

ing what was the extent of the area which it occupied? The common raven is more widely spread than any single species of pigeon. Even the raven, however, seems restricted to the northern hemisphere. India and Southern Africa have both their ravens; but the species differ from each other, and from the widely-spread northern one. It is a question whether even the pied raven of the Faroe Isles be not a distinct bird from the black raven of our own country: if not an independent species, it is at least a very remarkable variety. Further, when extirpated in a district, it is found that, as in the case of the capercaillie and the golden eagle, the neighbouring regions in which the raven continues to exist fail for ages to furnish a fresh supply. There are counties in England in which the raven is now never seen; and I am acquainted with a district in the north of Scotland from which, when a pair that were known to breed for more than a century in a tall cliff were destroyed by the fowler, the species disappeared.\* Such, when examined, are the arguments drawn by Dr Kitto from natural science; nor is he in any degree happier when he resorts to arguments more restrictively physical. "If," we find him saying, "the waters of the Deluge rose fifteen cubits above all the mountains of the countries which the raven and the dove inhabit, *the level must have been high enough to give universality to the Deluge.*" The only point here not already dealt with,—for I have just shown that certain species of the dove and the raven might have of necessity been inmates of the ark though the Flood had been only a partial one,—is that which refers to the submergence of the hills over at least an extensive tract, and to the inference, evident in the passage, that if lofty mountains

\* The raven is said to live for more than a hundred years. I am, however, not prepared to say that it was the same pair of birds that used year after year to build on the same rock shelf among the precipices of Navity, from the times of my great-grandfather's boyhood to those of my own.