http://www.geology.19thcenturyscience.org/books/1905-Geikie-FoundersGeol/README.htm

entire difference, both specifically and generically, from any known creatures of the modern world. He was thus enabled to announce the important conclusion that the globe was once peopled by vertebrate animals which, in the course of the revolutions of its surface, have entirely disappeared.

These discoveries, so remarkable in themselves, could not but suggest many further inquiries to a mind so penetrating and philosophical as that of Cuvier. He narrates how he was pursued and haunted by the desire to know why these extinct forms disappeared, and how they had come to be succeeded by others. It was at this point that he entered upon the special domain of geology. He found that besides studying the fossil bones in the cabinet, it was needful to understand, in the field, the conditions under which they have been entombed and preserved. He had himself no practical acquaintance with the structure and relations of rocks, but he was fortunate in securing the co-operation of a man singularly able to supply the qualifications in which he was himself deficient.

Alexandre Brongniart (1770-1847) Cuvier's associate, was a year younger than the great anatomist. Born in Paris, he began his career early in life by endeavouring to improve the art of enamelling in France. Thereafter he served in the medical department of the army until he was attached to the Corps of Mines, and was made director of the famous porcelain factory of Sèvres. He had long given his attention to minerals and rocks, and was eventually appointed professor of mineralogy at the Museum of Natural