

conclusion that large parts of the northern hemisphere were, during the 'glacial period,' more or less covered, or nearly covered, with a coating of thick ice, in the same way that the greater parts of Greenland, Spitzbergen, and the whole of Victoria Land are covered at present. Britain formed part of this area, and, by the long-continued grinding power of great glaciers nearly universal over the northern half of our country and Wales, the whole surface became *moulded by ice*. The relics of this action still remain strongly impressed on this country to attest its former power, and I need scarcely say that the same kind of phenomena are equally striking in Ireland.

It might be unsafe to form this conclusion merely by an examination of such a small tract of country as the British Islands, but when we consider the great Scandinavian chain, and the northern half of Europe generally, we find that similar phenomena are common over the whole of that area, and in the North American Continent, as far south as latitude 38° or 40°; for when the soil, or the superficial covering of other *débris* is removed, we discover over large areas that the solid rock is smoothed and polished, and covered with grooves and striations, similar to those of which we have experience among the glaciers of the Alps. I do not speak merely by common report in this matter, for I know it from personal observation, both in the Old Continent and the New. We know of no power on earth, of a natural kind, which produces these indications except moving ice, and therefore geologists are justified in attributing them, even on this great continental scale, to ice-action.

This conclusion is fortified by many other circumstances. Thus, I have stated that in the Alps there is