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ruined by the Assyrians, Medes, Persians and Greeks. Upon the extinction of these empires, the Romans carried their arms even beyond the Ganges, till at length the Mahometans, or as they are usually called Saracens, spread their devastations over this continent, destroying all its ancient splendor, and rendering the most populous and fertile spots of Asia, wild and uncultivated deserts.

Among the highest mountains of Asia are Arrarat, near the Caspian sea, on which the ark of Noah rested when the waters of the deluge subsided; and Horeb and Sinai in Arabia.

Asia is bounded north by the Frozen ocean; west, by Europe and the Mediterranean and Red seas; south, by the Indian ocean; east, by the Pacifick ocean; and is reckoned to be 4800 miles in length, and 4300 in breadth; comprehending, besides islands,

	<i>Chief Towns.</i>	<i>Squ. miles.</i>
The Empire of China,	Pekin,	1,105,000
The several nations of Tartary,	{ Tobolski, }	4,479,000
Persia,	Tibet,	
India, or the Mogul empire,	Ispahan,	800,000
Turkey, in Asia,	Delhi,	1,867,500
Arabia,	Jerusalem, }	
	Mecca, }	1,112,500

TARTARY.

BOUNDED north, by the Frozen ocean; east, by the Pacifick; south, by China, India, Persia, and the Caspian sea; west, by Russia; 3000 miles long, 2250 broad.

The northern parts are excessively cold and barren, but the southern more temperate and fertile. The country abounds with unwholesome lakes and marshes, mountains and sandy deserts. Their commodities are chiefly skins of foxes, sables, ermine, lynxes and other furs; also, flax, musk, rhubarb and cinnamon.

The Tartars are chiefly Pagans, Mahometans or Christians; the first are most numerous.

B b.

Muscovite