

in the same temperate zone, near the parallel of Thinae or Athens, which passes through the Atlantic Ocean, besides the world we inhabit, there may be one or more other worlds peopled by beings different from ourselves." It is astonishing that this expression did not attract the attention of Spanish writers, who, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, believed that they every where, in classical authors, found the traces of a knowledge of the New World.

"Since," as Strabo well observes, "in all works of art which are designed to represent something great, the object aimed at is not the completeness of the individual parts," his chief desire, in his gigantic work, is pre-eminently to direct attention to the form of the whole. This tendency toward a generalization of ideas did not prevent him, at the same time, from prosecuting researches which led to the establishment of a large number of admirable physical results, referring more especially to geognosy.* He entered, like Posidonius and Polybius, into the consideration of the influence of the longer or shorter interval that occurred between each passage of the sun across the zenith; of the maximum of atmospheric heat under the tropics and the equator; of the various causes which give rise to the changes experienced by the earth's surface;

ing to the "belief of the Indian philosophers and Brahmins." Compare Cosmas, in Montfaucon, *Collect. nova Patrum.*, t. ii., p. 137; and my *Asie Centrale*, t. i., p. xxiii., 120-129, and 194-203; t. ii., p. 413. Cosmas and the Pseudo-Arrian, Agathemerus, according to the learned investigations of Professor Franz, decidedly ascribe to the metropolis of the Sines a high northern latitude (nearly in the parallel of Rhodes and Athens); while Ptolemy, misled by the accounts of mariners, has no knowledge except of a Thinae three degrees south of the equator (*Geogr.*, i., 17). I conjecture that Thinae merely meant, generally, a Chinese emporium, a harbor in the land of Tsin, and that, therefore, one Thinae (Tzinitza) may have been designated north of the equator, and another south of the equator.

* Strabo, lib. i., p. 49-60; lib. ii., p. 95 and 97; lib. vi., p. 277; lib. xvii., p. 830. On the elevation of islands and of continents, see particularly lib. i., p. 51, 54, and 59. The old Eleat Xenophanes was led to conclude, from the numerous fossil marine productions found at a distance from the sea, that "the present dry ground had been raised from the bottom of the sea" (Origen, *Philosophumena*, cap. 4). Apuleius collected fossils at the time of the Antonines from the Gætulian (Mauritanian) Mountains, and attributed them to the Deucalion flood, to which he ascribed the same character of universality as the Hebrews to the Deluge of Noah, and the Mexican Azteks to that of the Coxcox. Professor Franz, by means of very careful investigation, has refuted the belief entertained by Beckmann and Cuvier, that Apuleius possessed a collection of specimens of natural history. (See Beckmann's *History of Inventions*, Bohn's Standard Library (1846), vol. i., p. 285; and *Hist. des Sciences Nat.*, t. i. p. 350.)