



Engraved by W. Davies.

Designed by R. Wilson.

Gondree on the Eastern branch of the Indus

SINCE ESTABLISHED BY THE PARLIAMENTS OF 1803.

From a sketch taken on the spot by Capt. Cradock in 1808.

London. Published 1808, by John Murray, Albemarle Street.

PRINCIPLES
OF
GEOLOGY:

BEING
AN INQUIRY HOW FAR THE FORMER CHANGES OF
THE EARTH'S SURFACE

ARE REFERABLE TO CAUSES NOW IN OPERATION.

BY
CHARLES LYELL, Esq. F.R.S.
PRESIDENT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

“ Amid all the revolutions of the globe, the economy of Nature has been uniform, and her laws are the only things that have resisted the general movement. The rivers and the rocks, the seas and the continents, have been changed in all their parts; but the laws which direct those changes, and the rules to which they are subject, have remained invariably the same.”

PLAYFAIR, *Illustrations of the Huttonian Theory*, § 574.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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P R E F A C E.

THE original MS. of the Principles of Geology was delivered to the publisher in 1827; but the greater portion of it was then in an unfinished state, the chapters on the early history of Geology, and those on “the Inorganic Causes of Change,” being the only ones then nearly ready for the press. The work was at that time intended to form two octavo volumes, which were to appear in the course of the year following. Their publication, however, was delayed by various geological tours which I made in the years 1828, 1829, 1830, and 1831, in France, Italy, Sicily, and Germany. The following were the dates when the successive volumes and editions finally appeared:—

1st Vol. in octavo	-	-	Jan. 1830.
2d Vol. do.	-	-	Jan. 1832.
1st Vol. 2d edition in octavo	-		1832.
2d Vol. 2d edition do.	-		Jan. 1833.
3d Vol. 1st edition do.	-		May 1833.
New edition (called the 3d) of the			
whole work in 4 vols. 12mo.	-		May 1834.
4th edition, 4 vols. 12mo.	-		June 1835.