

**ESSAYS
ETHNOLOGICAL
AND LINGUISTIC**

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Essays Ethnological and Linguistic by James Kennedy & C. M. Kennedy

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JAMES KENNEDY & C. M. KENNEDY

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LINGUISTIC

BY THE LATE

JAMES KENNEDY Esq., LL.B.

FORMERLY HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S JUDGE AT THE HAVANA.

EDITED BY

C. M. KENNEDY, B.A.



WILLIAMS & NORGATE

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AND

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1861.

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503. e. 236.

P R E F A C E.

The following Papers, most of which were read before the Ethnological Society, were intended to form an introductory volume to two larger works, the one on the origin and character of the Basque language and people, the other relative to the knowledge of America possessed by the Ancients. With the exception of the Essays on the ancient languages of France and Spain, on the lost Tribes of Israel, and the first notice respecting the American Indians, which have already been published, these Papers were not prepared by the author for publication, and this circumstance will explain the repetitions which will occasionally be met with. They have been printed from the original M. S. without alteration, as I considered it more advisable to do so than to make any verbal changes in the text. A further paper would have been written respecting the progress of the Celts through Europe, in which their passage westward was intended to be traced from the names of localities in which the word "gal" in its varying forms occurs, and from the remains of Celtic customs and usages still to be found in Eastern and Central Europe, as well as from linguistic affinities. No Notes however came into my possession from which an abstract could be given of this intended Essay, or of the work on the Basques. I have given a short sketch of what I believe my father intended to have written about America, but as the few pages which he has left con-

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tained only a general introduction, recapitulating what has been already stated in some of the Papers in this volume on the subject of ancient civilization and its origin, and the early chronology of the world, I was unable to make much use of them; nor are they in their present state of sufficient value to be given as a fragment. In writing this sketch I made use of some references and notes which I found, but I must take the whole responsibility of the statements and arguments contained in it.

There were two points which my father intended to put forward, but which I have been unable to bring to any satisfactory issue, and I will therefore simply state them; they were 1st, That Tyrhena was formed from Tyre in the same way that Carthage was formed from Carthage, and showed that there was a Tyrian as well as a Lydian settlement in Etruria; other evidence was to have been brought to bear on this theory. And 2nd, That an affinity can be traced between the former inhabitants of Central America, and the Phœnicians, from the name of the most powerful tribe of the former, the Itzas. The Hebrew names of Sidon and Tyre are Tzidon and Tzor and in the names of other places in Palestine the same combination of Tz occurs. This must almost necessarily have had an initial vowel; arguments would have been employed to show that this was in all probability an I, and names of places on the Mediterranean would have been quoted in support of this view. In Yucatan the most influential tribe was the Itza, and the names of the more important towns were formed with compounds of that word thus Chichen-Itza, Itzamal or Uxmal, Itzal or Sisal &c.; and this circumstance would have been adduced as an additional mark by which to trace the establishments of the Phœnicians beyond the limits of their own country.

With regard to the Essays contained in this Volume, the only point in the Paper on the Ancient Languages of France and Spain which calls for particular attention as being

opposed to generally received opinions is the theory that the Aquitani and the Iberi were the same people, and are now represented by the Gael.

Dr. Vaughan in his "Revolution of English History" expresses views similar to those maintained in the *Essay on the civilization of the ancient Britons*. He denies that the custom of painting the body is necessarily a proof of barbarism. He asserts that the existence of war chariots shows that there must have been good smiths, carpenters and wheelwrights; while the harness required for the horses, and the personal ornaments worn by the people in general, evince the constant exercise of trades incompatible with barbarism. Cæsar describes the buildings in Britain as similar to those of Gaul, and Gaul we know contained cities of considerable strength and beauty: this was a subject in regard to which Cæsar could have been under no misapprehension, though he might easily have been misinformed with respect to details of domestic customs: and in describing the effect of the Roman and Saxon conquests, Dr. Vaughan considers that the language of the Britons has had much more influence on the English language than is generally supposed. This circumstance is pointed out at length with numerous instances in support of it, in the late Mr. Garnett's *Essay on the Languages and Dialects of the British Islands* included in the collection of his *Essays* which forms one of the volumes of this series.

With regard to the question of the nationality of the Etruscans, it would seem to me that the safest, as well as the most philosophical course to pursue, is to consider the evidence afforded by the ancient remains to be found in Etruria, and in Lydia and the adjoining regions. The conclusions, which persons who are qualified to form opinions on the subject deduce from an examination of these antiquities appear to me to be more entitled to our attention than mere abstract reasonings or theories. Sir Charles Fellowes speak-

ing of the remains at Myra (Lycia) says that the custom of colouring the bas-reliefs and the mode of doing it, as well as the similarity of the action of the figures, removed one of the few doubts he still entertained of those people having been connected with the ancient inhabitants of Etruria: (Discoveries in Lycia p. 197) and he further states that "the nearest parallel to the domestic scenes [represented in the Lycian buildings] appears to be in the Etruscan paintings." (p. 252). Mr. Sharpe in the Memorandum appended to that work states that he was much struck with the great resemblance between the Lycoian and the Etruscan letters; that the letters on various coins attributed to Cilicia have a still greater identity with those of Etruria; and further that the circumstance that it may be proved from a comparison of the Alphabets, that the Etruscans derived their character from Asia Minor and not from Greece, goes far to confirm the account given by Herodotus of their Lydian origin. No better authorities than the above can be quoted, and I feel convinced that an examination of the vases &c. brought from both countries which are to be seen in the British Museum can only tend to a similar conclusion.

The design of the Papers on the American Indians is to show that America was peopled from various parts of the Old World, and that the Caribs in particular came from Africa. This opinion is strengthened by an incidental remark by the German traveller Julius Frœbel respecting the similarity between a musical instrument called the *Marimba* which he notices as used in Nicaragua and there said to be of Indian origin, and an instrument of the same name and construction described by Livingstone as used in Angola and the neighbouring districts.

London, July 1861.

C. M. K.

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