

slowly and steadily surging from the sea. The sea, robbed of half his dominions, has ever since been raging around the borders of the land. At last he will again reclaim his own, and the universal empire will be Neptune's.

It is vain to hope that elevatory forces can permanently avert the disappearance of the land. We discover here another argument against the vague belief entertained by some, that the human fauna is to be succeeded by a higher one, as it has itself succeeded the lower. Should it be supposed that the ultimate submergence predicted is sufficiently remote to permit the interposition of a superior race of intelligences, I recall to mind the evidences that the lands are wasting and deteriorating; the river-beds are deepening, and diminishing the sources of irrigation; and all the populated regions of the earth are slowly approaching the desert condition of that ancient continent drained by the Colorado. Each continental surface in the geological succession is the exclusive gift to a single great fauna. A single race witnesses the disappearance of the freshness and fertility of the land. A new race would demand a thorough renovation, like that which immediately preceded the advent of man. Such a revolution the senescent forces are unable to inaugurate.