

numbers, their order, their state of defence and security, against the Indians farther west, who it is likely watched all opportunities to destroy them.

Finally, from all we can gather on this momentous subject, we are compelled from the overwhelming amount of evidence to admit that mighty nations, with almost unbounded empire, with various degrees of improvement, have occupied the continent, and that, as in the old world, empire has succeeded empire, rising one out of the other, from the jarring interests of the unwieldy and ferocious mass—so also in this.

And also, that convulsion has succeeded convulsion, deluge succeeded deluge, breaking down mountains, the barriers of rivers, deranging and destroying the ancient surface, till it has at length assumed a settled and more permanent state of things, where the millions of the present race now inhabit.

But the majestic yet fearful work of change and revolution, is doubtless going on in other worlds or planets as well as this, for wherever is the principle of life and motion, whether it belongs to organized and animated nature, or to the elements of which the earth is composed, the operation of revolution can but be going forward.

It is believed and asserted by astronomers as their opinion, obtained from telescopic observation, that the moon, the satellite of the earth, is a globe in ruins, or if not so, it at least is frequently much convulsed by the operations of volcanic fires. Its surface, as seen through the glasses, is found extremely mountainous, presenting an infinite variety of pointed mountains, overhanging ranges of ledge and precipice, with vales and flat regions embosomed between. Consequently, a great number of rivers, creeks, lakes and small seas must divide the land of this globe into a vast number of tracts of country, which are doubtless filled with animals,—consequently with rational beings in the form of men, as ourselves, for we can conceive of none other, as fitted to preside over its animals. The same we believe of all the stars of heaven.

In exact accordance with this doctrine of change, as it respects the removal of entire worlds, the Scriptures are full of allusions to such a catastrophe yet to take place. And why should it not? as He who *made* the worlds also dictated the composition of that