earth that were any longer worthy to be denominated fossils.

While the whole science of geology made gigantic advances during the nineteenth century, by far the most astonishing progress sprang from the recognition of the value of fossils. To that source may be traced the prodigious development of stratigraphy over the whole world, the power of working out the geological history of a country, and of comparing it with the history of other countries, the possibility of tracing the synchronism and the sequence of the geographical changes of the earth's surface since life first appeared upon the planet. To the same source, also, we are indebted for the rise of the science of Palæontology, and the splendid contributions it has made to biological investigation. In the midst of the profusion, alike of blossom and of fruit, let us not forget the work of those who sowed the seed of the abundant harvest which we are now reaping. Let us remember the early suggestive essays of Guettard, the pregnant ideas of Lehmann and Füchsel, the prescient pages of Giraud-Soulavie, the brilliant work of Lamarck, Cuvier and Brongniart, and the patient and clear-sighted enthusiasm of William Smith.

To another feature in the rapid advance of geology after these pioneers had gone to their rest, brief allusion must here be made. The amount of ascertained fact regarding the structure and history of the earth was every year increasing at so rapid a rate that it became necessary to prepare digests of it, for the use of those who wished to be informed on these subjects or to keep pace with the advance of knowledge. Hence