

the Holy Spirit used terms, adapted, indeed, to the astronomy and geography of the nineteenth century, but conveying only a false idea to those to whom they were addressed ?

In the second place, in all ages and nations, and especially among ancient ones, "universal terms are often used to signify only a very large amount in number or quantity."—Dr. Smith, *Scrip. and Geol.* p. 212, 4th ed.—The Hebrew כּוֹל, (*kol*), the Greek πᾶς, and the English *all*, are alike employed in this manner, to signify *many*. There are some very striking cases of this sort in the Bible. Thus in Genesis it is said that "all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy corn, because the famine was sore in all lands." This certainly could apply only to the well-known countries around Egypt; for transportation would have been impossible to the remotest parts of the habitable globe. In the account of the plagues that came upon Egypt, it is said that "the hail smote every herb of the field, and brake every tree of the field;" but, in a few days afterwards, it is said of the locusts that "they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left." "This day," said God to the Israelites, while yet in their journeyings, "will I begin to put the fear of thee and the dread of thee upon the face of the nations under all the heavens." But it is obvious that only the nations contiguous to the Israelites, chiefly the Canaanites, are here meant. In the New Testament, it is said that, at the time of the Pentecost, there were dwelling at Jerusalem "Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven." Yet, in the enumeration, which follows this passage, of the different places from which those Jews had come, we find only a region extending from Italy to Persia, and from Egypt to the Black Sea. It could have been a district of only about that size which Paul meant, when he said to the Colossians that "the Gospel was preached to every creature which is under heaven." In the First Book of Kings, it is said that "all the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom," a passage which requires as much limitation as the others above quoted. A similar mode of expression is employed by Christ, when he says of the queen of Sheba that "she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon;" for her residence, being probably on the Arabian Gulf, could not have been more than twelve or fourteen hundred miles from Jerusalem. A like