

as we have before suggested, that China has remained above the surface through all the wrecks of comparatively modern continents; that formerly the western boundary of a coast line, by submergence on the one hand, and upheaval on the other, its condition has been changed to an eastern one. This idea is strengthened by the evidences of antiquity which mark that people; by their numerous population, being nearly equal to all other portions of the globe; to their traditions extending far back into the past; their historical accounts, and the general opinions prevailing in all countries that the world was peopled from the East. And as almost conclusive evidence in support of this proposition is the identity of religious belief, universally prevailing, when stripped of additions made to earlier teachings by a advancing civilization.

P perchance, were we able to follow these reflections to a natural conclusion and had the desirable knowledge which present explorations are developing, we could show that the wonderful records left by a long extinct race in Peru and Central America, of pyramids, and walled cities, and gigantic statuary, and mummies, instead of being the reflex of Asiatic civilization are the parents of these comparatively modern nations.

The preceding pages, relative to a so called general deluge, are only suggestive, but sufficient to awaken thought in the direction we have indicated. We offer, in corroboration of this theory, what to us is conclusive—that in the remote past a continent densely populated occupied at least a portion of what is now the Pacific ocean; that the islands visible in that ocean were but elevated lands and plateaus of ancient mountains; that the now eastern and western continents were then but beds of mighty oceans; that by slow processes, extending through countless ages, they slowly emerged from the sea; that the present order of things is comparatively modern *dating back but a few hundred thousand years*; although there are evidences of a still remoter past, when animal life, man included, inhabited the present continents, antedating the glacial period, and probably before its last submergence, to which condition it is again inclining. For proof we may state that the city of Quito, since 1745, in 1870 had sunk 246 feet, by careful observations made at different periods by the ablest scientists. Pinchinea went down 218 feet during the same period, and its crater has sunk 425 feet during the last twenty six years.

When Columbus landed in America, in 1492, he found a people so closely resembling those of the extreme east of Asia, he supposed he had reached the Indies in his journey around the world, and, hence, gave them the name of Indians. A more intimate acquaintance with these people revealed the additional fact that their religious notions and many of their traditions, particularly those pertaining to a general deluge, were identical with those prevailing throughout Asia. Travellers among them found that many words used by these nomadic tribes were the same as those employed by Orientals. These travellers, accepting the Mosaic account of creation, with its very brief period of human existence, believing the Creator fashioned the earth substantially as we see it now, and not questioning the scriptural account in regard to the dispersion of races, concluded the "ten tribes of Israel" wandered toward Behring straits, crossed over, thence down the coast to Mexico, and from there gradually spread over the entire American continent.

With us, a common use of primitive terms among widely separated nations, is positive proof of a common origin of these peoples; but in no way does it corroborate the idea of those who are ever drawing upon foreign and irrelevant facts to sustain an inconsistent theory, that the Indians are descendants of Abraham.

Islands in the Pacific ocean, hundreds of miles apart, and thousands of miles from the main land, either Asiatic or American, were found by the first explorers to be inhabited by the same race, marked with the same peculiarities of complexion, general features, color of hair, etc., and each had customs in common, with gestures and expressions so similar that they could make themselves intelligible to each other when they first met; and yet, the inhabitants of one island had no idea of the existence of others outside of their own islands. It has been suggested that the ancestors of these people formerly held intercourse by means of canoes. This hypothesis is simply preposterous, as a canoe could not live for weeks on this boisterous ocean, without chart or compass, and pass from one island to another. This would and did take place with islands near to and in sight of each other; but such explorations would never be undertaken by savage tribes, as they were wholly destitute of that species of adventure.

(To be continued.)