

stripped them of their sedimentary coverings, and they stand revealed to the light of day. In other cases the tension of the upheaved strata has caused them to break along the crest of a new-formed ridge. A chasm, miles in depth, has opened down to the molten rock below. The fiery sea has risen to the lips of the fissure, and even escaped in a consuming and terrific overflow. In other cases such an eruption has occurred beneath the waters of the sea, and an entire oceanic basin has been converted into a seething cauldron, in which fish and oysters, sea-urchins and lobsters, corallines and sea-weeds, have been cooked together in a Titanian dish of soup. Entire races have thus been exterminated; and, when the elements subsided again to a quiet condition, the waters have been repopled with countless multitudes of beings exactly adapted to the changed circumstances of the earth—not repetitions of the forms just exterminated, but original conceptions, new ideas from the infinite resources of Nature; and yet not *fundamentally* different, but united to the old by such an identity of fundamental plan as to convince us that the Intelligence which presided in the former epoch survived the catastrophes which brought death to all terrestrial existence, and continued to prosecute his unchanged purposes through succeeding epochs.

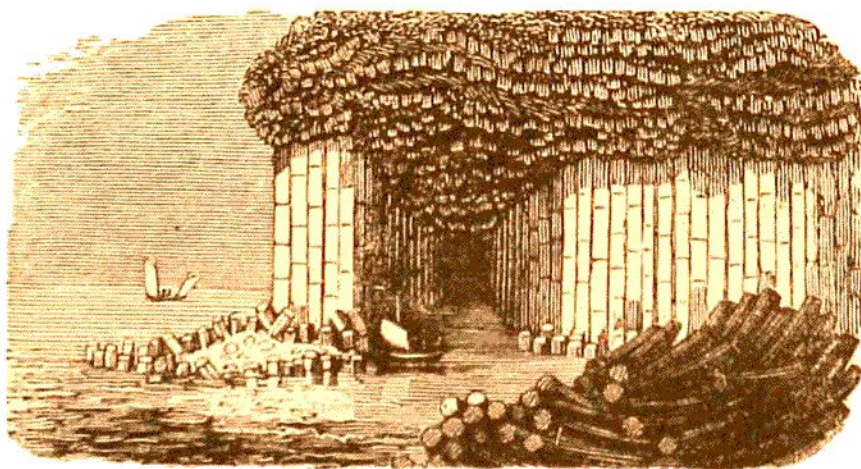


Fig. 10. Fingal's Cave in Staffa, composed of basaltic rocks of igneous origin.