Desmarest, Von Buch, D'Aubuisson, and others on the Continent. But the advent of Jameson rekindled the old fires of controversy. The sections of the rocks laid open among the hills and ravines around Edinburgh, which display such admirable illustrations of eruptive action, were confidently appealed to alike by the Plutonists and the Neptunists. Jameson carried his students to Salisbury Crags and Arthur Seat, and there demonstrated to them that the so-called igneous rocks were manifestly merely chemical precipitates in the "Independent Coal formation." The Huttonians were ready to conduct any interested stranger to the very same sections to prove that the whinstone was an igneous intrusion. There is a characteristic anecdote told of one of these excursions in an article by Dr. W. H. Fitton in the *Edinburgh Review*. One of the Irish upholders of the aqueous origin of basalt, Dr. Richardson, had attained some notoriety from having found fossils in what he called basalt at Portrush, on the coast of Antrim. His discovery was eagerly quoted by those who maintained the aqueous origin of that rock, and though eventually Playfair showed that the fossils really lie in Lias shale, which has been baked into a flinty condition by an intrusive basaltic sheet, this explanation was not accepted by the other side, and the fossiliferous basalt of Antrim continued to be cited as an indubitable fact by the zealous partizans of Werner. While these were still matters of controversy Dr. Richardson paid a visit to Scotland, chiefly with reference to fiorin grass, in which he was interested. The writer in the *Edinburgh Review* tells us that he was asked by Sir James Hall, to meet