

LIEUT. TOTTEN AND HIS BOOKS.

A Clear Explanation by an Able North Carolinian. [From the Wilmington Messenger.]

EDITOR OF THE MESSENGER:—It is evident that you are laboring under a great misapprehension in regard to what Lieut. Totten has written, and the sources from which he deduces such opinions as he has expressed. You are also in error as to what those opinions are. The quotation from Esdras, an apocryphal book, (or rather from a pious annotator of Esdras) which you seem to suppose was the basis of Lieut. Totten's argument, was used by him in his Brooklyn lecture, as a remarkable corroboration of all his previously published calculations, which were all based on canonical Scripture. Lieut. Totten has not said that the world was coming to an end at any particular time, or at all. On the contrary, in the very lecture from which you quote, he expressly said that no man was authorized, from anything he had written to fix the day, the hour, or year for that event, which is known only to the Father. In the series of books which he is publishing, entitled "Our Race, Its Origin and Destiny," three of which are on the market and the fourth to be issued next month, his views are fully set forth, and they have unquestionably startled those who have read them. They are the result of years of laborious and conscientious study by an able, learned, zealous Christian, who is also a man of scientific attainments.

Of course he is called a "crank"—that was to be expected—but it is perfectly safe to say that no man who reads his books will pronounce him an ignorant one, or lay them down with indifference. They are not the utterance of a fanatic, possessed by one idea; on the contrary they contain a wealth of information, historic, scientific, philological and statistical, and manifest a knowledge of Scripture as rare as it is remarkable.

The first book of this series is on a subject which, although by no means a new one, is perhaps more fully and ably presented therein than ever before, and its purpose (as the purpose of all his work) is to establish the absolute truth of the Bible. This book is entitled "The Romance of History," and its aim is to demonstrate that the Anglo-Saxon Race are the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel.

The introduction is written by Piazzi Smith, late Astronomer Royal of Scotland, and author of a book on the Great Pyramid, who pays a high tribute to Lieutenant Totten, and reminds the reader that those who have not studied the matters involved cannot claim a right to pronounce judgment upon them. In this book, among other things, Lieut. Totten clears up the confusion in regard to the Hebrew race, whereby all are classed as "Jews," and gives an interesting sketch of the different tribes. He then sets forth in full, with the evidence, his reasons for believing that the Lost Tribes found their way to the British Islands, where Dan, the colonizing and shipping tribe, had established a colony previously at Tara, in Ireland; and shows that all the identities named in prophecy as those which should characterize "Israel" when "found" in the latter days are realized in the Anglo-Saxon race, and nowhere else. He insists that God's promises, as contained in prophecy, can never fail, and yet they have failed in regard to "Israel" in many particulars, unless "Israel" and Saxondom are the same. The evidence on these matters is certainly very curious, to say the least, and very interesting—but, of course, I cannot recapitulate here.

The second book is entitled, "Joshua's Long Day, and the Dial of Ahaz," the aim of which is to vindicate by science, and science only, the two most doubted texts of Scripture, and in the course of this elaborate essay (as elsewhere in his writings) he sharply arraigns those ministers of the gospel who, under the influence of the "Higher Criticism," attempt to explain away or apologise for difficult passages of Scripture. He says that at the battle of Beth Horon—which he describes as a feature of a campaign reflecting the highest credit on Joshua's military genius—there was an astronomical phenomenon that never occurred before and can never occur again, and at the time (forty-seven and a third hours—"about the space of a day"—during which the

sun continued to shine, added to the forty minutes (10 degrees) during which it went back on the dial of Ahaz, exactly make up the 48 hours which are admitted to be intercalated in our chronology.

The third book, entitled "Tea Tephi," which he calls the "Romance within the Romance," is a sketch of the history of "Israel," culminating in the story of Tea Tephi, who was the daughter of Zedekiah, the last King of Judah, and who went with her guardian, Jeremiah the Prophet, into Egypt—where the Old Testament account ends, but where he takes up the story and traces her history, with the accompanying evidence, to a startling conclusion.

The purpose of Lieut. Totten in these publications is to show that the prophecies in regard to the events which should accompany the discovery of the lost people are about to be fulfilled, and that the most stupendous of all miracles has been in process of completion in the history of a people who have been the blind agents of Almighty power—that "the times of the Gentiles" are nearly ended, and that a new order of things is near at hand.

I will only say this: "If he is right the subject is of transcendent interest to us all; and if he is mistaken he has nevertheless rendered immense service to the cause of Christianity in awakening an interest in Bible study among thousands who have heretofore been careless or indifferent to it. He is deeply impressed with the truth of his conclusions, which are the result of earnest and anxious investigations, and with the solemnity which surrounds the subject, and he earnestly appeals to his readers to verify all of his quotations, and to read again the prophecies for themselves in the light of his interpretation of them. The great publishing houses have refused to publish his works with polite (and politic) excuses, and the learned are very cautious about expressing opinions upon them. Meantime, Lieut. Totten says, the whole world is in a state of expectancy about something, and the times are pregnant with great events.

A. M. WADDELL.

"Stonewall" Jackson as a Poet.

The announcement that the widow of "Stonewall" Jackson will soon publish the memoirs of her distinguished husband, recalls to mind the fact that the stern soldier was as gentle as a child in his every day life and most devoted to home and family. The following poem was published in the papers in 1862, and contained in the Richmond Examiner of Nov. 8th of that year with this introduction: Doubtless it will surprise many to learn that the inobtrusive and hardy warrior, Stonewall Jackson, was a poet of no little ability, and that among the busy scenes and arduous duties of camp life he found time to gratify his taste for the beautiful in literature. The following lines were written while Jackson was an artillery officer in Mexico, during the war between the United States and that country.

MY WIFE AND CHILD.

The tattoo beats—the lights are gone,  
The camp around in slumber lies,  
The night with solemn peace moves on,  
The shadows darkens o'er the skies;  
But sleep my weary eyes have flown,  
And sad, uneasy thoughts arise.  
I think of thee, oh! dearest one,  
Whose love my early life hath blest—  
Of thee and him—our baby son—  
Who slumbers on thy gentle breast.  
God of the tender, frail and lone,  
Oh! guard the tender sleeper's rest!  
And hither, gently hover near,  
To her whose watchful eye is wet—  
To mother, wife—the doubly dear,  
In whose young heart have freshly met  
Two streams of love, so deep and clear,  
And cheer her drooping spirits yet.

Now, while she kneels before Thy throne,  
Oh! teach her, Ruler of the skies,  
That, while by Thy behest alone  
Earth's mightiest Powers fall or rise,  
No tear is wept to Thee unknown,  
No hair is lost, no sparrow dies!  
That Thou canst stay the ruthless hands,  
Of dark disease, and soothe the pain;  
That only by Thy stern command  
The battle's lost, the soldier's slain—  
That from the distant sea or land  
Thou bring'st the wanderer home again.  
And when upon her pillow lone  
Her tear-wet cheek is sadly prest,  
May happier visions beam upon  
The brightening current of her breast.  
No frowning look or angry tone  
Disturb the Sabbath of her rest.  
Whatever fate those forms may show,  
Loved with a passion almost wild—  
By day—by night—in joy or woe—  
By fears oppressed, or hopes beguiled,  
From every danger, every foe,  
Oh! God! protect my wife and child.

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN

[All communications for this department should be addressed to Walter Hurst, Barnardville, N. C.]

The Right of the State.

The State can establish the common school and pay for it, because its own existence depends upon the intelligence of all the people. If the State has a right to make laws to protect itself from criminals, then it has a right to protect itself from ignorance. The American public school is a common school in more than one sense of the term. Once in every generation the whole population come down to a level and get a fresh start. The common schools once in every generation brings all the children to one level, and they individually start up as far as they can go, and their children come on right after them, and once in every generation all is level. There sit the children of every class; the poor man's son and the rich man's son, all on a level; the school doesn't know any one by its parents, but by what school one is.

The school is common to all, bond and free, high and low. It is not only common, but is compulsory, or ought to be. In Egypt nobody could go to the schools except the royal family; for the common people to break into knowledge was treason and a punishable offence. Knowledge was then a prerogative of a class. Now the wheels have turned completely around, and it is a crime to-day for the common people of America not to send their children to the public schools. Some say we have no right to interfere with the privileges of a parent. God never gave anyone the right to do wrong, and it is wrong to let the children grow up in ignorance. If a man is so dull and so senseless, so vicious, so ignorant, that he has no appreciation of what the child gets by education, the State is bound to stand between that brutal parent and the ignorant child and hear the protest of the child against its defilement and the destruction of its fundamental right. The State must take care of that right.

Education is the grand preparation of the individual for reciprocal union with society; the preparation of the individual so that he can help his fellow men and in return receive their help. In order to recognize merit you must first have it yourself.

Fruit Culture.

The successful fruit grower, in the opinion of D. B. Weir, is the man who goes into the business with the full intention to leave nothing to chance. He plants with the expectation that he is to meet all the enemies of fruit culture, and is prepared to fight and rout them. There are no ifs in his philosophy or action. If bugs or disease invade his orchard and are gnawing away the roots of his trees he does not sit on the fence and whine at them, but starts in and kills them. In the beginning he had posted himself and planted seed of the commercial fruits as were adapted to his soil and climate.

A pretty woman and a philosopher are both apt to be enamored of their own reflections

When the devil can't do anything else with some people, he makes them want to "run things" in the church.

"German Syrup"

For Throat and Lungs

"I have been ill for Hemorrhage "about five years, "Five Years. "I have had the best "medical advice, "and I took the first "dose in some doubt. This result- "ed in a few hours easy sleep. There "was no further hemorrhage till next "day, when I had a slight attack "which stopped almost immediate- "ly. By the third day all trace of "blood had disappeared and I had "recovered much strength. The "fourth day I sat up in bed and ate "my dinner, the first solid food for "two months. Since that time I "have gradually gotten better and "am now able to move about the "house. My death was daily ex- "pected and my recovery has been "a great surprise to my friends and "the doctor. There can be no doubt "about the effect of German Syrup, "as I had an attack just previous to "its use. The only relief was after "the first dose." J. R. LOUGHRAN, Adelaide, Australia.

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