

exhibited, in London, a globe of 60 feet diameter, but turned inside out, the spectators being inside it, and the countries, seas and other geographical divisions being shown on the inside, elevations and depressions included, the latter being shown on a greatly enlarged scale, but, even then, being very small indeed, as compared with the size of the globe. The comparison was very interesting and instructive. We cannot all see either the said Paris or London globe; let us try whether we can use a globe of no very formidable size, and yet get some idea of the comparison which we have mentioned. Suppose we have one of forty inches diameter (thirty-six inches is not uncommon but forty will work more easily into our computation), then, taking the diameter of the earth at eight thousand miles, each inch of our globe will represent two hundred miles, and one mile will be represented by the two hundredth part of an inch. Now, to get a tangible exhibition of this small quantity, let us take any printed book of which the edges of four hundred pages, when the book is close shut, will make one inch in thickness; that of each leaf (two pages) will then be the two hundredth of an inch, and a scrap of such paper as the leaf is made of, pasted on the globe, will represent a mountain one mile high (5280 feet), or two-thirds of the height of Mount Washington, or more than five times that of the Eiffel tower; and less than six thicknesses of such paper will represent that of the highest mountain in the world, and not far from the greatest depth of the ocean, which is now considered to be rather more than the height of the loftiest mountain. We shall thus have a fair idea of the comparatively small elevations and depressions in the earth's surface, and of the very slight increase in them respectively, which would drown whole continents, or leave the bottom of the ocean bare; and we shall have some idea of the comparative size of man and that of the world he inhabits, for a thickness of our supposed paper will represent more than eight hundred times his average

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