

to the boat, and awaited their fate; which they saw was inevitable. They soon lost all sense of their situation, and eventually found themselves thrown upon a small island within the bowels of the mountain. Here they remained some time, subsisting on dead animals and fish, which they found in abundance, cast upon the island. Their eyes had, in a little time, become accustomed to their dark abode, and they were enabled to see and to feel the horrors of their situation. The rocks rose perpendicular from either shore, and formed an arch overhead, which effectually precluded all idea of an escape. Grown desperate, in a situation which destroyed all hope of ever again seeing the light of Heaven, and fearing too, that the next rise of water would sweep them even from that desolate island, they determined to embark in their boat, which had sustained no great injury, and submit themselves to providence, believing that no fate could be more horrible than that which awaited them in their present abode.

They accordingly once more launched themselves into the foaming current, and were carried along with inconceivable rapidity, until becoming entangled in an eddy, and landed on another small island, where to their great astonishment they found an old negro, who by signs gave them to understand that he had been forced down the river and thrown on the island when but a boy, where he had ever since remained its solitary tenant.

They again embarked accompanied by the old negro, who gladly united his fate with his new acquaintances. The current gradually became less rapid, and they occasionally lauded for repose. Our party now began to entertain some faint hopes that the river, after running under the mountain, would carry them safely out on the other side. After a voyage of considerable duration, to their great joy and astonishment, they were suddenly launched into daylight, in view of an open sea, but in what quarter of the globe they were at a loss to conjecture.

The party now landed to seek repose, after their long and arduous voyage, and congratulated each other on their miraculous escape; and yet they could scarcely satisfy themselves that all had not been a dream. The party remained here several days, viewing the surrounding country, and endeavoring to find out on what part of the globe they were cast; but as no sun, moon or stars had appeared, Mr. Park's instruments were of no avail; neither could his maps and charts throw any light on the subject.

Reflecting on their late extraordinary adventures, and their present singular situation, Mr. Park was induced to examine a book which he had with him, containing some philosophical speculations on the organization of the globe. This book appeared about the 18th century, and is supposed to have been written by a Frenchman, under the title of Tellerneld, an East Indian philosopher. The writer had advanced the singular idea that the water had once covered the globe; that by some convulsion of nature the earth appeared; that mankind sprang from the sea, and originally had tails, which in time dropped off, like the

tail of a tadpole, and that the globe was hollow within, and made up of concentric shells. At another time our party would have laughed at the speculation of this philosopher, as the visionary effusions of a crazed imagination; but, looking back to their late eventful voyage, and their present situation, in a pure, clear atmosphere, and seeing neither sun, moon nor stars, the truth flashed on their minds, that they had penetrated the globe, and were then in the Internal Regions.

Full of this idea our party embarked and coasted along the shore some days, and at last came to a large, well built, populous city. The astonishment of our adventurers was not greater than that of the inhabitants, who flocked round them in immense numbers, conversing in a language, to Wilder unknown, but recognized by Park, as the Hebrew tongue; and the people proved to be a colony of Jews. Mr. Wilder gives a long and fanciful description of the city and its inhabitants, and enters minutely into a history of their manners, habits and customs, which do not appear to have undergone any material alteration from the manners and customs of their ancestors, as recorded in Holy Writ. The art of printing is unknown to this people; but they have written records of the great events, from the creation of the world, down to the sacking of Jerusalem by the king of Babylon, and their king and people carried away captive. They have a tradition that when their King Zedekiah fled from the city of Jerusalem to the plains of Jericho, where himself and his army were made prisoners, an angel appeared to those who remained in the city, and after having selected all the virtuous and faithful led them forth by night and conducted them through many nations, and for many days, until they came to a cave or hole in the earth, which they entered, and which was closed behind them; and that they passed through the earth to the world they now inhabit, as a place of refuge, where they are to remain until the coming of the Messiah, who they believe is to lead them back to the land of their forefathers; and as a reward for their sufferings and their constancy, will make them a great and mighty nation, to whom all the other nations of the earth shall be subject. They said it was foretold them, that about the year of the world 5829 a great prophet would appear on the surface of the globe, who would build a city of refuge, and gather together the remnants of the scattered tribes of Israel, preparatory to the restoration.

These people have immense wealth in all the precious metals, and an abundance of domestic animals, the most remarkable of which is an animal much larger than the elephant of the old world, and supposed by Mr. Wilder to be the mammoth, whose bones are occasionally found on the American continent. They have neither sun, moon nor stars, but receive light and heat from the reflection of the sun on an immense luminous body placed opposite two holes or openings, one at the North and the other at the South Pole, and the light and the seasons are regulated by the revolving of the earth. The inhabitants have spread over the most part of the interior world, but reside principally in cities. Though governed by the same laws,

Wars and rebellions are very frequent. Their chief city and their seat of government, where the king resides, is called the city of Noah. Whilst Wilder was there, several cities rebelled against Mordecai, their king, but were subdued, and heavy contributions levied on them. Fire-arms have long since been known to them, and they have large magazines of arms and military stores. These magazines sometimes blow up and do great damage to lives and property. Mr. Wilder enters into some speculations as to the probable effect such concussions have on the external surface of the globe, and arrives at the conclusion that our earthquakes are caused by the blowing up of these powder houses.

Park and Wilder traveled over the greater part of the internal world, and visited both the poles. The South Pole is surrounded by the sea; but at the North, a rim of land surrounds the opening, except a narrow strait connecting the external with the internal seas. This people say that about two thousand years ago a part of the nations rebelled and determined to return to Jerusalem. They journeyed northward, and went out at the north hole, and were never seen or heard of afterwards. This fact led Park and Wilder to entertain a hope of being able to return to their own country by the same route. Wilder makes some pertinent remarks and suggestions as to the probable origin of the Indians of the American continent.

Park and Wilder having finished their exploration of the country, became anxious to return to the old world, and having provided themselves with necessaries for their journey, came out at the North pole. They traveled nearly round the polar opening, which they judged to be two or three hundred miles in diameter, and made many attempts to penetrate to the south, but suffered so much from cold and fatigue, that they gave up all hopes of succeeding, and resolved to return and end their days with the new found people. Nothing, however, could subdue the desire in the breast of Wilder to revisit his native land; and after some time, he determined to make another attempt. He started alone, traversed the regions around the pole, the climate of which he describes as quite mild, growing colder as he progressed south. After innumerable hardships, he penetrated the wilderness, and arrived at the open sea. He journeyed eastward, along the sea shore, until he came to a tongue of land, stretching away to the south. This he rightly concluded, adjoined or approached the American continent. He now journeyed south-east forty-five days, and arrived at the extreme point of land in view of the American continent, from which he was separated by a strait twenty-five or thirty miles. He gives a glowing description of his feelings, on arriving in sight of his native continent, and the hope of once more seeing his country and his home. It was mid-summer, the strait was frozen over, but appeared open further south. He here makes his last entry on his journal. He resolved to attempt the passage of the strait, and if he succeeded, endeavor to find his way to some Indian nation, or perhaps some of the British post. It appears he