

side of the rocky mountains, *Azaleas*, *Rhododendrons*, *Magnolias*, *Vacciniums*, *Actæas*, and *Oaks*, form the principal features of the landscape; while on the western side of the dividing ridge, these genera almost entirely disappear, and no longer constitute a striking characteristic of the vegetation." \*

In general, the plants of America are different from the plants of the old world, except toward the north; where, as might be expected from the near approximation of the two continents, many individuals are common to both. The plants of islands, and those growing in isolated situations are often quite peculiar. Thus the plants of New Holland, with comparatively few exceptions, differ from the plants of all the rest of the world; and, "of sixty-one native species, in the little island of Saint Helena, only two or three are to be found in any other part of the globe." † These facts are quite inexplicable upon any known principles; and are calculated to excite a more than ordinary degree of attention, as being solely referrible to the will of the Great Creator; who has chosen to provide infinite diversity, where all might have been uniform and monotonous; and has thus rendered more

\* Lindley's Introduction to Botany, page 489.

† See Principles of Geology, vol. ii. by C. Lyall, who has treated this interesting subject in detail. To Mr. Lyall we are indebted for many of the following facts.