

**AN HISTORICAL POEM;
DESCRIBING THE PROMINENT
CHARACTERS OF EARLY TIMES
FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS, WITH
COMMENTS**

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An Historical Poem; Describing the Prominent Characters of Early Times from Official Records, with Comments by R. Wilbur Hinckley

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P. W. Hinckley

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THE PROMINENT CHARACTERS OF EARLY TIMES
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BY

R. WILBUR HINCKLEY.

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BY

R. W. HINCKLEY

PREFACE.

To readers of all zones and climes,
We humbly dedicate these rhymes ;
Hoping that age, manhood and youth,
May accept all as sacred truth.
The highest records in our reach,
We've read, that we the truth might teach.
The germs of truth, in all our toil ;
Will produce largely in good soil :
The larger part, though not our views,
Is a terse hist'ry of the Jews.
If you should wish to know the rest,
Peruse our book, if not the best ;
You will find on its every page,
Marks quite peculiar to the age.
When you complete it, then confess ;
Our race is destined to progress.
We have done all we undertook,
Written, and published well the book ;
You cannot judge, with wise precision,
Till you have read the whole revision.

THE AUTHOR.

INTRODUCTION.

In this Poem, the Author has aimed to follow grammatical rules; although in some parts of the work exceptions may be found in order to improve the accent, and add harmony to the rhyme. His object, is not only to present an early record of the race, and the prominent actors of antiquity; but to show by comparison, the improvements made in the polity of modern nations. As the poem is continuous, the only reference is our index of subjects. Prominent subjects not found in the index, may be found by those given, contemporaneous with the subject desired. While many of the Author's comments, on prominent characters, may at first appear rather sharp and pointed; the reader will find, by the present standard of justice and right, that they are mostly admissible. It is the earnest desire of the publisher, that this Poem may lead its readers, to "The Book," that they may be able to "prove all things, and hold fast that which is good."

THE PUBLISHER.

A HISTORICAL POEM.

ADAM. ENOCH. NOAH.

We here present in a brief space,
The early hist'ry of our race.
We will not differ in our plan,
But, present Adam the first man :
That we may not the reader grieve,
Allow him one a helpmeet, Eve.
They did not long alone remain,
But had a son, they called him Cain :
And, soon another, Abel true ;
Whom wicked Cain in manhood slew.
Had it occurred in this our day,
Cain would have hung ; it is our way :
But, he was simply marked by God ;
Then took a wife way down in Nod.
Dear reader, do not ask of me,
To show to you her pedigree.
Well, time rolled on when Enoch stood,
A perfect man, both just and good.
Then lived a preacher Rev. Noah ;
With sons in all an even four :
The hist'ry shows they all had wives ;
He built an ark to save their lives.

[v]

Well, on a day they all went in,
To 'scape the' deluge caused by sin :
He put on board, his sons and wife,
With pairs of all things having life.
He was shut in, now understand
By the Almighty's own right hand.
The way it rained was perfect sights,
Continuing forty days and nights :
The water rose in truth or lie
Till it was more than five miles high ;
It was the greatest freshet known,
In this or any other zone.
After long weeks the ark did rest,
On top of Arrarat's tall crest.
The hist'ry of this early age,
Is quite obscure on every page.
For the first time said by the Jews ;
The rainbow shed prismatic hues.
One thing, all temp'rance men deplore,
Occurred, in the long life of Noah ;
He sowed, he planted tree and vine,
And from his grapes, he made strong wine ;
One day we learn that his nude trunk,
Was seen by Ham—Noah was drunk.
From this brief hist'ry we infer,
'Tis human for mankind to err :
And from this rule, none need attempt,
Even a preacher, to exempt.