

**THE GYPSIES: THEIR ORIGIN,
CONTINUANCE, AND
DESTINATION, AS CLEARLY
FORETOLD IN THE PROPHECIES OF
ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, AND EZEKIEL**

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The Gypsies: Their Origin, Continuance, and Destination, as Clearly Foretold in the Prophecies of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel by Samuel Roberts

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SAMUEL ROBERTS

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R. G.

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BY SAMUEL ROBERTS.

“The Prophecies came not by the will of man, but holy men of old spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”—
 2 PETER i., 21.
 “Shut up the words and seal the Book even unto the end.”
 —DAN. 12 c., 4 v.

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
Preface.....	v
Introduction.....	ix
Ancient Egyptians.....	1
The Gypsies.....	15
Modern Egypt.....	85
English Gypsies.....	51
The Jews; their dispersion and restoration.....	125
The Jews; as connected with the Gypsies.....	141
Conclusion.....	149
Supplement.....	173
Appendix.....	185

London

PREFACE.

“ O for a Lodge in the vast wilderness,
Some boundless contiguity of shade,
Where rumours of oppression and deceit,
Of unsuccessful and successful war,
Might never reach me more! my ear is pain'd,
My soul is sick with every day's report
Of wrong and outrage with which earth is fill'd.”

COWPER.

“ Search the Scriptures”—JOHN v.—39.

THE reader of the following work will please to keep constantly in mind that the principal object in view, is to prove, what I think, no one, when he has read it, will venture to deny—that the *Gypsies* are the descendants of the Ancient Egyptians, decreed, by the fiat of the Almighty, as proclaimed by his three great prophets, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, to be dispersed, for a certain period, in the *wildernesses* and *open fields*, of almost all nations, and to be then gathered to their native land, and taught, under a *Saviour* and a *Great One*, to know the *Lord*. However interesting all else relating to this singular people may be,

it is adventitious in respect to the great and novel truth, which I have undertaken to prove. It is of no importance, as regards that fact, whether the people, while in that dispersed state, are respectable or depraved. If, under such circumstances, they are even moderately orderly, it must be surprising, and can only be accounted for, by its being as miraculous an interference as that which decreed their dispersion, and final restoration. Being ordained to remain an almost proscribed people, an alien race, in every land, a certain degree of orderly conduct was essential to their being at all tolerated. *That*, I believe, they will be found generally to have possessed. But what I wish to impress upon the reader is, that their conduct, whatever it may be proved to be, does not affect the *truth*, which it is my object to establish.

Of the Gypsies, as of all other people, there, of course, will be found both good and bad—much may be said for, and much against them. My own opinion is, that their conduct, on the whole, is so exceedingly superior to whatever could possibly be expected from persons, situated as they have been, during so many ages, that nothing less than Divine controul could have so restrained them. Surely, it could make nothing against the miraculous retention of the Jewish people in

their dispersed state, that their conduct was not altogether such as could be wished; neither does it make any thing against it, that some few of them have joined Christian societies; nor does the forsaking of their wandering life by a few of the Gypsies, disprove the fulfilment of the prophecies concerning them; on the contrary, such few and unimportant exceptions only serve to establish the general ordainment the more strongly.

In conclusion, I have only to request the perusal of the following pages, with a mind as free as possible from prejudice, and with a strong desire to be convinced of the *truth*. If that truth prove to be, what I am endeavouring to establish, it is one of the most surprising, interesting, and important discoveries—as regards Divine ordainments—in the general history of mankind, that has been brought to light during the Christian era.

