

which gives a rough classification of rocks according to their structure, such as Granular, Lamellar, and Filamentous. He was prevailed upon by Knorr's executors to undertake the continuation and publication of the work of the deceased artist. As a large amount of the materials for the plates had already been arranged by Knorr, the hands of the continuator were rather tied in regard to the treatment of the subject. But Walch with remarkable industry and perseverance pursued his task until four folio volumes of text and nearly 300 plates had been completed and published under the title of *Lapides Diluvii Universalis Testes—Sammlung von Merckwürdigkeiten der Natur zum Beweis einer allgemeinen Sündfluth*. The fourth and last volume containing Systematic Tables and an Alphabetical Index, affording a guide to the contents of the whole work, was published in 1778. In spite of the diluvial creed of the authors, this fine publication marks a notable advance in the palaeontological department of geology. It presents an instructive and detailed statement of all that was known on the subject at the time, with abundant references to the writings of previous authors.

The craze for collecting "figured stones" and other mineral curiosities, together with the ignorant credulity of many of the collectors, led to the occasional perpetration of practical jokes. One of the most famous instances of this tendency was that of the tricks played off upon the learned Würzburg Professor, J. B. Beringer, who, having with great enthusiasm and with the help of his students made a collection of fossils from the Triassic strata of his neighbourhood, published