LIKE THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Description of Flood of Time of Noah Found Among Ancient Records of Chaldea.

Perhaps the tracing of the story of the book of Genesis is the true fascination that Mesopotamia has for those who have come to read. The great boats of the Euphrates have the identical lines of the toy ark that can be bought in London. Where a pent roof has been added for our purposes the two are one in shape. The Euphrates "bellum" arranged as a sick barge is the toy ark of childhood. Is that toy ark an authentic tradition in its shape? It is almost certain to be. The Euphrates boats are pitched inside and out with pitch, as was that ark. In these same bellums, some as large as 70 tons, we may find British batteries sailing the Euphrates and a modified menagerie could easily walk on board. One more suggestion of the toy shop tradition strikes the casual observer. The tribespeople from the hills who work on the Tigris and Euphrates wear high black felt hats, a topper without a brim. Are Mr. and Mrs. Noah really correctly dressed?

Then on top of the discovery of the ark comes the more serious reading of a parallel version of the Bible story of the flood found in the cuneiform in Layard's tablets from the Royal library of Ashurbanipal at Nineveh, copied or collected possibly from Sargon's library at Accade or Erech, older than Ashurbanipal by perhaps 1,800 years. Were the stories of Genesis the household stories of Chaldea 4,000 years ago? It would seem so, when from Babylon is unearthed a seal with the representation of the temptation, Adam and Eve, the serpent and the apple tree.

HAVE TO SEARCH FOR POET

Great Mind by No Means Easy to Find, and Some Can Never Discover Him.

There was once a small but mighty nation, now numerous as the sands of the seashore, and no longer so interesting. To this nation was born a poet, and they made him the poet of all time. They took him and taught him all they knew—and they had great things to teach; and when, at their command, he made great dramas, they stood at his elbow; and everything they gave him he gave back to them tenfold.

England was then Shakespeare's land.

The poet is always amongst us; the difficulty is how to find him; he is like the proverbial needle in a bundle of hay.

But one thing is certain—logicians without love will not find him; they leave a desolation, and call it peace—nay, they call it culture. Critics of this sort will allow nothing to exist except themselves. No; I am wrong. There is one thing they admire more even than themselves—the fait accompli a mundane success.—John Butler Yeats.

Health in Trapshooting.

The great and popular detective of fiction, Sherlock Holmes, once admitted that a man's knees were the seat of great enlightenment and from this source he drew many of his deductions. He may, therefore, scrutinize with interest a trapshooter's knees while he is in action. Do they wabble not? He is a seasoned shooter in good physical condition. Do they wabble? He is anxious, perhaps a little new at the game but so happy and willing to get that next target he cares little whether the sun shines or the equinoctial is on.

It is a fascinating sport without placing any strain on the nervous system. In fact, trapshooting strengthens the nerves. It combines sport with fresh air and sunshine and saves many doctors' bills. Physicians and nurses recommend the sport as a health tonic, and if the patients follow the advice given there will not be much need for the physician and the nurse.—Forest and Stream.

Homer.

Homer is an epic poet and not a historian, so it is quite natural that he should have exaggerated everything with poetic license. Moreover, the events which he describes are so marvelous that many scholars have long doubted the very existence of Troy and have considered the city to be a mere invention of the poet's fancy. I venture to hope that the civilized world will not only not be disappointed that the city of Priam has shown itself to be scarcely a twentieth part as large as was to be expected from the statements of the Iliad, but that on the contrary, it will accept with delight and enthusiasm the certainty that Ilium did really exist, that a large portion of it has now been brought to light and that Homer, even although he exaggerates, nevertheless sings of events that actually happened.—Robertson.

You May Bet on It.

When you see a young man sitting in the parlor with the ugliest four-year-old boy that ever frightened himself in a mirror clambering over his knees, jerking his necktie out of place, ruffling his shirt-front, pulling his hair, kicking his shins, feeling in all his pockets for coppers, while the unresisting victim smiles all the time like the cover of a comic paper, you may safely say that the howling boy has a sister who is in a room not 20 feet away, and that the young man doesn't go there just for the fun of playing with her brother.

Contract Marriages.

Contract marriage is now the commonly accepted doctrine that marriage is a civil contract requiring only the free and intelligent consent of parties capable of contracting. A contract of this sort, drawn up and signed, is a marriage in the eyes of the law in all the states.

WANTED—Clean cotton rags suitable Observer office. *

USED DIAMONDS AS COUNTERS

Miners Who Found Them in Brazil in 1725 Considered Them as Merely Pretty Pebbles.

The news from Brazil that a large company has been formed to work the diamond mines of that country on a more scientific scale in an effort to make Brazil once more an important factor in supplying the world's most popular gem, recalls one of history's richest jokes.

Diamonds were first discovered in Brazil in 1725. But with their pockets full of diamonds, the discoverers were unaware for two years that they had made a discovery.

Miners washing for gold in the Minas Geraes district picked up pretty pebbles from time to time. They thought them worthless and used them for counters in their card games. If they had no money they gambled for the pebbles, winning or losing, in blissful ignorance, a king's ransom in diamonds on the turn of a card.

A penniless adventurer drifted into the gold fields in 1727. Some of the miners staked him one evening to a handful of pebbles that he might sit in at a card game. The others played with listless interest, but the newcomer played with care and skill. He had seen rough diamonds in India and knew what the pebbles were. As a result he won all the pebbles around the table.

He did not remain in the fields to wash for gold, but next day hurried to Rio Janeiro and took ship for Lisbon, where he sold his pebbles for a fortune and lived happily ever after. The rush of diamond hunters to Brazil which followed carried back to the miners in Minas Geraes the first intimation that they had been rich for two years without knowing it.

NO REFUGE IN BANKRUPTCY

In Olden Times Severe Penalties Were Meted Out to Men Unable to Pay Their Debts.

A curious custom was prevalent in France during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Anyone who found it necessary to liquidate his affairs was obliged to wear a green cap—a humility to himself and a warning to others.

Those who made a hobby of getting rid of their indebtedness by way of the bankruptcy court should at all costs steer clear of China. Bankruptcies are almost unknown in that country, as they call immediate execution.

A similar drastic punishment used to be meted out to delinquent in Japan.

To come nearer home, one need only go back to a little before the Act of Union to find that debtors in Scotland were obliged to wear garments of diverse colors, a suit of gray and yellow being the most common.

In Siam, a man unable to meet his liabilities was put in chains and compelled to work as a slave for his creditor. Should he escape, his wife, children, father or other relative were seized in his stead.

At one time bankrupts were considered criminal offenders even in England. As a matter of fact, certain cases of fraudulent bankruptcy have incurred the death penalty in this country. Any concealment of books or the secreting of property by a debtor was so punished. Under this law a man called John Perrot was hanged in 1761.—London Tit-Bits.

Tailoring Ancient Art.

The art of tailoring in the western hemisphere, appears to have originated in connection with skin garments rather than those of cloth. In the North, throughout the reindeer and caribou area, well-tailored skin garments were worn, completely covering the body. The Eskimos and the caribou-hunting Indians cut out pieces of skin and fitted them together in intricate patterns like a modern tailor. The tailoring art probably began in China, whence it spread to Europe, thence to the reindeer hunters in Siberia and across from Asia into the new world. Along the Pacific coast the aboriginal Indians were but scantily clad and the natives of Patagonia usually wore only a breechclout, although sometimes a capelike robe hanging from the shoulders was used. In Mexico and the Andes region where the art of weaving reached its height, garments resembled the angular form in which they come from the loom.

Lord John Russell.

During the years of my uncle's retirement I was much more in his company than had been possible when I was a schoolboy and he was foreign secretary or prime minister. Pembroke lodge became to me a second home; and I have no happier memory than of hours spent there by the side of one who had played bat, trap and ball with Charles Fox; had been traveling companion of Lord Holland; had corresponded with Tom Moore, debated with Francis Jeffrey, and dined with Doctor Parr; had visited Melrose abbey in the company of Sir Walter Scott, and criticized the acting of Mrs. Siddons; had conversed with Napoleon in his seclusion at Elba, and had ridden with the duke of Wellington along the lines of Torres Vedras.—G. W. E. Russell.

Observer advertising pays.

Hail of the Mariners.

It is said that it is customary for every English Christian sailor to hail any companion English vessel with the words, "494, sir." Immediately the reply is received, "6 farther on." The meaning of the signal is that in the sailor's hymnbook, 494 is Fanny Crosby's hymn, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine," and 6 farther on is No. 500, is "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."—The Christian Herald.

Butter Wrappers printed at the Observer office.

Venerated Relic Lost.

The Black Rood was a relic brought to Scotland by the wife of Malcolm Canmore, and long held in extreme veneration by the Scots. It consisted of a cross of gold, inclosing a piece of the true cross, set in an ebony figure of Christ. It was deposited with the regalia in Edinburgh castle, and carried with them to England by Edward I, and used by him to give increased solemnity to the oaths he exacted from the Scottish magnates. All trace of it is now lost.

STAR - Today

PRISCELLA DEAN

in

"The Exquisit Thief"

and

TWO REEL COMEDY

"Girlies and Grubbers"

THE BEST ALWAYS GOOD

Golden Sheaf Butter

VALLEY CREAMERY,
LA GRANDE, OR.

Full Weight Clean

LAXATIVE for Aged People

THE BANE of old age is constipation. The bowels become weak and unable to perform their functions without aid. For this purpose only the mildest and gentlest laxative should be used. The use of harsh cathartics aggravates the trouble and makes the constipation worse. Chamberlain's Tablets are a favorite with people of middle age and older on account of their gentle action.

Chamberlain's Tablets

LET
OUR
DRY
CLEANING
DEPARTMENT
SAVE
YOU

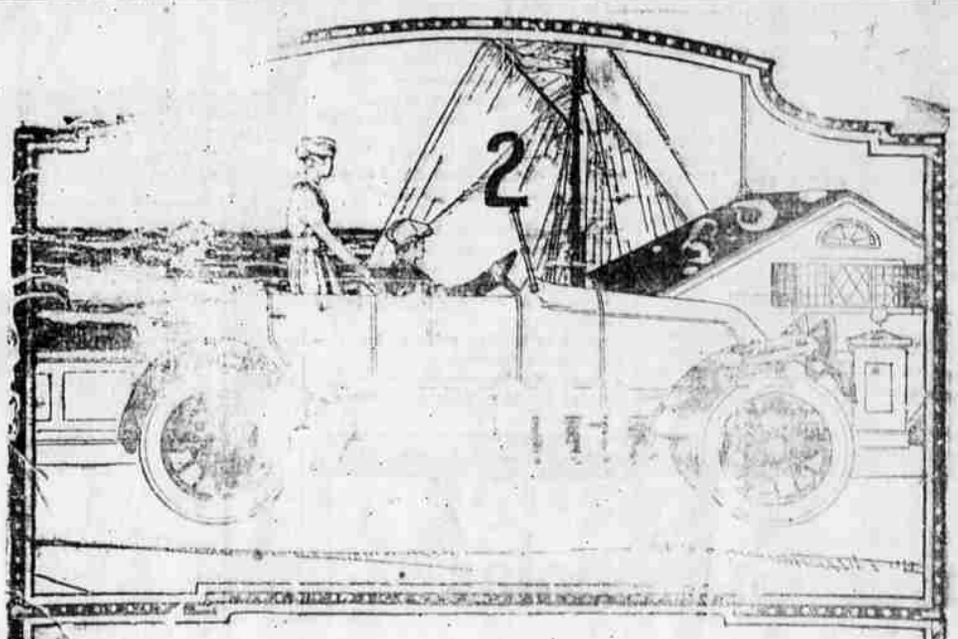
Garments may be sent in with Laundry bundles or order telephoned in. We maintain a real cleaning plant such as is seldom found outside the larger cities.

DAINTY GARMENTS
DAINTILY HANDLED

PHONE MAIN 56

STANDARD
LAUNDRY CO.

Phone 56 La Grande, Oregon



THE FRANKLIN CAR

Gasoline Saving Expressed in Terms of Tires and Depreciation

There's a reason why experienced motorists are keeping close track of their gasoline tank refills. They have learned that gasoline consumption truthfully indicates the wear and tear that goes on all over the car: tires, engine, chassis.

It is significant that the Franklin Car gives—

20 miles to the gallon of gasoline
12,500 miles to the set of tires
50% slower yearly depreciation

Such all-round economy is only one advantage due to Franklin light weight and flexibility. Others are: exceptional ability to hold the road, freedom from dangerous side-slipping on turns, consequently greater ease of handling and greater driving confidence, and naturally a measure of riding comfort unobtainable from rigid, heavy cars.

And Franklin performance and economy are made doubly valuable by direct Air Cooling (no water to boil or freeze) which enables Franklin owners to motor reliably the year-round.

We are ready to demonstrate the unusual capabilities of the Franklin Car at any time and over any roads you may suggest.

HILTON'S GARAGE

How Many Hours of Wasted Energy Does it Take to Wear Out a Broom?

Home-loving housewives have too long relied on the dust-raising, energy-wasting broom in their commendable desires for brighter homes. But cleaning need no longer be a drudgery!

Clean House and Kesp It Clean With

The World Famous

Apex
ELECTRIC SUCTION CLEANER

Arrange Now For
FREE TRIAL
IN YOUR OWN HOME.

Phone us to send out an APEX for free trial. See how easy it is to direct its dirt-hungry nozzle—note the instant good results without the least effort. And the APEX has so many exclusive features.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Company

"ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICE"
Phone Supply Department, Main 34.