

Previous to the race who inhabited Peru when it was discovered, another race dwelt there. Their creed was greatly disfigured with superstitions, yet it still had a conception of a Supreme Being whose name was Con, who was an invisible and omnipotent spirit, which inhabited the universe. He had a son whose name was Pachacamac, who did much to renovate the world. One of the Incas, however, afterwards introduced the worship of the sun, and declared him to be the Supreme Divinity, and taught the people that Con and Pachacamac were his children. Most of the people accepted this in the course of time, but not all.*

The Carios of Columbia had no temples, but worshipped the stars, and believed in one God.†

In Yucatan, Nicaragua, and Michcoacan the people believed in a Supreme Being, the First Cause and invisible. The Chihuahuans worshipped a Great God called Captain of the Heaven, while a lesser divinity inspired the priests. In Durango they called the principal power the "Maker of all things," and the Mexicans adored him under the name of Tloque Nahuaque, "The Cause of all things," the same Being as the "Heart of Heaven" of Guatemala.‡

The Aztecs also had a Supreme Ruler and Lord of the universe.

The Zuñis, according to Mr. F. C. Cushing, believe there is one Supreme Ruler over all the gods, whose name is Hano-onawilona, or holder of the roads of light, and he is represented by the sun itself. He is believed to be able not only to see the visible actions of men, but also their thoughts.§

The Moquis believe in a Great Father, who lives where the sun rises, the father of evil, war, pestilence, and famine, and a mother, whose home is where the sun sets, from whom we have joy, peace, plenty, and health. The Mojaves believe in a material Creator of heaven and earth, who has a son, Mastanho, who made the water and planted trees; the Apaches have a Supreme Power in heaven, the Creator and Master; and the natives of Nevada a great, good, kind Spirit.||

The Karoks of California have a conception of a Supreme Being, whom they call Kareya, the old man above, who sometimes descends to the earth as a venerable man to teach the medicine men, though, like most California tribes, the Coyote

* Tschudi's *Peruvian Antiquities*, chap. vii.

† *American Antiquarian*, July, 1882, p. 177.

‡ Bancroft's *Native Races of the Pacific States*, vol. iii. chap. vi.

§ *Popular Science Monthly*, June, 1882.

|| Bancroft's *Native Races of the Pacific States*, vol. iii.