

In the same strain is this extract from another letter of Humboldt's, written two or three months later.

. . . “ ‘Grace from on high,’ says Madame de Sévigné, ‘comes slowly.’ I especially desire it for the glacial period and for that fatal cap of ice which frightens me, child of the equator that I am. My heresy, of little importance, since I have seen nothing, does not, I assure you, my dear Agassiz, diminish my ardent desire that all your observations should be published. . . . I rejoice in the good news you give me of the fishes. I should pain you did I add that this work of yours, by the light it has shed on the organic development of animals, makes the true foundation of your glory.” . . .

LOUIS AGASSIZ TO SIR PHILIP EGERTON.

NEUCHÂTEL, *June*, 1842.

. . . I am hard at work on the fishes of the “Old Red,” and will send you at Manchester a part at least of the plates, with a general summary of the species of that formation. I aim to finish the work with such care that it shall mark a sensible advance in ichthyology. I hope it will satisfy you. . . . You ask me how I intend to finish my Fossil Fishes? As fol-