

are still found here, but not of the same species as those in less elevated regions. When we ascend to greater elevations, and advance to the summits of the highest mountains, remains of marine animals grow more rare, and at length disappear entirely; but the chrystallization, and many other characters of these rocks, shew them to have been *formed in a fluid*, &c. It is impossible, therefore, to deny, that the waters of the sea have formerly, and for a great length of time, covered those masses of matter which now constitute our highest mountains; and further, that for a long time these waters did not support any living thing."

This last sentence is the only one from which our Theory differs, as will be shown subsequently on the authority of Mr. Lyell.

Thus we have the evidence of geology, that every part of the earth contains marine remains; and that even the summits of the highest mountains, where these marine depositions cease to be found, give yet evidence of *formation by fluidity*.

That these marine remains are not found in these summits may, I think, be satisfactorily accounted for. Many remains are found in the same forms as when they contained the living animals; but on taking them up, they crumble into impalpable powder.

The summits, therefore, of these mountains, have probably contained these marine remains in previous ages; but, being contiguous to the earth's surface, have, by the joint action of the air and rains, lost their organization, been converted into their component substances, and been incorporated with other mineral, metallic, or earthly bodies.—