

vastly earlier than the received geological theories admit.

"The mineral phosphate of lime has for some years back attracted considerable attention both in England and the United States, as a substitute for guano and bone dust. So important is the substance deemed, that the British Government sent commissioners to Estremadura in Spain, where the mineral is found, for the purpose of arranging for its importation into England; but the result was that it did not appear to exist in sufficient quantity; so that the only mineral phosphate now used by the agriculturists in England is obtained from the *crag* on the coast of Suffolk. This, however, is very impure, containing much carbonate of lime and other earthy matters; while the mineral phosphate found in Canada is nearly in a pure, and much of it in a crystalized state. Although it has not yet been mined to any considerable extent, sufficient has been ascertained with regard to its mode of occurrence to render it certain that it can be obtained in very great quantities, and it may be hoped that it will supersede the use of bones, of which probably not less than £400,000 or £500,000 worth are annually imported into England. Besides the use of bone-dust for agricultural purposes, several thousand tons of it are annually used in England for the manufacture of china ware, at a cost of from seven pound to ten pound per ton. Probably the mineral phosphate might be successfully applied