

the sea and became entrapped in the materials for the formation of the different strata of rocks, and these rocks were upheaved, and the old or antediluvian rocks and continents were sunk under certain portions of the spread of water which even now covers three-fifths of the surface of the earth.

This chain of evidences of a general flood is unbroken, hence the conclusion is inevitable, that a flood, corresponding with the account given in the 7th chapter of Genesis, covered the whole earth.

Herbert Spencer says, "that it is impossible for man to think of the whole earth at the same time." Let the reader try to think of several places at once, and he will have some idea of the difficult task the author of this essay has had. If some critical grammarian finds a misplaced word, let him reflect how difficult the task of writing the explanations given in this work are, and grammatical accuracy in composition at the same time. Only a moiety of the work was copied; and even in that portion I have had to think more of the subject than the grammar.

The author of this work does not wish to animadvert upon those clergymen who have accepted the theory of a partial deluge. It ought not to be surprising to any one that students should accept the ideas taught by their professors in the colleges they attended; yet, to my mind, the idea of a partial deluge seems unreasonable. Surely, a flood which would be sufficient to cover any chain of mountains, would have to be high enough to cover all the various chains of mountains, for water must approximate to a level. The idea of a partial deluge doubtless arose from the fact that the air could not contain water enough, when precipitated by forty days' rain, to make a general flood; but the Bible account not only mentions the rain, but also the breaking up of the fountains of the deep, which, doubtless, was caused by the sinkage of the old continents, and the upheaval of new continents, whereby the strata of rocks were fractured in zigzag, yet nearly perpendicular lines. Another objection to the idea of a general deluge is the supposition that the ark was not large enough to hold a pair of every kind of carnivorous animals, and seven pairs of graminivorous ones; but did these objectors ever stop to think that the varieties of animals before the flood might not have been as numerous as they are in the present era?

It may not be possible for a species to produce a mixed breed with another species; but observation proves that a species can, through a change of climate, food, &c., become a number of varieties. The varieties of dogs are almost indescribable; yet it is probable that the canine varieties had their origin in the

genus *Canis*, or wild wolf. The bovine species has many varieties, but all of them may have had their origin in the bovine genus *Bos bubalus*. The genus *Cervus* has many varieties, such as the fallow-deer, whapite moose; but they may have had their origin in one or two species. The same law may hold true with the different varieties of the feline species. A species may, through climatic changes and other causes, become several varieties; but birds cannot change into monkeys, and then monkeys into men.

According to the hypothesis that a species may become divided into a number of varieties, the Noachian ark was large enough to hold all the animals that could not live outside of it during the flood. Again, some atheists object to my theory of a general deluge, on the ground that every living creature that breathed would be destroyed, and the saving of animals by means of an Ark is unscientific. But, surely, if animals could be evolved from plants before the flood, they could be evolved in the same way after the flood. Others say that the flood could not have been general, because there are some animals in Australia not found in other countries. But did these cavilers never read about certain kinds of animals that have become extinct. How do they know that no kangaroos ever existed in Europe or America? Oh, says the learned geologist, we have not found the bones of the kangaroo in the drift of America. Now, it is known that there are moose, and what are termed elk in America, and they shed their horns annually; yet it is rarely that a pair of horns of these beasts are found. It is said that mice eat them. Now, would it not be quite possible that the bones of the kangaroo might be entirely destroyed, so that no traces of them could be found in America. Geologists speak eloquently about the connection of continents by strips of land that possibly existed between them in past diluvian ages. But the moment anyone hints that possibly both beasts and creeping things, and even human beings, may have used these isthmuses for the purpose of migration, their eyes brighten with indignation, as they scout the idea. They fear that the admission of such an idea might endanger some of their pet theories.

Just before the continents emerged from the waters which covered the whole face of the earth there must have been an unusual quietness of the air. Every meteorologist knows that winds are set in motion through uneven temperatures of the atmosphere. In the vast expanse of the continents the air becomes unusually heated. In extensive valleys facing the sun, such as the Mississippi Valley, the air on certain days becomes unusually