

destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth; and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark: And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days." (Gen. 7. 11, 12—19. 24.)

No words can possibly be employed, more fully to express the fact of the *universality* of the deluge, than those used in the foregoing Scriptures. That truth is again and again repeated. First, the Lord declares that he will "destroy all flesh wherein there is the breath of life, from under heaven." Next, "all the high hills which were under the whole heaven were covered." "Fifteen cubits upwards (about 25 feet) did the waters prevail, and the mountains were covered." "All flesh died that moved upon the earth." Again, "every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, man, cattle, creeping things and fowl."

According to plain Scripture facts, and admitted by all, man and all the animals had been upon the earth for about 1650 years. This was surely long enough, to use the Doctor's expression, for "the increase and diffusion of man and the creatures," over the whole face of the globe. A learned clergyman, (Rev. Mr. Stackhouse) in his valuable work—"A Complete Body of Divinity"—has thus written on that *diffusion* of man and creatures:—

"'Tis a groundless and forced conceit to imagine that Judea only, and some other parts about it, in Asia, were stocked with people when the deluge was brought upon the old world; for if we consider the *longevity* of the first inhabitants, and the pretty near equality of their ages, we shall soon perceive that in the space of sixteen hundred years, mankind would become so numerous that the chief difficulty would be where we should find countries to receive them. There are traditions concerning the deluge among the nations of the four quarters of the globe—Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. If we will but turn aside the surface, and look into the bowels of the earth itself, we shall find arguments enough for our conviction; for the *beds of shells* which are often found on the tops of the highest mountains, and the petrified bones and teeth of fishes, which are dug up hundreds of miles from the sea, are the clearest evidence in the world that the waters, some time or other, have overflowed the highest parts of the earth. That these are real shells, the nicest examinations, both of the *eye* and *microscope*, do attest; and that they are true bone, may be experimented by burning, which, as it does other bones, turns them first into a coal, and afterwards into a calx."