

by subsequent earthquake shocks. On the other hand, many instances have been observed where the effect of an earthquake has been to depress permanently the disturbed ground. For example, by the Bengal earthquake of 1762, an area of 60 square miles on the coast near Chittagong suddenly went down beneath the sea, leaving only the tops of the higher eminences above water. The succession of earthquakes which in the years 1811 and 1812 devastated the basin of the Mississippi, gave rise to widespread depressions of the ground, over some of which, above alluded to, the river spread so as to form new lakes, with the tops of the trees still standing above the surface of the water.

Distribution of Earthquakes.¹⁸³—While no large space of the earth's surface seems to be free from at least some degree of earthquake-movement, there are regions more especially liable to the visitation. As a rule, earthquakes are most frequent in volcanic districts, the explosions of a volcano being generally preceded or accompanied by tremors of greater or less intensity. In the Old World, a great belt of earthquake disturbance stretches in an east and west direction, along that tract of remarkable depressions and eleva-

¹⁸³ For European earthquakes an alphabetical catalogue has been compiled by Prof. O'Reilly, *Trans. Roy. Irish Academy*, xxviii. (1886), p. 489. Catalogue of British earthquakes, *op. cit.* xxviii. (1884), p. 285. C. Davidson, *Geol. Mag.* 1891, p. 450. *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xlvii. (1891), p. 618. Detailed observations of the effects of some recent European earthquakes will be found in the following Memoirs. The Andalusian earthquake of 25th Dec. 1884, T. Taramelli and G. Mercalli, *Real. Accad. Lincei*, 1885-86, p. 116, Hébert, *Compt. Rend.* 1885, Fouqué, *ibid.* 20th April, 1885, and the large quarto volume of reports by the mission specially sent to study the phenomena of this earthquake, *Memoires Acad. Sci.* 1889; the Ligurian earthquake of 23d Feb. 1887, T. Taramelli and G. Mercalli, *Ann. Ufficio Centrale Meteorolog. Geodinam.* part iv. vol. viii. (1888), *Real. Accad. Lincei*, iv. (1888); the Agram earthquake of 9th Nov. 1880, "Grundzüge der Abyssodynamik," etc., by S. Pilar, Agram, 1881; the middle German earthquake of 6th March, 1872, "Das Mitteldeutsche Erdbeben von 6 März, 1872," by K. von Seebach, Leipzig, 1873. See also the papers cited on pp. 459-465.