

Alexandria, the port from which the trade with Europe is carried on, was once the most splendid city in the world. Among its ruins still stand Pompey's Pillar and Cleopatra's Needle, both of fine granite, the first 95 and the last 58 feet high.



Pompey's Pillar.



Cleopatra's Needle.

Rosetta and *Damietta*, at the principal mouths of the Nile; and *Suez*, at the head of the Red sea, are places of some commerce; *Siout* (soot) is the station of the caravans for Nubia and Darfur; *Thebes* and *Den dera* are noted for magnificent ruins; *Cosseir* has a poor harbor on the Red sea, and *Berenice*, now in ruins, was once the emporium of the trade with India.

Questions.—1. For what is Egypt noted? 2. What is said of

the pyramids? 3. The Sphinx? 4. The climate? 5. The Nile? 6. staple products? 7. classes of the people? 8. political condition of Egypt? Where, and for what noted, Cairo? Alexandria? &c.

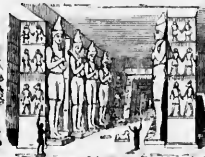
NUBIA.

1. Nubia, like Egypt, abounds with magnificent monuments of ancient art.

2. The most noted monument is the temple of *Ipsambul*, on the Nile, cut out of the solid rock, and adorned on the inside with colossal statues, and seated sculptures representing castles, battles, triumphal processions, &c.; while on the outside are four colossal, larger than any sculptured figures in Egypt except the Sphinx, one of them measuring, from the heel to the top of the cap, 65 feet.



Temple of Ipsambul.



Interior of the Temple.

3. Near *Meraee* are 7 or 8 temples adorned with sculptures, hieroglyphics, &c., the largest of which is 450 feet long by 159 wide; and near *Shendi* are 40 pyramids, supposed to be more ancient than the pyramids of Egypt.

4. The *Shilluks* are negroes who conquered Sennar in 1501, and are still the ruling people.

New Dongola was the capital of the Mamelukes after they were driven from Egypt; *Shendi* is the chief depot of the slaves and gold brought by the caravans from Central Africa; *Sennar*, the capital of the kingdom of Sennar; *Alata* (old), the capital of the Shilluks, and *Sua'kin*, the chief port on the Red sea.

Questions.—1. For what is Nubia noted? 2. What is said of the temple of Ipsambul? 3. of monuments near Meraee and Shendi? 4. of the Shilluks? For what noted, New Dongola? &c.

ABYSSINIA.

1. The Abyssinians are the only people in Africa who have long professed Christianity.

2. Circumcision, and other Jewish observances, with some idolatry, are mixed up with their Christianity.

3. Their manners are licentious and ferocious. They kill each other without compunction on slight occasions; and at their feasts eat the raw flesh of animals just slain, while the blood is warm.

4. The *Galla*, a race of warlike savages, have recently conquered the southern and central provinces.

5. The government is a despotism. Agriculture and the arts are in a rude state.

Gondar, the capital and largest city, has a handsome stone palace and 100 churches. *Adowa*, the capital of *Tigro* (Te-gra), manufactures cotton goods and knives. *As'um* is noted for its monuments, among which are 40 obelisks, one 80 feet high. *Ma'adah*, on the Red sea, now in the hands of the *Pacha* of Egypt, is the port through which Abyssinia receives most of her foreign goods.

Questions.—1. For what is Abyssinia noted? 2. religion? 3. manners? 4. Who are the *Galla*? 5. government? &c. For what noted, Gondar? &c.

GENERAL AND COMPARATIVE VIEWS

OF VARIOUS SUBJECTS OF GEOGRAPHY.

I. OF THE WORLD.

THE ATMOSPHERE.

1. Common air, or the atmosphere, is a fine, invisible, elastic fluid, surrounding the earth, and extending some miles above its surface.

2. The higher you ascend the rarer is the atmosphere, and on the tops of the highest mountains it is so thin that animals can scarcely breathe it.

3. The air is expanded by heat and contracted by cold, and these changes put it in motion, the warm air ascending, and the cold air rushing in to supply its place.

Questions.—1. What is the atmosphere? 2. What difference is there between the air in the higher and lower regions of the atmosphere? 3. What causes motion in the air?

WINDS.

1. The motion of the air is called Wind.

2. The winds in a great part of the torrid zone, especially on the ocean at a distance from land, blow constantly from the east, and are called trade winds, because they facilitate trading voyages.

3. The trade winds are caused partly by the diurnal motion of the earth from west to east, and partly by the heat of the sun rarefying the air within the tropics, and causing currents to rush in to restore the equilibrium.

4. Under the equator the trade winds are due east; and as you go from the equator toward the north, they incline to northeast, and toward the south to southeast.

5. In the Indian ocean the trade winds are curiously modified by the surrounding land. Between the southern tropic and 10° S. lat., where there is little land to disturb the motions of the air, the regular trade winds prevail; but north of this last parallel southwest winds, accompanied by rain, prevail from April to October, and dry, northeast winds, from October to April. These winds are called monsoons, and the change from one monsoon to another is attended by violent storms.

6. High lands interrupt the course of the trade winds. Under the lee of the African shore, for example, near the Cape Verde islands, calm and variable winds prevail; and the lofty barrier of the Andes shelters the sea near the western coast of South America, so that ships do not feel the trade winds till they are 30 leagues from the shore.

7. In the temperate and frigid zones the winds are variable, blowing irregularly, sometimes from one point and sometimes from another.

8. When the wind moves at the rate of 4 or 5 miles an hour it is a gentle breeze; at the rate of 15 or 20 miles, a brisk gale; at the rate of 30 miles, a high wind; and at the rate of 100 miles, a hurricane or tornado.

9. Hurricanes are generally whirlwinds, confined to a

narrow path, with a progressive motion, sometimes of only 10 or 15 miles an hour.

10. Hurricanes are more frequent and destructive in the West Indies, and on the shores of China and Further India, than in any other part of the world. In China they are called typhoons.

11. Two islands and shores within the tropics are refreshed by sea and land breezes; the sea breeze, or wind from the sea, always blowing during the day, and the land breeze, or wind from the land, during the night.

12. In *Al. en* and *Arabia* a hot, pestilential wind, called the *simoon*, or *samiel*, and the *kamain*, blows at certain seasons from the parched desert. In Italy it is modified by passing over the Mediterranean, and is called the *sirocco*.

Questions.—1. What is wind? 2. What are the trade winds, and where do they prevail? 3. What causes the trade winds? 4. In what direction do the trade winds blow? 5. Where do the monsoons prevail? Which way do they blow? 6. What is the effect of high lands on the trade winds? 7. Where do variable winds prevail? 8. At what rate does the wind move in a breeze? 9. In a gale? 10. In a hurricane? 11. What are sea and land breezes, and where do they prevail? 12. What is the *simoon*, and where does it prevail? the *sirocco*?

RAIN.

1. Rain is very unequally distributed to the different parts of the globe. It is generally more abundant the nearer you approach the equator.

2. Under the equator the depth of rain which falls annually is usually about 96 inches; and as you go toward the poles it diminishes, till at the latitude of 60° it is only 17 inches; but the number of rainy days increases with the latitude.

3. In the torrid zone the rains, like the winds, occur regularly at certain seasons of the year. The rainy season, north of the equator, lasts from April to October; and south of the equator, from October to April.

4. In the vicinity of Cape Verde there is an extensive tract of sea where opposite winds meet, producing perpetual calm and perpetual rain.

5. In Egypt, Peru, and Chili there are large districts in which it never rains.

Questions.—1. Where is rain most abundant? 2. What depth of rain falls annually at the equator? at the latitude of 60°? 3. Where is the greatest number of rainy days? 4. In what part of the world are the rains regular? 5. When is the rainy season in the part of the torrid zone north of the equator? 6. In what part of the world does it rain perpetually? 7. In what countries is there no rain?

TEMPERATURE.

1. The temperature of any region depends chiefly upon its distance from the equator, and its elevation above the level of the sea.

2. In proportion as you go from the equator to the poles the cold increases; and in proportion as you ascend above the level of the sea the cold increases.

3. In the torrid zone low countries are hot and unhealthy, but countries elevated 6000 or 8000 feet above the sea enjoy perpetual spring, while at the height of 13 or 14,000 feet the climate is the same as in the frigid zone.

4. Under the equator mountains more than 15,000 feet high are covered with perpetual snow; and the line of perpetual congelation continually descends as you go toward the poles. In latitude 40° it is about 9000 feet above the level of the sea; in latitude 50°, about 6000; and in latitude 60°, only 3000 feet.

Questions.—1. On what two things does temperature chiefly depend? 2. As you go from the equator does the climate become warmer or colder? Where is it coldest, at the top or bottom of a high mountain? 3. In the torrid zone, what is the temperature of low countries? of countries 6 or 8000 feet above the sea? of places 14,000 feet above the sea? 4. How high above the sea is the line of perpetual snow under the equator? in latitude 40°? in latitude 50°? in latitude 60°?

THE SEA.

1. The sea, in its widest sense, embraces the five oceans, and all the gulfs and other large bodies of salt water directly connected with them.

2. It is commonly estimated that the sea covers about three quarters of the surface of the globe.

3. One great use of the sea is to equalize the temperature of the globe. Water has a great capacity for heat, and by the currents of the ocean the water heated within the tropics is carried to the borders of the frigid zones.

4. The sea at the distance of 4 or 500 miles around the poles seems to be constantly covered with ice, and mountains of ice, called *icebergs*, rising sometimes 100 feet above the water, are often floated by winds and currents far within the temperate zones.

5. The vapors raised by the heat of the sun from the ocean form clouds, which are carried by winds to far distant regions, where they give out their heat to the air, and their water to feed rivers, plants, and animals.

6. Another great use of the sea is to facilitate intercourse and commerce between distant nations, bulky and heavy articles being carried across the sea in ships with great rapidity and at little expense.

Questions.—1. What is the sea? 2. How much of the earth's surface is covered by the sea? 3. How does the sea affect temperature? 4. How are warm regions made colder? 5. How are cold regions made warmer? 6. Of what use is the sea in commerce?

TIDES.

1. Tides are the regular rise and fall of the water in the sea twice every 24 hours.

2. The tides are caused chiefly by the attraction of the