

of a flood, indicating, but erroneously, that of Deucalion. On the authority of Acusilaus he puts Ogyges 1020 years before the first Olympiad, or equivalent to 1796 years before Christ; to which time he also refers the Exodus of Israel, much too early a date for the latter event, perhaps not early enough for the flood of Ogyges, but which would place it during the residence of the Israelites in Egypt, 255 years before the Exodus. Ogyges, who afterwards founded Eleusis, is said by Thallus to have been of the race of giants who warred against heaven; and, being defeated, he fled as an emigrant from Phœnicia to the land then called Acte, but since Attica. The flood which happened in his day through the overflowing of a river, may, therefore, have been not in Greece, but in the country from which he emigrated thither. The Scholiast on Plato does not say that it was in Greece, but only that Ogyges was king of Attica. In the Latin of the Chronicus Canon of Eusebius we accordingly find it mentioned thus: "Diluvium Egypti hoc tempore fuit, quod factum est sub Ogyge."¹⁰¹ More probably it was in Canaan than in Egypt, though known to the Egyptians;¹⁰² and it is not unlikely that the flow of the waters of the Jordan, which must necessarily have preceded the bursting in and final settling down of the basin of the Dead Sea to its present form, meets us in this tradition, which has since become transferred to Greece, partly from the emigration of Ogyges thither, and also partly from its having become confounded with a later flood. Ptolemy the geographer informs us that near the Climax, an ascent or hill in or near the Idumean range, there was a spring having Avernian associations, for it was called "the Stygian fountain." Apollodorus makes Phæthon a native of Syria and son of Tithonus (who has Egyptian, and Assyrian, and Persian connections). Ovid, who seems in some things to have taken his materials from Acusilaus, in others doubtless from a variety of other ancient writers of history genuine or traditionary, makes him contemporary with Epaphus, and he glances at the existence of a wide-spread inundation, or sea of collected waters, at or just following the period of the conflagration of Phæthon, and at the spot where the earth sank down to a lower level. Clement of Alexandria puts the conflagration in the time of Crotopus. Johannes Antiochenus

¹⁰¹ "The Egyptian deluge was at this time, which took place under Ogyges."

¹⁰² There is every reason to believe that the plutonic agency at work in the lower basin of the Jordan was of a wide-spread character, and materially altered the face of the country towards the shores of the Red Sea, and probably eastward towards Egypt.