

"These oldest fossiliferous rocks may mark the commencement of animal life, but they testify nothing as to the existence or non-existence of a previous period of vegetation alone. Farther, the rocks which contain the oldest remains of life, exist as far as yet known, in a condition so highly metamorphic as almost to exclude the possibility of their containing any distinguishable vegetable fossils."

Now it is seen that this is directly contrary to the statements in the extract just reviewed, which says:—"The animals and plants of these oldest rocks can be arranged in the same genera, orders, or classes, with existing tribes, though specifically distinct."

The same oldest rocks, animals, and plants are mentioned in both. This contradiction is, alone, sufficient to destroy the whole of his writing regarding those remains as to plants and vegetables, and animals; also, the rocks being so *metamorphic* or transformed. It is true the contradiction is not *perjury*, but it is clearly damaging as to literary reputation, especially that of the Head of a University.

The next subjects for remark are contained in the following passages:—

"It appears from the above facts and reasonings that geology informs us."

The above *facts*, as he calls them, are merely wild and fictitious speculations of a number of writers, who, as to time, differ by millions and hundreds of thousands of years, not one of them coming within vast periods of any one of the others. The reasonings therefore, having no certain or truthful foundation, are mere *fallacies*. Indeed the Dr. himself has given testimony against the (supposed) facts, by saying that water erosions and stalagmites, and remains in the caves, are, as to evidence of time *worthless*, and further as we have just seen, he has said as to all vegetable products, "the fossiliferous rocks are in a condition so highly metamorphic as almost to exclude the possibility of their containing any distinguishable vegetable fossils." The real fact, or conclusion, therefore is that his facts and reasonings are equally false and fallacious, metamorphic and utterly *worthless*.

The information from geology, he states as follows:—

1. "That the materials of our existing continents are of secondary origin, as distinguished from primitive or coeval with the beginning."