

Florida and Peru. Love of discovery may have attracted them to take up their abode on this side of the Atlantic, with as much force at least as impelled the French under far less inviting conditions to settle in Canada two or three centuries ago.

Again the oceanic currents, which carried Cabral to the shores of Brazil in the year 1500, and which are taken advantage of in our days to shorten the voyage from Europe to America, may have been known to the sailors of the Pharaohs, or other Monarchs, friends of navigation.

A vessel may have been stranded on the new land, a full squadron perhaps, and without the means could never return to their old home. The exact date of the sinking of the *Atlantide*, so named by ancient Authors is unknown, but it is supposed to have taken place about 3,000 years ago. It is not improbable that in consequence, communications between Europe and America suddenly ceased, and that a certain dread prevailed among the sailors of the Mediterranean. What caused the repugnance of the contemporaries of Columbus when the idea of crossing the Atlantic was mooted? A prevailing superstition lead them to fear that they would be engulfed by the waves of the Atlantic, should they sail beyond the sight of land.

In short, America has been peopled by two distinct migrations, one from Asia settling on the Western part of the continent, and the other from Europe, occupying the Eastern coasts, including Mexico. The first is only known by its monuments of stone, but of the second we have many other evidences.

The reader will no doubt be desirous of knowing something of the wild tribes described by the discoverers of this continent, for the Empires of Montezuma and the Incas, differ entirely from the condition of the numerous nations dwelling between Cape Horn and Alaska. They present nothing unusual so far as we are able to judge. The descen-