

Scientific.

THE INFIDELITY OF SCIENTIFIC MEN.

Some of our scientific savans, intoxicated with success real or apparent, have become perfectly insolent and unbearable in their utterances of late. All who will not swallow without question their theories, are either narrow bigots or contemptible noodles. They have only words of pitying scorn for those who believe in Christianity, and hardly less in their scorn for those who believe in a living, personal God, whose will is supreme over all.

origin of oceanic currents, and the action of floating ice, to which Sir Charles so confidently appeals in favor of his darling theory of the great antiquity of man. It is amazing how easily the scientific mind is, in some instances, imposed upon by appearances, and how far it is carried away from right judgment by over-eager speculation. There has been found a rude ornament of canal coal, "fifty feet above the sea-level, covered with gravel containing marine shells," and Sir Charles, in the first place, taking for granted that the upward movement was uniform, and in the second place, presuming or conjecturing that the littoral deposits occurring at a height of twenty-five feet above high water mark were made subsequent to the Roman invasion, pronounces, by a process of simple multiplication, that the date of the canal-oral ornament is carried back fifteen centuries before our era.

But in opposition to this theory of a uniform upward movement, and to the strong presumption of the date of the twenty-five feet elevation being after the Roman occupation, Mr. Brodie brings forward facts which go to show that "there has been no change of relative level of the coasts of Scotland since the time of the Roman invasion," and "that the elevation which did take place some time previous to that event, was a sudden one."

But we must protest against the arrogant and unphilosophical tone assumed by many of the devotees of "science," and especially against the unsettlement of our long-cherished beliefs, by theories about the growth of peat, about which there is at present much dispute, and at which possibly the next generation may laugh. Our thanks are due to Mr. Brodie for the noble stand he has taken in the interests of truth, scientific as well as theological; and we trust that his papers will meet with the attention that they deserve.

Weekly Review on Rev. James Brodie's "Papers," published in Edinburgh.

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