

HOME AND COLONIAL LIBRARY, No. XXII. DARWIN'S  
JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD. PART I.  
Murray, London.—This number contains in the form of a  
journal the history of the voyage of the Beagle, and a sketch  
of the observations made by the writer on the natural his-  
tory and the geology of the countries he visited. In the  
course of the voyage many relics were found of those large  
animals, like oxen and elephants, which have lately ob-  
tained the name of megatheria, or the gigantic beasts of the  
ancient world. The journal before us tends to remove one  
of the difficulties which has embarrassed contending  
writers upon this subject. Hitherto the remains of these  
beasts have been discovered in depths and strata which  
have enabled sceptical and infidel writers on geology to  
claim for them with some speciousness an origin much  
earlier than the Deluge. In the journal before us it ap-  
pears that these bones were discovered by the officers of the  
Beagle upon the very surface of some newly discovered  
coasts and islands, and, as the writer of the journal says,  
so mingled up in common with the animal and vegetable  
matter of the present day, as to prove that these remains  
must have been deposited, and of course that these vast  
animals must have lived, in these unknown islands a very  
few centuries ago. Of so little worth is the current geology  
of the day, and so quickly is it hastening to the same ob-  
livion into which the Huttonian and Plutonian theories  
have passed within our own memory.