

**HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF THE
ANCIENT NEGRO, A
COMPILATION/ EDWARD E.
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Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649752218

Historical sketches of the ancient Negro, a compilation/ Edward E. Carlisle, Josephine E. Carlisle
by Edward E Carlisle

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EDWARD E CARLISLE

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A Compilation

BY

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JOSEPHINE E. CARLISLE

Boston, Mass.

THE COSMOS PRESS
Cambridge, Mass.

PREFACE

We have endeavored to present to our readers a selected collection of historical facts in one volume on the Ethiopian or Ancient Negro. It has long since been conceded that Negro nations or Hamites were the earliest civilized peoples and the real source of the civilization we enjoy to-day. More and more are we made cognizant of the fact that men to-day are but doing over the things that were done thousands of years ago and it is interesting to note that the Negro's share in those early activities was not a small one. It is to familiarize the youth as well as the adult of the Negro race with the events in which many of their ancestors centered that it may be an incentive to higher aims and nobler aspirations.

"Now our day is come," says one writer, "we have been born out of the eternal silence; and now we will live for ourselves and not as the pall bearers of a funeral. Now that we are here we will put our own interpretation on things and our own things for interpretation." This has been our chief aim in compiling this work — to interpret the Negro's status in the ancient world unbiased and impartial — to emphasize his identity in the midst of the Caucasian chaos in which most historians have placed him — only as a hewer of stone and drawer of water is he in bold relief. Our own interpretation has preserved to us, however, many glowing accounts of the deeds of black men with which every one of African descent should be familiar and justly proud. J. E. C.

CONTENTS.

I.

The Dispersion of the Human Family with reference to the children of Ham the Progenitor of the Negro race. Nimrod the grandson of Ham (the Negro) the first ruler and landed proprietor that history records, Cushites and Canaanites, Negroes of antiquity.

II.

Meroë the Ethiopian Capital.
The State of Meroë.
The Commerce of Meroë.

III.

Ethiopian (or Negro) Supremacy, Piankhi the great Negro Pharaoh, Amenardis his wife and queen mother of Tirharka the formidable foe of Sennacherib — Shabaka brother of Piankhi — Shabataka and Tanut-Amon, successive Ethiopian Pharaohs.

IV.

Macrobian Ethiopians (Negroes) and Cambyses attempt to make war upon them.

V.

Negro-Egyptian Pharaohs.

New Empire — XVII, Theban Dynasty, Amenophites and Thotmesites, Nefert-ari-Aahmes — the black queen ancestress of the line of kings of the eighteenth dynasty, Amenhotep I, Thotmes I and his sister-wife Aahmes

and their children Hashep and Hatasu. Thotmes II and Thotmes III, Amenophis II, Thotmes IV, Amenophis III (Mimnon), Amenophis IV.

VI.

How Moses made war upon the Ethiopians. His marriage with the Ethiopian Princess Tharbis.

VII.

How Moses fled out of Egypt into Midian. He marries Zipporah an Ethiopian woman.

VIII.

Moses receives Jethro, his father-in-law — the black priest of Midian who organized the first court of equity.

IX.

THE QUEEN OF SHEBA.

X.

Carthage.

Hamilcar, Hannibal, Hasdrubal, The Punic Wars, Hannibals Treaty.

XI.

Septimus Severus, Negro Emperor of Rome. His Sons, Geta and Caracalla.

Earth had mighty dark hued heroes
In the morning of the world
Giant warriors clad in lightning
Who their bold defiance hurled
High as heaven and down the ages:
Nimrod Seti, Rameses,
Hannibal — bold lions rampant
Romp through dawn's amethyst—
Bronzed Nemeans, leaping storming
Down the morning's amber mist!

Rise, forgotten Past! Meroë
Where great Moses loved arise!
Tyre Thebes Nineveh we knew you
When the world was paradise!
Sphinxes, pyramids, silent Memnon
Ruined Memphis — Babylon,
Relics of great deeds and empires
Of the proud, dark peoples gone,
We your clay creators loved you
In the clanging purple dawn.

Rev. Dr. Jas. D. Corrothers.

THE DISPERSION OF THE HUMAN FAMILY.

After the deluge the earth was divided between the three sons of Noah, Japhet, Shem and Ham. The peoples connected with Japhet occupy the northern portion of the known world and include the Madai (Medes) on the East of Assyria, Javans, Ionians, i. e. Greeks, on the West Coast of Asia Minor and Tarshish (Tartessus) on the West Coast of Spain.

Shem is the ancestor of several peoples, occupying roughly speaking, the central portion of the known world. Shem stands for a people in Palestine or some portion of them with whom Japhet lived in close conjunction and to whom Canaan was subjugated.¹

Ham's descendants were allotted the southern portion and possessed the land from Syria and Amans and the mountains of Libanus seizing upon all that was on its seacoasts and as far as the ocean, and keeping it as their own. (Josephus.)

"According to Armenian tradition to Ham was given the region of the blacks, to Shem the region of the tawny, *fuscorum* and to Japhet the region of the ruddy, *rubrorum*. To the sons of Shem was allotted the middle of the earth, viz. — Palestine, Syria, Assyria, Samaria, Singar (or Shinar), Babel (or Babylonia), Persia and Higiaz (Arabia); to the sons of Ham Tiemen or Idumea (Jer. 49:7) Africa, Nigritia, Egypt, Nubia, Ethiopia, Scindia and India (or India west and east of the river

¹ A. H. M'Neil, Bib. Dict.

Indus); to the sons of Japhet also, Garbia (the north), Spain, France, the the countries of the Greeks, Sclavonians, Bulgarians, Turks and Armenians."¹

Ham, or Cham, son of Noah and brother to Shem and Japhet is believed to be Noah's youngest son. Ham, says Dr. Hales, signifies burnt or black and this name was peculiarly significant of the regions allotted to his family. To the Cushites, or children of his eldest son Cush were allotted the hot southern regions of Asia along the coasts of the Persian Gulf, Suisiana, Chusistan Arabia, etc.; to the sons Canaan, Palestine and Syria; to the sons of Mizraim Egypt and Lybia Libya in Africa.²

THE SONS OF HAM.

The first and most celebrated of Ham's sons was Cush who gave name to the land of Cush both in Asia and Africa, the former called Chusistan by the Arabian Geographers, Suisiana by the Greeks, Cuscha Dwipa within by the Hindus, the other Cuscha Dwipa without.

The posterity of Cush spread over a great part of Asia and Africa, were called Cushim or Cushites by the Greeks and Romans and in our Bible Ethiopians. They first settled on the Gulf of Persia, spread over India and Arabia, particularly its western part on the Red Sea, invaded Egypt under the name of Hyksos or Shepherd kings and after ruling Egypt for five centuries passed into Central Africa and first peopled the countries

¹ Fessenden & Co's. Ency.

² Watson, Fessenden & Co's. Ency.