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## REVIEW SECTION.

### I.—NATURAL FACTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF THE DELUGE.

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*(Third Article.)*

AFTER our previous inquiry into the physical facts and historical antecedents of the deluge, we must enter on the study of its details as narrated in Genesis, with the impression that we have before us the testimony of a survivor or survivors, edited under the guidance of the Divine Spirit, and, therefore, to say the least, in a judicious and conscientious manner. This understanding at once removes out of the way all questions as to the so-called "universality" of the deluge. The witnesses of the event could testify only to what they had seen, and to such other effects of the catastrophe as they may have observed after the event. To stretch their testimony beyond this is to treat them unfairly. What, then, were their probable opportunities of obtaining information either during or after the deluge? The actual space traversed by the ark may have extended from the vicinity of the Persian Gulf about seven hundred miles northwesterly into the high lands of Armenia. The geographical knowledge of the immediate survivors of the flood, if measured by that of their descendants for two or three generations, as given in the tenth chapter of Genesis, may have reached eastward into Persia and westward as far as eastern Europe and the shores of the eastern half of the Mediterranean. Those districts of western Europe which have hitherto produced the most abundant remains of Paleolithic or Antediluvian man were probably beyond their ken. Thus, if we can now identify the geological and the historical deluge, we may truly say that the original narrator of the account in Genesis could have had no adequate idea of the actual limits of the submergence, tho it engulfed all the habitable world as known to him. This is a highly important consideration in regard to the scope of the terms as to extent employed by him.