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Abstract: Series of articles dealing with archaeological, anthropological, geographical, societal, religious, and historical aspects of ancient America and their connections to the Book of Mormon, which is the key to understanding “old American” studies.

Old America.

BY G. M. O.

ANCIENT PERU.

(Continued.)

GARCILAZO DE LA VEGA, the son of a Spaniard and Nusta, grand-daughter of the Inca, Tupac Ynpanqui, was born at Cuzco in 1540. He lived in Cuzco without education until nearly twenty years of age, "his intellectual development being confined" says Baldwin, "to the instruction necessary to make him a good Catholic." He left Peru at this early age for Spain, never to return, and devoted his life seeking distinction as a soldier, but failed. When nearly sixty he commenced writing his history of Peru, "Commentarios Reales," his materials being his own recollections, gleanings from Spanish writers, and what he had learned from his mother. The first part of his history was published in 1609, when he was nearly seventy years old. "Baldwin says, "It can readily be seen that Garcilazo's history, written in this way, might have a certain value, while it could not be safely accepted as an authority." His work, however, has acquired a great reputation, and has been regarded as the highest authority on all things relating to ancient Peru and the glorification of the Incas and their times. We will give our readers a sketch of this history, and then follow a more correct and able writer, Montesinos.

According to Garcilazo's version of the Peruvian annals, the rule of the Incas began with the mythical Manco Capac, and lasted over five hundred years. Manco Capac and his sister Mama Oello first made their appearance in Peru in the valley bordering on Lake Titicaca. He was noble in person and eloquent in speech. The natives, charmed with his persuasive address and gentle teachings, soon submitted to his laws, gave up their wild pursuits and applied themselves to the tillage of the soil. While Manco taught the men how to clear the ground, sow seed, make ditches and irrigate the earth, Mama Oella instructed the women how to spin the llama wool and weave it into cloth. When this work was fully under way, the new ruler built the city of Cuzco. Here the royal palace was built and the great temple dedicated to the sun. After organizing his capital, Manco, in the name of the sun, set out to look after the tribes surrounding him. He devoted several years to this political and religious aim, spreading sun worship and acquiring subjects and territory. This mysterious "son of the sun" began to reign in 1021, A. D., and died in 1062, having reigned forty years. He was followed by his son Sinchi-Rocca, who reigned thirty years, from 1062 to 1091. The great temple begun by Manco was finished during this monarch's reign. Lloque-Yupanqui reigned thirty-five years, from 1091 to 1126. It is to this emperor that historians attribute the decoration of the temple so lavishly, with gold and silver exacted from the obedient tribes, and used force instead of persuasion in extending his realm. He set up the first astronomical observatories in the empire. His reign was also distinguished for the excellence of the people in poetry, literature, music and other sciences. Mayta-Capac, son of Lloque, was the fourth Inca, reigning thirty years, from 1126 to 1156. His period is chiefly remarkable for the discovery of the ruins of Tiahuanaco, the invention of suspension bridges and the addition of provinces to the empire. Capac-Yupanqui, the fifth emperor, reigned forty-one years. He followed his father's career of conquest,

extending his dominion to the Pacific coast. He died in 1197, and was succeeded by the Inca Rocca, who reigned fifty-one years; from 1197 to 1249. He subjugated tribes north of Cuzco, and founded schools of science, music and literature. Yahuar Capac, the seventh Inca, reigned forty years, from 1249 to 1289, and made conquests like his predecessors. During his absence on an expedition his son started a revolt, but it was suppressed with great slaughter by the king, he pillaging his his own capital. Cuzco, which was held by the insurgents. He was, however, subsequently defeated by his son and compelled to abdicate. It was in his time that guano was first used for agricultural purposes by the Peruvians. After dethroning his father, Viracoca ascended the throne and reigned fifty-one years, from 1289 to 1340. His period is distinguished for the extension he gave to agriculture, the aqueducts he built and the canals he constructed for irrigation. He also built several temples to the sun. It was during this reign that the visits of inspection began, which the Incas were afterwards accustomed to make to all parts of the empire. His son, Inca Urco, ruled eleven days, and was then deposed "as a fool, incapable of governing," and another son, Titu-Manco Capac-Pachacutec, reigned sixty years. This emperor broke through the old rule con-training the royal rulers to marry a sister, and took to wife a noble lady of the people. He made many conquests in war, and made many additions to the dress, among others the use of cotton. The designs woven in the cotton stuffs of this period are described as being marvelously delicate and beautiful. The art of pottery attained great perfection, and works in gold and silver filagree, representing flowers in bloom, birds with their tails spread and shaped to burn perfumes, statuettes, etc., are among the curiosities of this reign. Tradition says this emperor lived to be one hundred and three years old. His reign commenced in 1340 and ended in 1400. The tenth emperor was Yupanqui, who reigned thirty-nine years, from 1400 to 1439. He extended the limits of the empire, and completed the adornment of the temple of the sun. His peculiar fancy was to collect the wild beasts of the forest, birds, snakes, etc., for which he constructed four large buildings. Tupac Yupanqui reigned thirty-six years, from 1439 to 1475. To him is ascribed the building of that remarkable fortress, Sacahuaman, which the old Spanish historians mention as the eighth wonder of the world, and which modern writers are not slow to praise. Huayna-Capac, the twelfth Inca, the "most glorious of them all," reigned fifty years, from 1475 to 1525. The chief wonder of his reign was the marvelous chain of gold he caused to be made on the occasion of his son's first hair-cutting. The links of this chain were as large as the rings on a common ox-yoke, and in length nearly eight hundred yards. It begirt the great square of Cuzco. The chain, it is said, was thrown into Lake Mohina, when the Spaniards invaded the country. This emperor first beheld the Spaniards on the coast. It is said he was at Sechura and saw Balboa tacking past in his caravel. It is also said that on his deathbed he predicted that strangers sent by Pachacamac (the Deity) would possess the country and put an end to the dynasty of the Incas. After his death the empire was divided between his two sons, Huascar and Atahualpa. This caused a civil war, which ended with the death of Huascar in 1532. Atahualpa, then resting at Caxamarca, saw himself in fancy the sole monarch of a mighty state, when Pizarro and his companions suddenly appeared on the scene. This consummate scoundrel arraigned the Inca as a fratricide and condemned him to be burnt alive. This was commuted, however, on condition of baptism. This the Inca consented to, and was baptized and then garrotted May 3, 1532.

(To be Continued.)