

pillars of salt are discovered, from the summit of which flows a stream of water equally cool and sweet. This district is possessed by the last of those who inhabit the deserts beyond the centre and under parts of Africa. The Ammonians, who possess the Temple of Theban Jupiter, are the people nearest to this place of Thebes, from which they are distant a ten days' journey.

"Passing onward beyond the Ammonians into the desert for ten days more, another hill of salt occurs; it resembles that which is found among the Ammonians, and has a spring of water. The place is inhabited and called Angila, and here the Nasamones come to gather their dates. At another ten days' distance," he continues, "from the Angila there is another hill of salt with water, as well as a great number of palms, which, like those before described, are exceedingly productive. This place is inhabited by the numerous nation of the Garamantes; they cover the beds of salt with earth, and then plant it. From them to the Lotophagi is a very short distance; but from these latter it is a journey of thirty days to that nation, among whom is a species of oxen which walk backwards while they are feeding—their horns are so formed that they cannot do otherwise; they are before so long, and curved in such a manner, that if they did not recede as they feed, they would stick in the ground.

"From the Garamantes it is another ten days' journey to the Atlantes, where also is a hill of salt with water. Of all mankind of whom we have any knowledge, the Atlantes alone have no distinction of names; the body of the people are termed Atlantes, but their individuals have no appropriate appellation; when the sun is at the highest they heap upon it reproaches and execrations, because their country and themselves are parched by its rays. I am able to call by name all the different nations as far as the Atlantes; beyond this I have no knowledge. There is, however, from hence, an habitable country as far as the columns of Hercules, and even beyond it. In this part of Lybia it never rains. Beyond this sandy desert, southward to the interior parts of Lybia, there is a vast and horrid space without water, wood, or beasts, and totally destitute of moisture." Such—for the citation of which we crave pardon of the reader—with similar other narratives, may be said to comprise the geographical information given us by Herodotus concerning the central regions of Africa, mixed, of course, with some fables, which the nature and source of such information, and his own too credulous temperament, rendered unavoidable. Was the moral state of Africa with regard to slavery, *then*, what it is *now*? We know not; but may shrewdly guess that it was not very dissimilar. Should it not upon this supposition have been a part of Europe's policy for the last three centuries and a half to have endeavoured to neutralise the moral chaos which reigned over those vast districts stretching from the eastern shores of Abyssinia to the mouths of the Gambia? The physical circumstances of climate are the same as they were two thousand years back. Over these vast territories from Cancer to Capricorn, upon which the glorious orb of our system points its vertical and almost unintermittent rays, the same economy, moral and physical, has pro-