





**LIGHT ON HISTORY**

RECENT DISCOVERY IS OF UNIVERSAL INTEREST.

Samaritan Version of the Book of Joshua Differs in Some Ways from the Incidents as Told in the Bible.

Mention was made by cable the other day of the discovery of Dr. Moses Gaster, the Hebrew scholar and antiquarian, of the Samaritan version of the Book of Joshua. A few days ago Dr. Gaster described to the members of the Royal Asiatic society how he discovered this book, which had been lost 2,000 years. This remarkable volume agrees with and yet differs materially from our Bible version and among other things it furnishes a new version of the fall of the walls of Jericho.

The new book starts with a definite date of the era of creation, the year 2794 from the creation being given as the date of the death of Moses, and from that year starts the new calculation of the jubilee. That, Dr. Gaster explained, was omitted from the Bible.

It then describes how Joshua was commanded to proceed to the entry of the Promised Land. Joshua ordered the counting of the people, which also did not appear in the Bible.

Then it states that the spies went to Jericho and on their return gave a report to Joshua and the High Priest Eleazar. They crossed the Jordan, preceded by the ark, and put up the stones in Gilgal, but there was no mention of the "reproach of Egypt."

A new story is given of the sin of Achan. This differs from the Bible account. In the latter Achan is stated to have stolen a mantle. According to the new book he stole a golden idol from a temple and his guilt was discovered by the stones on the breast-piece of the high priest getting dim and losing their luster when the name of the guilty man was pronounced.

The story of the stratagem of the capture of Ai is related, but no mention is made of Joshua holding up the lance. The Bible, by the way, says that Joshua sent 30,000 men against Ai, whereas the new book says that he sent only 3,000.

In the fight with the combined forces of the kings there is nothing told in the Samaritan version of Joshua's invocation to the sun to stand still on Gibeon and the moon in the valley of Ajalon. The history proceeded, said Dr. Gaster, on the same lines as the Bible until the division of the land among the nine tribes and a half.

One of the most interesting stories in the book describes how Joshua was saved before Jericho. The version goes that the two and a half tribes returned beyond the Jordan with King Nohah appointed over them. Joshua was attacked by King Shobach, and his army trapped and encircled by seven walls of iron made by the wizards and enchanters in the service of Shobach.

Joshua prayed to God. A dove came to him; he tied a letter to its wings, and it bore the message to King Nohah, who, with his tribes, came to Joshua's rescue. The priest Phineas blew a trumpet once, the walls fell down, and Joshua defeated Shobach.

Many of the points wherein the Samaritan text differed from the Bible were found also in Josephus, and also in other Jewish rabbinical writings, a further proof that Josephus did not invent the legends, as he was supposed to have done. The original of the newly-recovered Hebrew version Dr. Gaster said, must have been composed at least 500 years before Christ.

Dr. Gaster, chief rabbi of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews in England has been closely connected with the Samaritans for many years, and when in Samaria had free access to their libraries. While he was visiting Nabulus last year the high priest gave him a manuscript which proved to be a chronicle or brief history of the Samaritans from the entry of the Children of Israel into Palestine under Joshua up to the present time. From the verger he received another manuscript, almost identical with that which the high priest had given him.

At first he did not pay much attention to it, but a careful examination convinced him that it was an authentic copy of the old Hebrew original. He must, he considers, have been regarded by the Samaritans as a book of authority, for the calendar started from the indications in it. It could not have been translated from the Greek, because it agreed entirely with the Hebrew, while the knowledge of the Hebrew language among modern Samaritans is very limited.

**Poor at Counting.**  
"May's a queer girl. You know she took first prize for mathematics at Vassar."  
"Well?"  
"Well, when her mother asked May how often Mr. Hanson had kissed her she said she couldn't tell."—Philadelphia Press.

**Failed to See the Connection.**  
"What did that man say when you told him you had seen a sea serpent?"  
"His conversation became suddenly irrelevant. He began to talk about local option and prohibition."

**Explained.**  
Psychological experts paid a visit to the haunted house.  
"Did you find ghosts?" one of them was asked.  
"Rats!" he exclaimed, not irrelevantly.

**CROPS GROW WITHOUT RAIN.**

How the Syrian Peasant Makes Use of the Moist Subsoil.

In Syria and Palestine from the beginning of April until October there is practically no rain, yet in July the fields teem with a vigorous growth of watermelons, tomatoes, cucumbers, etc., all flourishing without artificial watering, although at that time no rain has fallen for many weeks.

In fact the Syrian peasant, from the moment his seed has been sown, prays that no rain may fall. During the period of growth of a crop, the surface of the soil to a depth of six or eight inches is perfectly dry and loose. Below this surface layer will be found moist soil, in which the roots extend and grow vigorously. In this moist subsoil plants continue to grow until late autumn. When the crop is removed in the autumn the rains commence and the land is plowed after each heavy rain as soon as the soil begins to dry.

Two primary objects are kept in view in plowing—to furnish a favorable surface for taking up all the water and to prevent its upward evaporation from the subsoil. The great point is to keep the upper six inches of soil perfectly loose and friable, so that the moisture from below is not drawn upward and lost in evaporation, but does not ascend higher than the compact subsoil that is not broken up by the plow. For this reason the plowing is shallow, averaging from four to six inches in depth.

When the time for sowing the seed arrives the land is plowed to a depth of about six inches and the seed is sown from an arrangement attached to the plow, falls on the damp subsoil and is covered by the soil closing over behind the plowshare. From this time the upper stratum of loose soil prevents the escape of moisture upward beyond the wet subsoil on which the seeds rest and into which their roots after the process of germination spread.

**A Luxury of War.**

What we consider the simple necessities of our habitual daily life, in other circumstances rise to the height of much valued luxuries. Who would think of being specially grateful for a pair of dry stockings, or even of considering the subject? Yet the very thought of such an article roused the envy of a whole company of soldiers. Mr. Putnam mentions the incident in his "History of the Twenty-Fifth Massachusetts Regiment."

After marching all day in the rain, I took off my soaked brogans and wet socks and put on a clean, dry pair of stockings. All the boys began to call out:

"Where did you get those?"

"Ain't you putting on style for a soldier?"

"Look here, fellows! The sergeant's got dry socks."

"You ain't putting on airs, are you?"

"Home-made, eh?"

This last question I answered.

"Yes, boys, these are home-made. My old mother knit them, God bless her!"

"I've carried them right here in the lining of my vest, one on each side, heels front, toes to shoulder, see? Now, if you fellows want to know just how uncomfortable you are, feel of that!"

The stockings were handed round, stroked like a cat, rubbed on cheeks, admired and envied.—Youth's Companion.

**Great Soldiers as Students.**

Grant was graduated in the class of 1843 at West Point—number 21 in a class of 39. Gen. William F. Franklin graduated at the head of the class. It may be interesting in this connection to note how other great generals stood in their class. Sherman stood number 4 among 42 graduates; Sheridan, number 34 in a class of 42; Virginia Thomas, number 12 among 42 classmates; Meade, number 19 in a class of 56; Hooker, number 29 among 50 comrades; Stonewall Jackson, number 17 in a class of 50; Longstreet of Georgia, number 60 in a class of 62, and Hancock, number 18 among 25 graduates.

**Danced on Gold Dust.**

The great dancing expert, My Fancy, who is doing the Moss & Stoll tour, has danced on gold dust.

"When starting with Charles Godfrey's company in Western Australia," she told me, "no sand was procurable for my dance, so the people in the place said they would get me some gold dust, and accordingly they brought quite a quantity of the precious stuff along, and I found that it answered the purpose very well. I reckon that was about the queerest use gold has ever been put to. Of course, it was mixed with quartz, but when I put it in water I could see the gold grains shining ever so prettily."—Pearson's Weekly.

**The Acid Test.**

"When a young man proposes you should always be careful and test his love," cautioned the conservative chaperon.

"But I go one better, auntie," twittered the pretty summer girl. "Do you see this tiny bottle?"

"Yes. Does it contain perfume?"

"No; it contains acid. I test the engagement ring."

**His Aim.**

"Wright appears to be a very conscientious fellow."

"Yes, he is trying to live up to the old proverb."

"Which says—"

"Wright wrongs nobody."—Houston Post.

**Consign Your Stock to the Saint Joseph Stock Yards**

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**Pete is a knowing Trout.**  
Minstead, Conn.—Pete, a lone trout in a deep spring at Wintergreen, the summer home of Mr. Stone, at High Lake, answers to his name, coming to the surface whenever it is poken. He also has been taught to jump out of the water to take worms from a person's fingers.

Pete is one of three trout placed last summer in a small pond fed by the spring. He worked his way up the small underground stream into the called spring during the winter. Several trout of Pete's size—fully 12 inches long—have been placed in the spring at different times this season to keep him company, but the instant they were released he attacked and killed them. Pete has kept the spring free of insects and frogs.

**Women See Sea Serpent.**  
Kalamazoo, Mich.—Four voracious women and a man vouch for the existence of a new kind of sea serpent which they saw in Long lake, near here. It is 40 feet long, has an alligator head, a turtle neck and dark red skin.

Mrs. Clara Wheatley, her daughter, and Alma and Ellen Arnold say the monster came up within five feet of their boat, blinked at them and disappeared when they cried out.

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WRECKED BY A DOG

COUPLE'S HAPPINESS A THING OF THE PAST.

Junior Clerk's Wedding Present Turned Out a Thing of Dire Disaster—Now Dear Mother-in-law is with Him.

"Because I'm-m Married-d-d-d Now-w-w," the office boy was near-singing, and the noise caused the junior clerk to start uneasily on his high stool.

"Regular Italian, always harpin' on something," he muttered; "wonder you can't let up on something once in a while." The office boy changed the tune and began to whistle, but the junior clerk's temper became no better.

"Well," the office boy said, "loosen up an' get it out of your system. There's somethin' comin'. Might as well tell it—it'll worry you if you don't."

"Kiddin' me about it?" "Naw, gwan."

"We've busted up housekeepin'—for the present," the junior clerk said. "An' right after we'd started, too. You know Emaline an' I got one o' these foolish flats—one of that kind that you gotta go into sideways an' then slide out again to turn around, one of that kind where you can sneeze in the kitchen an' ruffle th' curtains in the parlor at th' same time. Well, as I was sayin', we moved in an' then Emaline started lookin' over her weddin' presents. Honest, never saw so much cut glass an' all that kind of junk—musta been a carload. Well, Emaline gets it all out an' piles it on the dinin' room table an' just about that time I remembered I hadn't bought her any present.

"Be back in a minute," I says as I jams on my hat an' starts out. Got down th' street a little way an' somebody stops me.

"Wanta buy a dog?" he asks, pointin' to the worst lookin' bulldog I ever saw.

"Just what Emaline wants," I thought. "I'll get it; 'Gentle' I asks.

"Gentle as a flock of lambs," th' guy said, 'lessen you grab 'em by th' shoulders an' point 'em where you want him to bite. He'll get it all right."

"I forked over \$5.92 an' started home with the insect.

"Emaline was still a-fussin' with th' cut glass an' the hand-painted china when I blew in with Xenophon.

"Who's Xenophon?" the office boy inquired.

"The dog—think it was a box car? Yessir, Emaline was just dippy about th' thing. Looked at him for a minute an' then asks if he'll bite.

"Will he bite?" I asks, 'all you gotta do is grab him like this an'—

"Y-a-a-h-h-h," Emaline yells an' starts for the parlor an' the dog right after her. He thought I'd 'siced' him an' he certainly was goin' the limit. I tried to hold on to the chain, but that brute sure was strong. Jerked me off my feet an' dragged me along just as if I wasn't anything at all. Emaline dodged 'round the table an' the dog went right after her, chewin' air at every jump. Got me tangled up in the table an' the next thing I knew I was trying to swim out of two wagon loads of broken glass an' china. Emaline rushed into the bathroom an' shut the door. But that didn't stop Xenophon. He butted the door like a goat an' pulled me through after him.

"Hold him!" I shouts; "think I'm a derlick? Why don't you get out the way?" Bost that time Emaline sees a shotgun an' grabs it. Then she trips an' falls. Gun went off an' blew a hole through the floor of the flat above. Things were gettin' serious.

"Bout that time one of Emaline's shoes came off an' Xenophon grabbed it. He swallowed it whole an' that's just what saved us. Thing got stuck in his throat an' choked him to death.

"Bigamist!" Emaline yells when it's all over. "Tired of me already! Wanta kill me an' marry again."

"An' I suppose she's gone home to mother?" the office boy interrupted.

"Worse'n that, worse'n that," the junior clerk murmured sadly. "She's goin' to bring her mother to live with us."—Kansas City Star.

He Forgot to Inquire. American Millionaire—So you want to marry my daughter. But you don't know her.

Impudent Duke—But I will get a kind friend to introduce us.

A. M.—But you have never seen her. I. D.—I have seen you, her father, whom she probably resembles.

A. M.—But you don't love her? I. D.—What matters that? I but want to marry her.

A. M.—But you can't marry her—there is an insuperable obstacle to your wedding her.

I. D.—There are no insuperable obstacles to my determination.

A. M. chuckling—This one is. I haven't any daughter.

Won His Spurs. "No, sir," said the stern parent, "I cannot give my consent—at least, not now. Before I will think of confiding my daughter to your care you must succeed in doing something."

"Oh, I've done that. I succeeded in kissing her last night, after she had assured me that I never could until you had given your approval."

The Born Detective. Sherlock Holmes explained. "I inherited my mother's ability to tell when I had been in swimming," he vouchsafed. Herewith none marveled longer.

EX-CHIEF OF MINERS



John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, who recently accepted the position of manager of the trade agreement department of the Civic federation.

BOONE'S COFFIN IDENTIFIED.

Relative of Famous Trapper Tells of Early Days.

St. Louis.—Lorraine N. Boone of Webster Groves, Mo., a great-grandson of Daniel Boone, is positive that the body of the famous trapper was removed from the Bryan cemetery, near Martinsville, Mo., and reinterred at Frankfort, Ky. He discredits a statement made recently by Rev. R. E. McGuire of Montgomery, Mo., to the effect that the body disinterred was not Boone's.

Daniel Boone died at the home of his son, Col. Nathan Boone, near Martinsville.

"My father, John Boone," said Lorraine Boone, "was Col. Boone's youngest son. He was present when Daniel died and I often heard him tell stories about his grandfather."

"The coffin in which Daniel Boone was buried was purchased by him ten years before his death. He had been very sick and my grandfather, believing his father about to die, went to St. Charles, Mo., and had a box of rough wood made in which to bury him.

"But Daniel got well and did not like the coffin, so he destroyed it and went to St. Charles to get a coffin to his own liking. He had one made of black walnut and took it back to Martinsville with him. It was put in the attic. I have often heard my father tell how the children used to play in it.

"It was in this box that Daniel Boone was buried, and this is the one that was found at the time of the disinterment. My father was present then and I have heard him say that the coffin was well preserved. It was opened, but only a few bones were left. The coffin of Daniel Boone's wife was well preserved, too. Her remains were removed to Frankfort with her husband's. Stones marked both graves."

TO SNAP DAD'S BIG GAME. Kermit Roosevelt is Official Photographer for Jungle Hunt.

New York.—Kermit Roosevelt is to be the official photographer with the president's party on the African hunting trip. In preparation for this important work the young man is studying with Frank M. Chapman, the ornithologist of this city.

The responsibility which will rest on Kermit's shoulders will be heavy, for all his father's accounts of his adventures in the jungles of the dark continent are to be illustrated. It is understood the president is anxious to bring back photographs of rare African birds and other animals taken in life for the big museums, including the Smithsonian Institution at Washington and the American Museum of Natural History here.

It is said the president was anxious to have Mr. Chapman accompany him, but when this was found to be impossible, it was determined that Kermit should get a camera outfit and be trained in the use of it.

Mr. Chapman has long been a friend of the president. He is associate curator of the department of ornithology of the Museum of Natural History, and has made a study of a photographing of birds and animals.

Goats' Hoofs Stop a Leak. Trinidad, Colo. — Goats have been put to a novel use in the American Smelting and Refining Company at Cokedale. Trouble with leaking reservoirs baffled the engineers of the company until Engineer Sutton and Supt. Bayles determined to use goats to help them out of their dilemma.

One reservoir was emptied and herds of goats were driven back and forth over the bottom for several days. The reservoir is now as sound as a churn.

The goats packed the earth so hard that the water cannot get through. The same means will be used to make other reservoirs tight.

Trades Suit for Coffin. York, Pa.—When an undertaker went into the tailor shop of his friend Elmer E. Bowers, ordered a suit and said he had no money, Bowers jokingly replied: "We'll take it out in trade." Bowers became ill the next day, was operated on for appendicitis and died. The undertaker furnished the coffin.

"Taking It Easy" Sterling Beer advertisement featuring an illustration of a man and a woman at a table, and text describing the benefits of the beer.

HORSES AND MULES advertisement listing various animals for sale, including Jacks and Jennets, and providing contact information for C. M. Daily & Son.

Stock Yards Exhibit Building advertisement, providing information for stockmen and farmers, including details about the building's location and the types of goods available.

Money for Cattle Feeders advertisement from St. Joseph Cattle Loan Co., offering applications for money to be used for the purchase of cattle.

AUCTION! AUCTION! advertisement for Sept. 21st through 26th at Brown's Auction and Storage House, featuring a clearing sale for factories.

The Fullerton Company advertisement, listing various services such as investment securities, mortgage loans, and commercial papers.

STANDARD OIL CO. advertisement for refined and lubricating oils, oil stoves, heaters, and cookers.

SHAMROCK WHISKEY advertisement, describing the whiskey as distilled for medicinal purposes from rye and barley malt.

Western Dairy Company advertisement, offering wholesale and retail products including ice cream and dairy products.

The McCord Rubber Co. advertisement, listing various rubber products such as footwear, cravenettes, and oiled clothing.

D. C. MANNAN & COMPANY advertisement, providing information about their wholesale and retail building material services.

SOUTH SAINT JOSEPH TOWN COMPANY advertisement, offering services for living up town and paying rent and car fare.

M. J. Donegan Plumbing, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Heating advertisement, providing estimates and services for various plumbing needs.

