ARCTIC GEOLOGY.

CHAP. XIII account of the exploratory voyage performed by a late distinguished officer, Captain Clavering, published in the ninth volume of the New Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, it is stated, that on the coast to the northward of the part surveyed by Scoresby, the mountains are from 3000 to 4000 feet high. The survey made by the latter extended particularly from Cape Barclay and Knighton Bay in about latitude 69°, to Cape Parry in about latitude 72° 30'; that of Captain Clavering from Cape Parry to an island under latitude 76°; and the coast downwards to Cape Farewell, to about latitude 59° 30', has been partially described by Crantz, but much of it is entirely unknown.

> The tract examined by Scoresby appears to consist principally of primitive rock. Secondary ones also occur; the transition are the least frequent; and it was only on the beaches, and at the head of friths, alluvial deposits were noticed.

> The primitive rocks were granite, gneiss, mica-slate, hornblende-slate, syenite, and clay-slate. These exhibit in that remote region the same varieties of structure as those on the west coast of Greenland, and the latter again do not differ from the primitive rocks of Britain and other countries; thus affording another proof of the uniformity of their character, similarity of position, and universality of distribution in all parts of the world. Judging from what is known of the embedded minerals on the west coast of Spitzbergen, and reflecting on the agreement of the rocks on both sides of the country, we may infer that if Scoresby had had leisure for more minute investigation, his scientific zeal would have been rewarded by the discovery of the hitherto rare *cryolite*, the sodalite, and allanite, with magnificent tourmalines and garnets, interesting varieties of zircon, splendid specimens of hyperstene, the remarkable dichroite, and with all the species of the *felspar* genus. There does not appear any reason why the ores of iron, lead, tin, and copper of the west coast, should not also occur in the same rocks upon the east; and the fine displays of

Primitive rocks.

Minerals.

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