

**THE MIGRATION FROM
SHINAR: OR, THE EARLIEST
LINKS BETWEEN THE OLD
AND NEW CONTINENTS**

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The Migration from Shinar: Or, The Earliest Links between the Old and New Continents by
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GEORGE PALMER

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SHINAR: OR, THE EARLIEST
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AND NEW CONTINENTS**

THIS VOLUME

IS

Dedicated

TO

MY VERY DEAR WIFE,

ELLEN,

AND

In affectionate Memory

OF

HER ESTEEMED BROTHER,

JAMES DOUGLAS, ESQ.,

OF CAVERS.



PREFACE.

THE following pages were, for the most part, delivered as lectures to working men in the schoolroom at Cavers, Roxburghshire, but were of necessity stripped of many technicalities that would have been unsuitable.

The migrations of the human race, the laws that regulate the ocean currents, as well as those of the atmosphere, and the unity of the human race, were the chief subjects dwelt upon, together with personal adventures at different places visited during eight years' cruising on the Pacific and Australian stations.

What I have written has been the result of many years' careful study. Mr. Prescott, speaking of the much-vexed question respecting the origin of the American nations, calls it "that *pons asinorum* which has called forth so much sense, and nonsense, on both sides of the water; and will continue to do so, as long as a new relic or unknown hieroglyphic shall turn up, to irritate the nerves of the antiquary."—*Critical and Hist. Essays*, p. 227.

Whether these pages are to be classed under the head of sense or nonsense, I must leave the reader to judge; but in examining the various authors (a list of whom is given), I have endeavoured to collect as many *facts* as possible, hoping thus to arrive at some probable conclusion as to what nation or people of the Old Continent first trod the shores of the New.

In a previous volume, I have shown

young students the necessity of holding fast to the Bible as the revealed word of God ; and in these days of ever-increasing sceptical intellectualism, when human reason is exalted and worshipped, and when the oracles of the Living God are deliberately set aside, it is necessary again and again to put them on their guard.

New theories are always being launched on the troubled sea of speculation, without being brought to the balances of the Sanctuary, where alone they can be measured, weighed, and proved ; and the Proceedings of the British Association, unfortunately, from time to time only give an impetus, like a hydraulic ram, in assisting these wretched craft off the stocks, where they would assuredly have stuck fast, if not thus aided, to the everlasting chagrin of their builders.

The late Dr. Norman Macleod, whom nobody would call narrow-minded, once ad-

vised some of these would-be scientific gentlemen to rewrite the first chapter of Genesis, somewhat after this fashion:—

1. The earth was without form and void.
2. A meteor fell on the earth.
3. The result was fish, flesh, and fowl.
4. From these proceeded the British Association.
5. And the British Association pronounced it all tolerably good.

This is a fair specimen of the condescending manner in which some men write and speak of the word of God.

Bishop Colenso has just published the seventh part of his "Examination of the Pentateuch;" and a more blasphemous and silly work could hardly have been sent forth by even Tom Paine: Voltaire would certainly have treated it with the utmost contempt as unworthy of serious notice.

The true Christian does not allow himself to be carried away by arguments however specious, or theories however plausible, but is content to believe the testimony of Jesus Christ Himself, when He said, "There is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me, for he wrote of me. *But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?*" (John v. 45—47.)

If the following pages shall in any degree cause the student to examine for himself the writings of those learned men who believe in the word of God, and who are as truly scientific as their opponents who write against it, and thus prevent him from abandoning his judgment blindfolded into the hands of sceptics and free-thinkers, I shall be more than satisfied, feeling convinced that no really unprejudiced person,