

tiary formations in these regions were formerly more extensively distributed than at present. CHAP. XIII.

4. That previously to the deposition of the coal formation, as in Melville Island and Jameson's Land, the older hills supported a vegetation resembling that which at present characterizes the warmest regions of the globe. The fossil corals in the limestones—corals of which the prototypes are at present met with in the hot seas of the tropical regions—also intimate that, before, during, and after the deposition of the coal formation, the waters of the Arctic Ocean were so constituted as to support polyparia, or corals, resembling those of the present equatorial seas.

5. That probably the climate of the Arctic regions in ancient times was connected in some degree with the magnitude and form of the land, and its relations to the extent and height of other countries. Climate.

6. That the boulders or rolled blocks observed in different quarters, and in tracts distant from their original localities, afford evidence of the passage of water across them, and at a period subsequent to the deposition of the newest Neptunian strata.

7. That possibly the distribution of these blocks or boulders was occasioned by the agitations in the ocean, caused by the upraising of certain lands. Blocks or boulders.

8. That the black or common coal, that namely of the old formation, which some speculators maintain to be confined to the more temperate regions of the earth, is now proved,—by its discovery by Parry in Melville Island far to the west, and by Scoresby on the eastern shores of Greenland,—to form an interesting feature in the geognostical constitution of Arctic countries.

9. That the new red sandstone and gypsum found in certain tracts allow us to infer that they contain rock-salt.

10. That although few new metalliferous specimens have been produced to gratify the curiosity of the mineralogist, yet the previous details show that valuable