

as alleged, it was found in undisturbed layers or beds, and most probably was conveyed by an iceberg. A tree undermined on the bank of a flooded river frequently has a mass of rock entangled in the roots. I saw, when a boy, one carried a considerable distance in an almost upright position on the Munster Blackwater. Such, perhaps, was the means of conveyance in this case, and not ice. When we reflect at the time the chalk was deposited palms, myrtles, magnolias, sequias flourished, that corals and tropical or sub-tropical shells abounded in the English seas, it is difficult to imagine the existence of floating ice. We have undoubted evidence that a real tropical climate prevailed a little later in "Eocene time." Unless we recognize the importance of a paper (to which I have already referred), by Prof. Matthews, New Brunswick, it appears impossible to account for well-developed Cones, Nautidi, Volutes, Olives, Mitras—habitants of warm seas—occurring in Tertiary beds containing an undoubted Fauna, now characteristic of a colder climate. I considered formerly that the minute cowrie of Ireland was merely a degenerated descendant, dwarfed by a change in climate, but I subsequently noticed a member in the tropics, which, corresponding in size and general appearance, I looked upon as a mere variety of the living Irish shell. I have seen fossilized Molluscs which were obtained from London clay, England's Eocene. They presented a blanched appearance, not unlike what we call dead shells, but yet retaining a considerable portion of the original color. If we examine the Flora of the Eocene rocks, and the Strata, estimated at not less than 12,000 feet, we find plants (remarks Geikie) having living representatives in the hotter part of India, Africa, Australia and America. Now, although we may find mingled with the above the Chestnuts, Willows, Elms and Laurels, characteristic of more temperate climates, yet it does not follow that they flourished precisely at a similar level above the sea. Many of the remains possibly were conveyed from high hills to the plains below by streams or river floods. Near Newcastle, Jamaica (up in the Blue Mountains), I have often seen, after heavy tropical rains, the swollen brooks carrying down to the lowlands trees, ferns, etc., torn from the banks. These vegetable remains would undoubtedly be mixed with a Flora below, foreign to the hills. May not this have occurred also in former times? It seems reasonable to think so, and would it not

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