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Hagoth's Lost Ships and Hawaii

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Abstract: In this article, the episode about Hagoth and his sea-venturing ships is quoted from Alma 63 and the theory advanced that the Polynesians descended from Book of Mormon peoples who sailed to Hawaii. It also compares rituals and customs of the ancient Hawaiians with the Israelites.

Editors' Table

Hagoth's Lost Ships and Hawaii

An interesting treatise and 134 beautiful illustrations on the Hawaiian Islands, the volcanic and floral wonderland of the world, and America's strongest outpost of defense, occupies the whole of the *National Geographic Magazine* for February, 1924. In the introduction to the article, the author, Gilbert Grosvenor, LL.D., the president of the National Geographic Society, incidentally quotes Albert P. Taylor's charming and authoritative narrative, *Under Hawaiian Skies*. In this quotation some of the table manners and other practices of the primitive people in the Hawaiian Islands, are referred to. In many of the religious ceremonies of the early Hawaiians and their priests there is a close alliance with Israel of ancient Palestine. For this reason the quoted statement is particularly noteworthy and interesting to the student of history. It indicates clearly that many Hawaiian practices, and even the manner of constructing their temples, bear resemblance to those of ancient Palestine. As witness this quotation:

"The Hawaiians had their temples of refuge into which the pursued from justice, malefactors, and innocently accused persons, could seek and receive shelter and respite from injury, until the temple authorities could determine their guilt or innocence."

"They had their purification of temples with salt, similar to the ceremony in Palestine. They performed the ceremony of the circumcision as it was performed in the Holy Land. They had their ashes and sackcloth. The priesthood was related to the government and to the direction of the habits of the rulers, as the priesthood was related to the rulers in Palestine."

May not this similarity confirm the idea that the Hawaiians may have come west from America to settle these islands and that they are related to the Indians whose ancestors came to the American continent from Jerusalem, as related in the Book of Mormon? It does not seem improbable that the ancient inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands in this way became acquainted with Israelitish customs, and it does not seem unreasonable to credit the idea that some of them voyaged from the American mainland and settled in the Hawaiian Islands and the Pacific, and so perpetuated the customs, practices, and style of building that their ancestors had known in Palestine and America.

There was among the Nephites, on the American continent, a curious man named Hagoth,* who was a ship builder and promoter of

*In *Prehistoric America*, by Marquis de Nadaillac, (Putnam's, 1893, p. 64) certain shell-heaps are referred to on the coast of California, which are of great antiquity:

"Historians are generally silent about these heaps, which did not attract much attention until archaeology began to take its place among the sciences. When the

emigration. He built many large ships and launched them in the Pacific ocean, from somewhere on the coast of the Isthmus, "on the borders of the land Bountiful, by the land Desolation." Many of the Nephites, men, women and children, took passage in them, and sailed to the land northward. Many others following did likewise, and some were lost, "they were never heard of more." So laden, "One other ship also did sail forth; and whither she did go, we know not." (Alma 63:5-8.) May she not have drifted over the great waters to the volcanic and floral wonderland of the world, and her colony of people become builders and settlers of Hawaii?

The Hawaiians are undoubtedly related to the Polynesians whose mariners sailed back and forth to and from Hawaii, and it is not unreasonable to credit the idea that the Lamanites from the American mainland drifted to the islands and became mixed with or even the progenitors of the present natives.—A.

Rejuvenation

Much is being written and said recently about rejuvenation and the prolongation of human life and efficiency. A recent article in the *International Book Review*, calls attention to the labors of Professor Eugen Steinach, M. D., who has continued investigations that were introduced in the 80's by Brown-Sequard, who pointed out the zig-zag path that leads to rejuvenescence. To Dr. Steinach, we are told, "belongs the glory of turning romance into facts, and of giving substance to dreams, transforming nebulous hopes into practical certainty," in regard to this subject. He has discovered a treatment that re-creates the ductless glands of the human body, and is said to have demonstrated the actuality of the new method of making people young.

Two books have recently been published, one by Dr. Kammerer, another by George F. Corners, which are pronounced, in the article referred to, as being "so lucid, so simple and direct, and so profoundly interesting, to even the merely curious, to say nothing of the seeker after truth, that they will probably be read by millions, now that the interest in rejuvenation is fast approaching fever heat." Dr. Kammerer is the associate of Dr. Steinach and has given the subject almost as many years of study and practice. Mr. Corners, it is said, received all his information at first hand and his work is enlivened with a delightful sense of humor. It is stated that "before long it will be

Indians were questioned about them they generally answered that they are very old, and are the work of people unknown to them or to their fathers. As an exception to this rule, however, the Californians attribute a large shell-heap formed of mussel-shells and the bones of animals, on Point St. George, near San Francisco, to the Hohgates, the name they give to seven mythical strangers who arrived in the country from the sea, and who were the first to build and live in houses. The Hohgates killed deer, sea-lions, and seals; they collected the mussels which were very abundant on the neighboring rocks, and the refuse of their meals became piled up about their homes."