

to take place. To such plain declarations as the above, it is surely superfluous to add, in proof of the universality of the flood, the fact of the large, and therefore necessarily diffusive population of the world; calculated by some, as being, from the great age to which men lived, six times as numerous as at present. Mr. Miller finds it difficult to meet this, but suggests that men were so wicked that they had nearly depopulated the world by their wars and crimes! But even if so, the greater reason is there to suppose that the remnants would not be all found near the same spot; and if some were scattered in Asia, some in Europe and Africa, or even in America, the Deluge must still have been universal in order to reach them all.

Again, the natural cause which Mr. Miller assigns for even his supposed partial Flood is diametrically opposed to the Scriptural one. He attributes it to the *sinking* of the earth; the Scriptures, on the contrary, most emphatically to "the fountains of the great deep being broken up, and the windows of heaven being opened," and pouring forth their torrents of rain; until, not as Miller conjectures, the earth sank, but, as Moses repeats at least three times, "the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth;" or as St. Peter, so many ages after, declares, "they *overflowed* the earth that then was."

It will perhaps be said, that I have not met the difficulties that oppose themselves to the idea of a universal Noachian Deluge. That was not my object; those difficulties I do not fear, they doubtless arise from our own want of knowledge. But I solemnly protest against any believer in Revelation attempting to undermine its truth, by such lawless interpretations, as those upon which poor Hugh Miller, and men of his Geological school, have so recklessly ventured. Either their warping and twisting of Revelation is most thoroughly unwarrantable, or the foundations of our faith are gone. No portion of Holy Writ is safe, if such principles of interpretation are once admitted,—the story of Redeeming love may be