

streets, but the houses were bending like aspens before the wind, and in a moment fell to the ground, a hideous mass of ruin. Everywhere might be seen the dead and dying, the wounded and mutilated ; and so frightful was the prospect, so heart-rending were the shrieks, that the minds of the bravest were paralysed into a dull, hopeless, stolid inaction, and many minutes elapsed before the few who had escaped could bethink themselves of the thousands that had perished.]

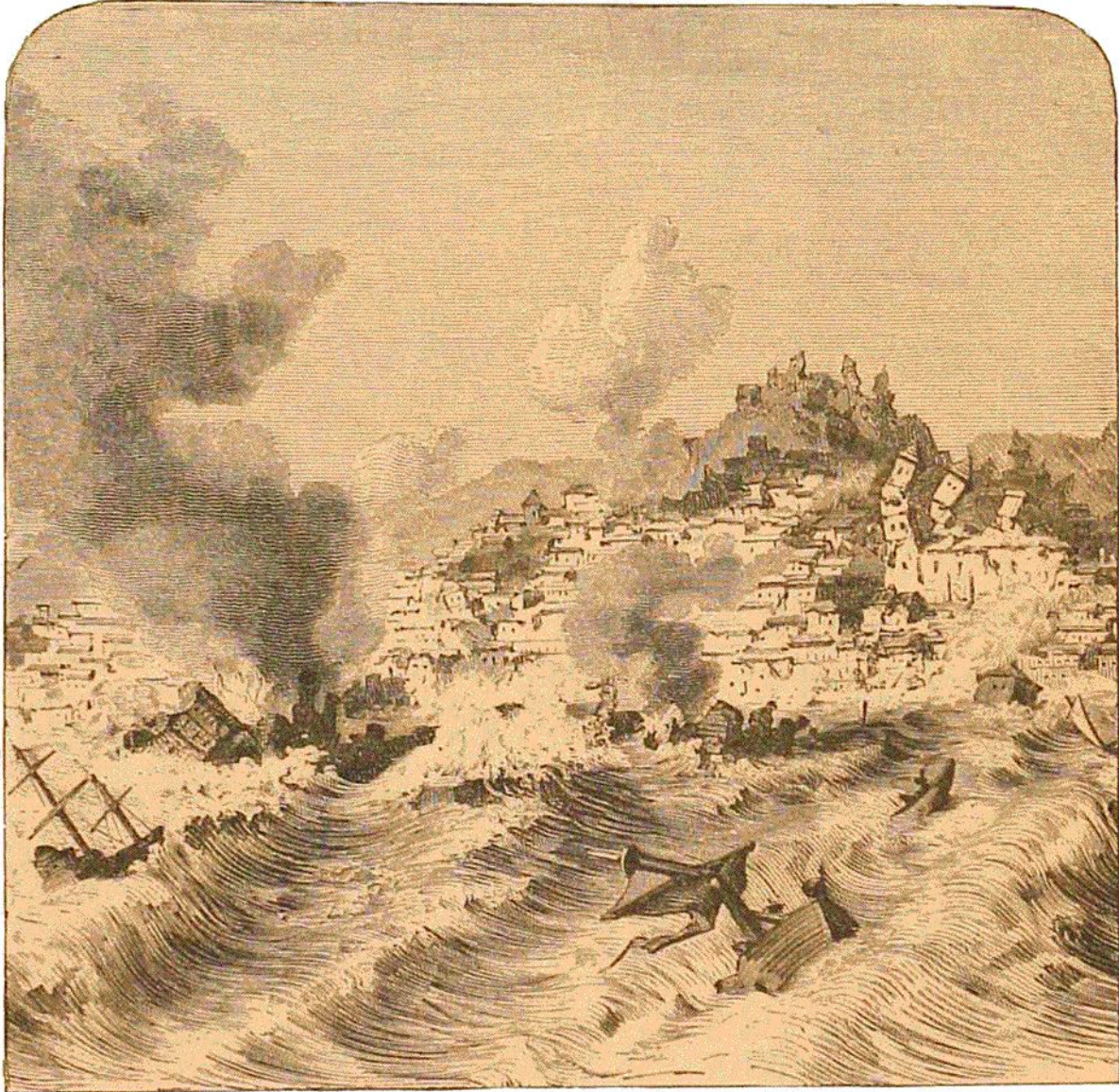


FIG. 121.—EARTHQUAKE AT LISBON, NOVEMBER 1, 1755.

Forty thousand persons at least were buried, dead or dying, under the chaos which, a few minutes before, men had known as Lisbon. At the first shock the sea had retired, as if in alarm ; at the second it suddenly returned, with a leap like that of a tiger on his prey, and rising full fifty feet above its ordinary level, furiously flung itself upon the shattered city. Then again, it receded with an equally rapid movement ; otherwise the whole town must have been submerged. The mountains of Arrabida, Estrella, Julio, Marvan, and Cintra, which are included among the most elevated points of Portugal, were violently shaken ; a few were rent open to their very summit, which was cleft and broken in a most singular fashion ; enormous masses of rock, loosened from their crumbling sides, rolled down into the valleys ;