

at once, at twenty minutes before ten A.M., a noise was heard like the rumbling of carriages under ground ; it increased rapidly and became a succession of deafening explosions like the loudest cannon. Then a shock, which, as described by one writing from the spot, seemed to last but the tenth part of a minute ; and down came tumbling palaces, churches, theatres, and every large public edifice, and about a third or a fourth part of the dwelling-houses. More shocks followed in rapid succession, and in six minutes from the commencement 60,000 persons were crushed in the ruins ! Here are the simple but expressive words of one J. Latham, who writes to his uncle in London. " I was on the river with one of my customers going to a village three miles off. Presently the boat made a noise as if on the shore or landing, though then in the middle of the water. I asked my companion if he knew what was the matter. He stared at me, and looking at Lisbon, we saw the houses falling, which made him say, ' God bless us, it is an earthquake ! ' About four or five minutes after, the boat made a noise as before ; and we saw the houses tumble down on both sides of the river." They then landed and made for a hill ; whence they beheld the sea (which had at first receded and laid a great tract dry) come rolling in, in a vast mountain wave fifty or sixty feet high, on the land, and sweeping all before it. Three thousand people had taken refuge on a new stone quay or jetty just completed at great expense. In an instant it was turned topsy-turvy ; and the whole quay, and every person on it, with all the vessels moored to it,