

It represents too that order of progression from lower to higher conditions of the world, and of its tribes of organic life. These things lay quite beyond the reach of early human knowledge and the precision with which they are stated indicates that the narrative is vastly more than guesses at truth or anticipations of natural science.

The view which we have thus taken of scriptural cosmogony is that to which the learned writings of Kurtz has led the way—it is that, too, which in some of its features has been so grandly stated by Hugh Miller in his “*Testimony of the Rocks.*” In some of its details it agrees with the views of Sime in his little work entitled “*The Mosaic Record in harmony with the Geological.*” Whatever aid has been derived from these and other works, we have yet in our criticism followed an independent line of investigation, and presented views both of the text and of geology, which to us are somewhat new.

Space will not permit us further to enlarge on the other topics of deep interest to be found in “*Archæia.*” We can only say that the second part of the book which treats of the unity of the human race and ably discusses the difficult questions which it involves, is worthy of attentive perusal. In this department our author is rather in advance of the naturalists of the present period. His treatment of the whole subject exhibits a ripeness of thought, clearness and acuteness of perception together with a sobriety of judgment, not often to be found in writers upon the discursive topics of ethnology. To those who wish to become acquainted with the present condition of ethnological science, we can recommend nothing better than the chapters which pertain to it in Dr. Dawson’s book.

We cannot but commend the publishers for the enterprise and spirit which they manifest in the publication of this volume. It is well got up, and if not quite so good as can be produced in England, it is yet equal to anything of the kind on this continent. It can be read with comfort, and altogether it is a handsome book. We trust that the reading public will show their appreciation of this native production—it is all Canadian—by the speedy purchase of the entire edition.