

had grown near the site of the well? If we could answer one difficulty by proposing others, we might ask how came the bones of tropical animals to be frozen up in the northern icebergs? How came it to pass that almost half the trade of Siberia is in ivory? Or, how came it to pass that some of the largest quadrupeds of the elephant kind are found almost entire frozen up in the ice, the hair, the skin, the flesh, blood, and bones, just as they were when deposited where they are found? Or when were the bones of the huge mammoth deposited at the place known by the name of the Big Bone Lick? Or, the bread fruit tree, evidently a tropical production, deposited in the state of Ohio? Or, how came it to pass that some of the Andes mountains are encrusted with oyster shells 14,500 feet above the present level of the sea? Surely we live in a world of strange things. Now for my part I should just as soon believe that the oysters grazed on the sides of the Andes mountains where these shells are now found, as that the elephants and other tropical animals lived in Siberia where their remains are found. Some wonderful catastrophe has happened to our globe. But what catastrophe, and when? "Aye, there's the rub."

We do not presume that we shall be able entirely to satisfy every one who may chance to read this scrap, as to the means by which, and the time when, the above mentioned depositse were made. But we think it likely that the elephants were deposited in the northern icebergs in Siberia, the mammoth bones at the Big Bone Lick, the bread fruit tree in Ohio, and the swamp cedar in Indiana, at the same time; and that it was the time of the general deluge, recorded in Genesis by Moses. If so, they have all occupied their present position for about 4000 years. Then what will become of the infidel position that "all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." Or, as Mr. Hume has it, "that the laws of nature are uniform in their action, and have never been suspended since they first began to operate." Now, if such were the fact, the bones of tropical animals would have remained in tropical countries, swamp cedar would have been found on the surface of the ground, and oysters in the sea. The Christian Geologist will be the last man in the world to say that all things continue as they were from the creation. Now, we think that we have cracked the nut; if not, we are willing to strike it again. Meanwhile we ask our sceptical friends to crack the following nut: If the laws of nature have acted uniformly, and have never been suspended since the creation, how came the cedar to be beneath the surface of the earth, the elephant in Siberia, the oysters on the mountains, &c. More when necessary.

J. IRVIN.

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## DIFFICULTIES IN CHURCHES—No. II.

BY A. CAMPBELL.

It has been queried by a correspondent from New Lisbon, Ohio—"Is age alone a qualification for office?" If not in these identical words, such is the naked question. This query, accompanied with some judicious remarks, has been propounded on the suggestion offered in our first rea-