

or in the East Indies, has only to send an order by letter, referring the party to an agent in town for payment, and he will find the package at his door in a few months. The specimens are numbered and are accompanied by an explanatory book of reference.—In mineralogy, the best book for those who confine themselves to one, is professor Cleaveland's "*Elements of Mineralogy*," (2 vols. Boston, 1822.) Its preliminary chapters on the terms and principles of the science are of moderate length, accurate, plain, and satisfactory. His arrangement allows of easy reference. The descriptions of the minerals are well marked, but are free of the puzzling and cumbrous prolixity of the German School. The concluding papers on the outlines of Geology, are remarkable for the great quantity of important information they contain, compressed into so small a space.

In geology we would recommend Bakewell's "*Introduction*," in one volume. In fact, there is no other respectable work in the English language, excepting the small *Compendium of Geology*, by Phillips, a name of the highest rank in this and Chemical science. We recommend Mr. B.'s work, for its very sufficient and agreeable manner and matter, the clearness of the descriptions and the felicitous illustrations. It has become in England, quite a drawing room companion. To these treatises may be added, Playfair's eloquent "*Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory*;" more especially for its able discussions on the nature and origin of alluvia; and Parkinson's "*Introduction to the study of organic remains*," (1 volume 8vo. London 1822,) for a very concise and pleasing sketch of this important department—a department particularly interesting to the Canadian from the great number of new and singular species of fossilized animals, lately discovered in his country. It is a study important from the variety, magnitude and complex forms of its subjects, and from the extraordinary fact, among others, which it discloses—that organic life has existed on the surface of this globe in groupes, each occupying an æra of tranquility, and endowed, not with dimensions and powers incompatible with mutual safety, but with habits and faculties so harmonised as to ensure a certain permanence of all classes. It may be considered as proved, that a succession of these societies has taken place; and that each has been destroyed by a great catastrophe. It is observed that the race immediately following one of these periods of devastation have a few individuals of the preceding epoch mingled among them. Cuvier in his "*Theory of the Earth*," has given a most masterly relation of these events; but within the last few years much has been added by Brongniart, Brocchi, Delabèche, Webster and others. Their labors however are as yet buried in insulated memoirs in the transactions of the learned societies of Europe. The "*Reliquiæ Antideluvianæ*," of Professor Buckland, (1 vol. large octavo, 3rd English Edition in 2 years,) presents a very entertaining and at the same time elaborate, narrative of the effects of the last deluge. It