

great rivers, in the course of time, fill up seas and form new lands, as the province at the mouth of the Yellow river in China; Louisiana at the mouth of the Mississippi, and the northern part of Egypt, which owes its existence to the inundation of the Nile; the rapidity of which brings down such quantities of earth from the internal parts of Africa, as to deposit on the shores, during the inundations, a body of slime and mud of more than fifty feet in depth. The province of the Yellow river and Louisiana, have, in like manner, been formed by the soil from the rivers.

The Caspian sea is at present a real lake; it has no communication with other seas, not even with the Lake Aral, which seems to have been a part of it, being only separated from it by a large track of sand, in which neither rivers nor canals for communicating the waters have as yet been found. This sea, therefore, has no external communication with any other; and I do not know that we are authorised to suspect that it has an internal one with the Black sea, or with the Gulph of Persia. It is true the Caspian sea receives the Wolga, and many other rivers which seem to furnish it with