

so that of his successors, till men had multiplied in the earth ; so as to form conflicting interests, when the rapine and violence commenced, as spoken of by Moses, which it seems, grew worse and worse, till the flood came and took them all away.

That the central parts of Asia were not overflowed by the deluge, appears of vast importance to some philosophers of the present day to be established, for if so, we see, say they, at once how both men and animals were preserved from that flood ; and yet this does not, they say, militate against the Mosaic account ; for the very word ARK, is, in the original language, *Theba*, and signifies, *refuge*, and is the country of Thibet. So that when Moses talked about an Ark, he only meant the central part of Asia, or Thibet, in which men and animals were saved.

But it will not do ; for the Mosaic account plainly says, that God said to Noah, *make thee an Ark of Gopher wood*. Surely Noah did not make the central parts of Asia, called *Theba*, or Thibet ; neither was he called upon to do so, as it would have taken much Gopher wood to have formed the whole or a part of so large a country. But respecting the word, which is translated ARK, in the Scriptures, it is said by Adam Clarke, to be in the original *Tebath*, and not *Theba*.

The word *Tebath*, he says, signifies *vessel*, and means no more nor less than a vessel, in its most common acceptation, a hollow place, capable of containing persons, goods, &c. The idea, therefore, that the word *Ark*, signified the central parts of Asia, called *Theba*, or Thibet, falls to the ground ; while the history as given by Moses, respecting the flood of Noah, remains unshaken.

The same author has also discovered that a race of Ancient people, in South America, called the *Zupotecas*, boast of being *antediluvian* in America, and to have built the city of Coat-lan, so named, because this city was founded at a place which swarmed with serpents ; therefore named Snake-city, or Coat-lan, built 327 years before the flood ; and that at the time of the flood a remnant of them together with their king, named Pet-ela, (or dog,) saved themselves on a mountain of the same name, Coat-lan.

But we consider this tradition to relate *only* to the *first* efforts at house building *after* the flood of Noah, round about the region of Ararat, and on the plains of Shinar. The very circumstance of this tribe being still designated by that of the *Dog* tribe, is an evidence that they originated not before the flood as a nation, but in Asia,