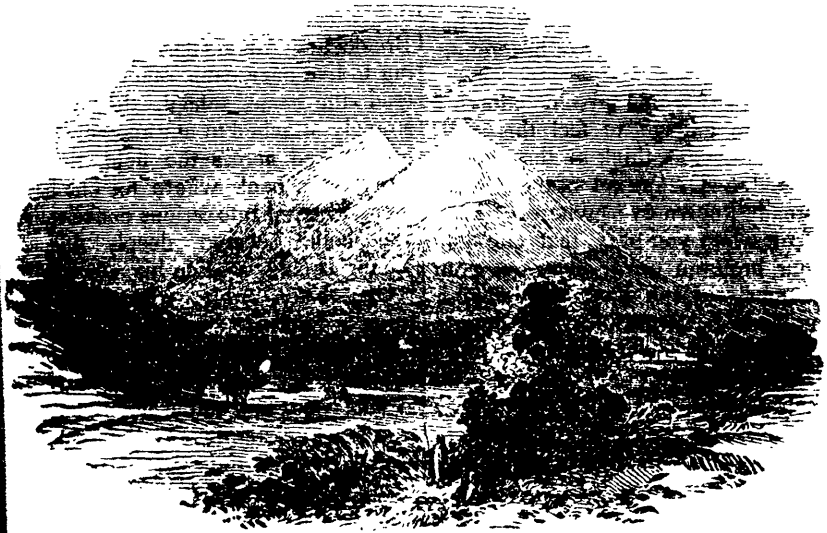


THE MISSIONARY
AND
SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD.

Vol. VIII.

APRIL 1, 1851.

No. 4



Ararat.

A district of country lying near the centre of the kingdom of Armenia. It contained several cities, which were the residence of the successive kings and governors of Armenia, and hence the word Ararat is often applied to the whole kingdom. In the north-east part of Armenia is a range of mountains, on the summit of which the ark rested. It is called *Agridah* by the Turks. There are two peaks about seven miles apart, the highest of which is 15,000 feet (and a late French traveller says 17,000 feet) above the level of the sea, and is perpetually covered with snow. A modern traveller says of it, that when viewed from the plain below, one would think that the highest mountains of the world had been piled upon each other, to form this one sublime immensity of earth, and rocks, and snow; this awful monument of the antediluvian world; this stupendous link in the history of man before and since the flood. Once the population of the whole wide world was embraced in one small family, and that family inhabited this spot. All the animal tribes were assembled here,—birds, beasts, reptiles, and insects. But one language was then spoken. Here, too, the bow of the covenant was set; and here was erected the first altar, after the dreadful catastrophe of the destruction of the world. The immediate vicinity of the mountain is inhabited by Koords, a savage tribe of Mahomedans. And since the last war between Russia and Persia, the Russian boundaries have been so extended as to embrace Ararat; and now Russia, Persia, and Turkey meet at that mountain.