

Gadeira, compared his observations with the facts of which he was informed by the experienced Phœnicians concerning the influence supposed to be exercised by the moon.*

EXPEDITIONS OF THE MACEDONIANS UNDER ALEXANDER THE GREAT.—CHANGES IN THE RELATIONS OF THE WORLD.—FUSION OF THE WEST WITH THE EAST.—THE GREEKS PROMOTE THE INTERMIXTURE OF RACES FROM THE NILE TO THE EUPHRATES, THE JAXARTES, AND THE INDUS.—SUDDEN EXTENSION OF COSMICAL VIEWS, BOTH BY MEANS OF DIRECT OBSERVATION OF NATURE, AND BY THE RECIPROCAL INTERCOURSE OF ANCIENT CIVILIZED AND INDUSTRIAL NATIONS.

THE campaigns of the Macedonians under Alexander the Great, the downfall of the Persian dominion, the rising intercourse with Western India, and the action of the Græco-Bactrian empire, which continued to prevail for one hundred and sixteen years, may be regarded as among the most important social epochs in the process of the development of the history of mankind, as far as it indicates a closer connection of Southern Europe with the southwest of Asia, the Nile, and Libya. Independently of the almost immeasurable extension opened to the sphere of development by the advance of the Macedonians, their campaigns acquired a character of profound moral greatness by the incessant efforts of the conqueror to amalgamate all races, and to establish, under the noble influence of Hellenism, a unity throughout the world.† The foundation of many new cities at points, the selection of which indicates higher aims, the arrangement and classification of an independently responsible form of government for these cities, and the tender forbearance evinced by Alexander for national customs and national forms of worship, all testify that the plan of one great and organic whole had been laid. That which was perhaps originally foreign to a scheme of this kind developed itself subsequently from the nature of the relations, as is always the case under the influence of comprehensive events. If we remember that only fifty-two Olympiads intervened from the battle of the Granicus to the destructive irruption into Bactria of the Sacæ and Tochi, we shall be astonished at the permanence and the magical influence exercised by the

* Strabo, lib. iii., p. 173 (*Examen Crit.*, t. iii., p. 98).

† Droysen, *Gesch. Alexanders des Grossen*, s. 544; the same in his *Gesch. der Bildung des Hellenistischen Staatensystems*, s. 23-34, 588-592, 748-755.