

which he was a victim ever after. I cannot here help referring to another life-long victim to dyspepsia, whose death but lately we were called to mourn. What a difference between the characters of Darwin and Carlyle—sunshine, gloom! This physical affliction could not destroy the sweetness and amiability of the one, while the whole life of the other was so soured and warped by it, that as his mother expressed it, he was “gey ill to live wi’.” Indeed it is difficult to conceive of two characters so totally unlike; and their modes of thought are as wide apart as the poles.

Three years after his return from this voyage Mr. Darwin married his cousin, Miss Emma Wedgwood, and in 1842 settled at Down, near Farnborough, in Kent. Here, up almost to the very day of his death, he continued to work at the problems which had been suggested to him while on board the *Beagle*, patiently accumulating and reflecting upon all sorts of facts which could possibly have any bearing upon that mystery of mysteries—the origin of species.

Taking his works in historical order, we have first a paper on the “Connection of Volcanic Phenomena,” published in the transactions of the Geological Society in 1840. In the same publication, in 1842, there was another on the “Erratic Boulders of South America,” and somewhat latter, a paper on the “Geology of the Falkland Islands.” His principle researches, however, in Geology were contained in a work called the “Geology of the Voyage of the *Beagle*,” published in three parts under the auspices of the Lords of the Treasury. The first, on the “Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs,” appeared in 1842, and must be regarded as one of the most original and interesting of the author’s works. In this volume he gives his views on the formation of the three

great classes of coral-reefs—Atolls, or Lagoon Islands, Barrier, and Fringing-Reefs. Important as these views are, I can only state here, that his theory is, that all the leading features in these structures can be simply explained by the upward growth of the corals during the sinking of the land. The formation appears first as a fringing-reef round an island or the shore of a continent. Now, if we imagine the island to sink and the coral to grow upward, we will get an encircling barrier reef; and if the same thing takes place with the continent, we will have a straight barrier. Let the encircling barrier reef and the island go on subsiding, and the corals growing vigorously upwards, and when the highest point of land has disappeared below the water, we have a perfect Atoll, or Lagoon Island. A conviction of the correctness of Darwin’s theory has been impressed on the minds of many naturalists. Its simplicity recommends it.

The next part of this work was on the “Geology of the Volcanic Islands visited during the Voyage of the *Beagle*,” published in 1844. The third part appeared in 1846, under the title of “Geological Observations on South America.” These, together with a paper read in 1843, before the Geological Society on “Glacial Action in Wales,” complete his direct contributions to Geology; but his researches in other fields have had a much wider influence on the progress of this science, especially his chapters in the “Origin of Species,” on the “Imperfection of the Geological Record,” and “Geographical Distribution.” These have proved that geological history has followed a law of Evolution, not of Cataclysm or Uniformity.

Next in order of time comes his “Monograph of the Cirripedia,” published by the Ray Society in two volumes, in 1851 and 1854. This