

face being covered with bubbles of gas, probably the sulphuretted hydrogen, which emitted an offensive smell resembling that of putrid pond-mud. One of the chain cables of the vessel suffered a partial fusion; and dead fish floated upon the surface of the turbid water.

Lima has often suffered from earthquakes. That of 1566 was felt over an extent of one hundred and sixty-six leagues; and that of 1746 destroyed three fourths of the city, and one hundred and twenty thousand persons.*

On the 13th of August, 1822, an earthquake destroyed the greater part of Aleppo, and about thirty thousand inhabitants. Mr. Baker has given an account of this catastrophe, in a letter to the British and Foreign Bible Society; and as it also contains an expression of the feelings which were produced by the awful phenomenon, we may quote the letter itself.

“ On the night of the 13th of August, about half past nine o'clock, Aleppo, the third city of the Ottoman empire, built entirely of stone, was, in the space of a few seconds, brought down to its foundation.

“ I was, at that time, asleep on the terrace of my particular friend, Mr. Meseyk, who, by the help of the Almighty, was mercifully saved, with all his family. About half an hour previous to the great shock, a light one was felt, when I took the precaution to draw my bed from under a very high wall, where it was placed. I was soon awakened by the fall of that wall, on the very spot where my bed had stood. I sprang from my couch, and without waiting to dress myself, I fled into the house, which I found falling on all sides. To remain in the house, or to take flight through the streets, appeared at first equally dangerous: at length, I embraced the latter resolution. In consequence, I descended the back stairs of Mr. Meseyk's house, for the great staircase fell at the same time. The darkness of the night, and the clouds of dust that covered the atmosphere, prevented me from perceiving the stones and rubbish on the stairs which had fallen from part of the house, and consequently I was precipitated into the courtyard, and on a dead body. How can I express

* A very dreadful earthquake occurred in that country in 1835, by which the city of Conception and a great number of villages were destroyed.