

the animal, its geological age, and its possible relations to reptiles and other animals, and he enlarged enthusiastically on these points, till, suddenly observing the astonishment of a man who accompanied us, he abruptly turned to me and whispered, 'The man will think us mad if I run on in this way.'

"An allied feature of his mental character was the readiness with which he accepted new conclusions, and relinquished without regret views which he might have long held, when he perceived them to be shaken or untenable. He seemed wholly free from that common failing of men of science which causes them to cling with such tenacity to opinions once formed, even in the face of the strongest evidence. This quality eminently fitted him to be the expositor of a rapidly advancing science, and also to be the patron and helper of younger and less eminent men, and was connected with that warm and earnest interest which he ever felt in the progress of knowledge, and with the deference with which he received new facts and suggestions from any quarter.

"These qualities, apparent in his connections with American geology, were equally valuable in his relations to science in its general aspects. A man so gifted, fortunate in his genius, his