

very unusual places, and alarmed the inhabitants of isolated dwellings. Several of them have, however, fallen before the rifles of the hunters, who are always ready to turn out in pursuit when large game are reported to show themselves. The regular hunting is scarcely begun as yet, but those who have taken "time by the forelock" have had pretty good success, in proof of which I send you the following, clipped from the Belleville *Intelligencer*, of the 12th ult. :—

"A BIG DEER HUNT.—A party of seven left for Buck Lake, Sept. 28th, arriving at their destination October 1st. They returned on October 10th, bringing with them 15 deer besides a large quantity of smaller game. Of the deer shot Mr. S. Paliser, of Foxboro', shot seven; Mr. S. Golding, of Sidney, six; and Mr. S. D. Ross, of Madoc, two."

JAS. T. BELL.

NOTE—The above was too late for the October number.

#### A GENERAL DELUGE.

The following foot note was omitted in the October number. It refers to an asterisk after the word desert, fitting lines from the end of the column :—

\*NOTE.—The late lamented Geo. Smith, of the British Museum, in his interesting account of the Deluge, which he deciphered after long years of laborious research, wrote the London *Telegraph*: "The cuneiform inscription which I have recently found and translated, gives a long and full account of the Deluge. It contains the version of tradition of this event, which existed in the early Chaldean period of the city of Erech, one of the cities of Nimrod, now represented by the ruins of Warka. In this newly discovered inscription the account of the Deluge is put as a narrative into the mouth of Xisuthus or Noah. He relates the wickedness of the world, the command to build the ark, its building, the filling of it, the resting of the ark on a mountain, the sending out of the birds, and other matters. *The narrative has a closer resemblance to the account transmitted by the Greeks from Berossus, the Chaldean historian, than to Biblical history, but it does not differ materially from either [because all drew from a common fountain—the original Babylonian records, from which each copied.] The principal differences are as to the duration of the Deluge, the name of the mountain on which the ark rested, the sending of the birds, etc. The cuneiform account is much longer and fuller than that of Berossus, and has several details omitted both by the Bible and the Chaldean historian. This inscription opens up many questions of which we knew nothing previously, and it is connected with a number of other details of Chaldean history, which will be both interesting and important. This is the first time any inscription has been found with an account of the event mentioned in Genesis."*

Some, bolder than others, have had the independence to assert that the various races of men did not originate from a single pair; but were developed at different periods, under widely

differing circumstances, and that each was peculiarly adapted to the locality in which he is found. They saw that the islands and widely-separated continents were inhabited by similar animals and races of human beings, and accounted for this on the hypothesis that their ancestors were carried there by icebergs, or other natural methods, and to man his accidental passage by canoes. Our theory, which seems the more probable, accounts for this condition of things in harmony with the known laws of nature.

Had the earthquake of a few years ago, which created such terrible havoc to property and life on the coast of Chili, floating large ships many miles inland and leaving them high up on the mountain sides, been universal to the western continent, with a tidal wave as much greater as the convulsion would have been more general, it would have rolled over the mountain barriers, and produced a general deluge. All life save that on mountain tops, must have perished. Arks would have been of no account amid such wild and tumultuous warring of the angry elements. A moment, and down sinks the peaceful earth, and on comes the maddened, rushing waters. Billow follows billow mountain high and rolls on, spreading over the plain and leaping the highest crags. Ships would have been no more than straws floating on a surging ocean.

If a receding wave should unveil a continent, it would be a barren waste of crags, and rocks and boulders, pebbles and sand. The few, if any, who clung to mountain tops would probably starve. If any survived, ages of almost limitless duration would have been required to people the earth again.

A general traditional account of the common disaster would have survived; but no clear idea of the long period which had elapsed could have been preserved. The knowledge of the event, being passed from father to son through successive generations, would be credited to a period much shorter than its reality.

Though raised at the court of Pharaoh, Moses only possessed the knowledge common to the educated Egyptians. All the laws and customs introduced by him to his immediate followers, he carried out of Egypt with him. And the Egyptians no doubt borrowed their ideas from their ancestors, who were probably natives of Persia or Farther India.

(To be continued.)