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Interesting Facts: The Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon Clearly Proved by Ancient Indian Records

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Abstract: The conquering Spaniards burned the histories of the Mexican natives, but a few survived and are in the Aztec museum in Mexico. The histories there as well as in Central and South America offer astonishing proof that the Book of Mormon is true.

were called forth in support of the children of God, by natural causes, producing natural effects.

THE THREE ERAS.

BY HANNAH T. KING.

(Continued.)

WHILE we are speaking of Solomon, I would endeavor to caution you to shun the rock upon which he made shipwreck of his faith, and fell from the very pinnacle of human greatness, and the highest favor of his God. It was by not maintaining the position in which God had placed him; but in converting his gifts into offensive weapons against himself; in allowing those who were his inferiors, in every sense of the word, and who had never beheld the spiritual light of Heaven, to draw him aside from the God of his fathers, by casting over his mental vision the darkness of idolatry! This seems marvelous after the manifestations God had given him of the favor in which He held him, and the promise He had made, that his wisdom should excel that of any other man, either before or after him, and which he must have realized in his kingly office of monarch and judge. This subject should teach you to acquire strength of mind and character, that you may be able to withstand the fiery darts of the wicked, in the hour of temptation, by His strength who has said, "My grace is sufficient for you."

Woman has in all ages been a powerful influence over the destinies of man, often for good, and sometimes for evil, especially as in the case of Solomon. When man uses her as the tool of his pleasures and caprice, she is permitted to be his evil genius—he alone makes her so, and is alone answerable for the consequences of his injustice. She was formed a perfect creature, and placed in Eden, standing side by side with Adam, as a helpmeet for him.

"Grace was in all her steps, heaven in her eye,
In every gesture, dignity and love."

Oh! how lamentable to turn from this lovely picture, so full of health, of life, and purity, to view her next a fallen creature, a degraded being, subject to sorrow, to sickness, and to death! Man, too, fell through her influence, and bitterly she has, in all the past ages, been punished for the same. He has since become her master, often her tyrant, her tempter, her beguiler; when he should have been her guide, her guardian, her bright example. But fallen and degraded as she was, the God of love and mercy decreed she should be the honored instrument of bringing redemption into the world! The voice of God, Himself, pronounced that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. Yes, her offspring, the mighty Savior, was to emanate from God and her; and, after His suffering, death and glorious resurrection, He appeared first to a woman. He knows her weakness and wanderings, and also her loving nature; and His own gracious words were, "Much is forgiven her, for she has loved much." Though thought weak and insignificant, she has high and important duties to fulfill. She is sanctified by her motherhood; 'tis hers to be the priestess to the infant mind, to give the word in season, which only a mother's watchful eye can note and avail herself of; to sow the good seed in the pliant and prolific mind of youth, which will take deep root, and hereafter bear fruit, some a hundred fold, some fifty, some thirty. The bread which has been so cast upon the waters,

shall be found after many days." Thus unseen, indeed, but mighty, is her influence, and immense is her responsibility.

(To be Continued.)

INTERESTING FACTS.

THE DIVINE AUTHENTICITY OF THE BOOK OF MORMON CLEARLY PROVED BY ANCIENT INDIAN RECORDS.

THE young readers of the INSTRUCTOR are all interested, I have no doubt, in gaining reliable information upon all subjects of importance. It has been said, and not unjustly, that "Mankind denounce what they do not understand." It is necessary that we inform ourselves as thoroughly as our circumstances will permit, and endeavor to get at the truth of whatever we examine. This is very necessary upon the subject of religion, for that will affect our present and eternal happiness. It is of the greatest importance that we should study and understand our Church works.

Especially would I recommend the Book of Mormon for the perusal of the young, for in it we learn a great deal of valuable history with which mankind in general are not familiar, and which they are not at present willing to accept as reliable. But, my young readers, allow me to assure you that the time is not far distant when they will be compelled to accept it as true, or, if they condemn it, they will do it contrary to their own conviction. I wish to tell you something that you are perhaps not acquainted with.

At the time of the conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards, in the fifteenth century, the Indians had their histories, complete. They had nearly all that is contained in the Book of Mormon, and when the Spaniards saw those histories they were surprised and said it would never do to allow them to exist or they could never make good Roman Catholics of them, so they took all the Indian histories that they could get and burned them in great heaps.

The poor Indians wept bitterly to see their histories burned, and said that God would now be angry with them. An account of this is given in Boturini's Work.

Had these books been preserved, the truth of the divine origin of the Book of Mormon would have been so clearly proven that no one could reasonably have doubted. But thanks to our Heavenly Father, they were not all burned. They did not get them all. And the result is that at an early day there will be published to the world, such powerful proofs that the Indians are of Israel that the wisdom of the world will not be able to controvert it.

The writer has seen some of these histories, written by the Indians themselves, which are now deposited in the Aztec Museum in the city of Mexico. I am surprised to find in old Spanish histories of Mexico, Central and South America such astonishing proofs of the divine authenticity of the Book of Mormon, for I never knew that such knowledge was in the possession of civilized nations.

I shall not attempt to give any account of what we have learned and read upon this subject. It will be forthcoming in proper time.

Through the kindness of friends we have access to some very valuable libraries, and thus our opportunities for informing ourselves on that subject are excellent, had we the time to devote to study; but of course our time is so much taken up with our other duties that we have but very little time to spend in reading.

J. Z. S.

City of Mexico, Feb. 1880.