds and objects as entirely different. The object of geology is simply the elucidation of the history of the earth, and of the story of its various creations ; and its grounds are, like those of astronomy or geography, or of any other physical science, facts and inferences scientifically determined or deduced ; while, on the other hand, the grounds of the Mosaic record are those on which the other Scriptures rest, and which have been so well laid down in what we may term the higher literature of the “ Evidences ;” while at least some of its objects,—for who shall declare them all ?—seem to be, first, to establish the all-important fact of the Divine authorship of the universe, and to show that all its various forces are not self-existent, but owe their origin to a Great First Cause ; next, to exhibit the progressive character of God’s workings,—a character which equally applies to his works of creation and providence ; and, in the third place, to furnish a basis and precedent in the Divine example for that institution of the Sabbath which bears not only a prophetic reference to the great dynasty to come,—last of all the dynasties, and of which re-created men are to be the happy subjects, and the Divine Man the adorable Monarch,—but which has also been specially established in order that right preparation may be made for the terminal state which it symbolizes and foreshadows. Here, as certainly as in the other physical sciences, the line has been drawn with perfect precision between what man could and what he could not have