

cause and effects; we see clearly by the scripture that it was designed for the destruction of men and animals, and that it did not in any manner change the earth, for after the retreat of the waters, the mountains, and even the trees, were in their places, and the surface of the earth was proper to receive culture and to produce vines and fruits. How could all the race of fish, which did not enter the ark, be preserved, if the earth had been dissolved in the water, or if the waters had been only sufficiently agitated to transport shells from India to Europe, &c.

Nevertheless, this supposition, that it was the universal deluge which transported the shells of the sea into every climate, is the opinion, or rather the superstition of naturalists. Woodward, Scheuchzer, and some others, call these petrified shells the remains of the deluge; they look on them as the medals and monuments which God has left us of this terrible event, in order that it never should be effaced from the memory of the human race. In short, they have adopted this hypothesis with so much enthusiasm, that they appear only desirous to reconcile holy scripture with their opinion; and instead of making use of their observations, and deriving light there-
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