

greater altitude of mountains would not account for the dispersion of erratic boulders over the temperate and northern regions of Europe, Asia, and America. He argued

‘that great sheets of ice, resembling those now existing in Greenland, once covered all the countries in which unstratified gravel is found ; that this gravel was in general produced by the trituration of the sheets of ice upon the subjacent surface ; that moraines, as before stated, are the effects of the retreat of glaciers ; that the angular blocks found on the surface of the rounded materials were left in their present position at the melting of the ice ; and that the disappearance of great bodies of ice produced enormous débâcles and considerable currents, by which masses of ice were set afloat, and conveyed, in diverging directions, the blocks with which they were charged. He believes that the Norwegian blocks found on the coast of England have been correctly assigned by Mr. Lyell to a similar origin.’

‘Another class of phenomena connected with glaciers is the forming of lakes by the extension of glaciers from lateral valleys into a main valley ;’ and he instanced the parallel roads of Glen Roy.

Perhaps the most remarkable statement is the following :—

‘If the analogy of the facts which he has observed in Scotland, Ireland, and the north of England, with those in Switzerland, be correct, then it must be admitted,’ M. Agassiz says, ‘that not only glaciers once existed in the British Islands, but that large sheets (*nappes*) of ice covered all the surface.’

At the same meeting (November 4, 1840) the reading of a Memoir on the Evidences of Glaciers in Scotland and the North of England, by Dr. Buckland, was commenced ; it was resumed and concluded on November 18.¹

Dr. Buckland's attention was first directed by Professor Agassiz, in October 1838, to the phenomena of polished, striated, and furrowed surfaces on the south-east slope of the Jura, near Neuchâtel, as well as to the transport of the erratic boulders on the Jura, as the effects of ice ; but it was

¹ *Proc. Geol. Soc.* iii. p. 332.