Moon, some of the spots are visible to the naked eye; the ridge of the Apennines, the dark, elevated plain *Grimaldus*, the inclosed *Mare Crisium*, and *Tycho*,* crowded round with numerous mountain ridges and craters. It has been affirmed, not without probability, that it was especially the aspect of the *Apennine chain* which induced the Greeks to consider the spots on the Moon to be mountains, and at the same time to associate with them the shadow of Mount Athos, which in the solstices reached the Brazen Cow upon Lemnos. Another very fantastic opinion was that of Agesinax, disputed by Plutarch, according to which the Moon's disk was supposed, like a mirror, to present to us again, catoptrically, the configuration and outline of our continent, and the *outer* sea (the Atlantic). A very similar opinion appears to have been preserved to this time as a popular belief among the people in Asia Minor.†

By the careful application of large telescopes, it has grad-

* For proofs of the visibility of these four objects, see in Beer and Mädler, *Der Mond.*, p. 241, 338, 191, and 290. It is scarcely necessary to mention that all which refers to the topography of the Moon's surface is derived from the excellent work of my two friends, of whom the second, William Beer, was taken from us but too early. The beautiful *Uebersichtsblatt*, which Mädler published in 1837, three years after the large map of the Moon, consisting of three sheets, is to be recommended for the purpose of more easily becoming acquainted with the bearings.

† Plut., *De Facie in Orbe Lunæ*, p. 726–729, Wytten. This passage is, at the same time, not without interest for ancient geography.—See Humboldt, *Examen Critique de l'Hist. de la Géogr.*, tom. i., p. 145. With regard to other views of the ancients, see Anaxagoras and Democritus, in Plut., *De Plac. Philos.*, ii., 25; Parmenides, in *Stob.*, p. 419, 453, 516, and 563, ed. Heeren; Schneider, *Eclogæ Physicæ*, vol. i., p. 433–443. According to a very remarkable passage in Plutarch's *Life of Nicias*, cap. 42, Anaxagoras himself, who calls "the mountainous Moon another Earth," had made a drawing of the Moon's disk. (Compare also Origines, *Philosophumena*, cap. 8, ed. Mülleri, 1851, p. 14.) I was once very much astonished to hear a very well-educated Persian, from Ispahan, who certainly had never read a Greek book, mention, when I showed him the Moon's spots in a large telescope in Paris, the hypothesis of Agesinax (alluded to in the text) as to the reflection, as a widely-diffused popular belief in his country. "What we see there in the Moon," said the Persian, "is ourselves; it is the map of our Earth." One of the interlocutors in Plutarch's *Moon-dialogue* would not have expressed himself otherwise. If it can be supposed that men are inhabitants of the Moon, destitute of water and air, the Earth, with its spots, would also present to them such a *map* upon a *nearly black sky by day*, with a surface fourteen times greater than that which the full Moon presents to us, and always in the same position. But the constantly varying clouds and obscurities of our atmosphere would confuse the outlines of the continents.—Compare Mädler's *Astron.*, p. 169 and Sir John Herschel, *Outlines*, § 436.