

dovetailing the Old and New Testament predictions into each other, in searching for, and connecting historical events with the predictions, and in combining the whole into one systematic and connected scheme. Writers in favor of schemes of this kind have sprung up by scores. Clergymen have committed themselves to their advocacy, and have not hesitated to charge with irreverence those who presume to doubt. It avails not that dates have been repeatedly fixed for the advent and passed without fruition ; another date is immediately seized and believed in, just as fervently as if no disappointment had been experienced. If it does not come at one time, it will at another, and, at the very farthest, 200 years cannot elapse before the final end of all things. Now, how far is this expectation rational ? First, shall there be an end of this world ? and next, is it near at hand ? To the first question, undoubtedly, both revelation and analogy give the same affirmative answer. To the second, revelation is silent, however busy interpreters' fancies may be, and analogy speaks loudly against the prevalent view. For the present we will leave revelation alone, and see what history tells us of the past, regarding the races of this world.

There can be no doubt that many creations of animated beings, and many varieties of surface, have existed on this globe, and passed away. The great Silurian epoch, with its peculiar forms of life and its own characteristics