

In the mean time, a reverend gentleman of the name of Fairholme, was publishing a theological work connected with geology, and I enclosed to him a copy of the prospectus, and in a letter I received from him, dated October 14, 1833, he says,—“With regard to the creation of our earth or of the sun, and other members of the Solar System, I have neither found in the work of any writer, nor can I conceive the smallest grounds on which to form a consistent theory, nor indeed do I conceive that it belongs to the science of geology at all.* Scripture has given us no insight into it. The existing laws of nature are equally silent, *and yet, these laws must have existed from the beginning.*” He then assumes, “that the granite mass has been formed before the existence of organized beings, as their remains are never found in it,” an opinion which, I think, the reader will find answered in the body of the work; and the assertion, that neither Scripture nor the laws of nature give any insight into the creation, appeared to me so futile, that I have inserted the above extract, solely to prove that the system I had formed, had not, at the date of that letter, been *yet* made by any other writer.

By the following extract from the Bridgewater Treatise of the Rev. Doctor Buckland, published long since the date of Mr. Fairholme's letter, it will be seen, *that* my construction of the 1st verse of Genesis, has been sanctioned and confirmed by the authorities mentioned above.

And having presented my prospectus to the persons above named, and also to the Royal Institution in Albemarle-street, London, in 1833, I consider it a duty to myself to claim the originating of that construction, by which the general appearance of *gradual deposition* in the geology of the earth, (whose diameter must, according to the modern geologists, have existed millions of years) will, as well as this supposed age, be now reconciled, and satisfactorily explained by the Mosaic account.

* In this he was right, it belongs to the science of Cosmogony.

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