

# **ANCIENT HISTORY TOLD TO CHILDREN**

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Ancient History Told to Children by M. Lamé Fleury & Susan M. Lane

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**M. LAMÉ FLEURY & SUSAN M. LANE**

# **ANCIENT HISTORY TOLD TO CHILDREN**



# ANCIENT HISTORY

Told to Children.

FROM THE FRENCH OF M. LAMÉ FLEURY.

*ARRANGED WITH NOTES*

FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS AS AN EXERCISE FOR TRANSLATION FROM  
ENGLISH INTO FRENCH,

By SUSAN M. LANE.



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## PREFACE.

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AMONG the many excellent books already published as guides to the pupil wishing for practice in translating English into French, those containing anecdotes, dialogues, and selections from different authors, abound. When some proficiency has been acquired, these are very useful. But one to put into the hands of the beginner seemed yet wanting; and it was to supply this deficiency that the translation of M. Lamé Fleury's excellent little work, "*L'Histoire Ancienne*," was undertaken.

A strict translation of the original text has been avoided, for reasons obvious to every teacher, while the spirit and style have been carefully preserved. It has been freed from idioms as much as possible. The notes, at first profuse, gradually diminish as the pupil learns to rely upon himself. It will at once suggest itself to the thoughtful teacher, that the pupil will soon be able to answer, in French, questions on the subject of the chapter.

It is believed, that the combined advantages of an entertaining and instructive narration, written in a style so simple that the pupil will easily become accustomed to it, with all necessary help afforded in the translation

of difficult passages; the practice in both writing and speaking French; and, finally, the constant acquisition of useful historical knowledge, will commend the book to teachers.

S. M. L.



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# HISTORY OF EGYPT.

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## THE EARLY EGYPTIANS.

### PERIOD UNCERTAIN.

\* THERE is in Africa, on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, a country crossed by a large river. Every year, *in the early days of summer,*<sup>1</sup> this river overflows its banks, and soon entirely covers the fields; then, after a few days of this vast flood it slowly retires, leaving the earth covered with a rich mud, which makes it produce abundant crops. \*

This remarkable river is called the Nile; and the country which it thus waters is Egypt, so often mentioned in sacred history.

\* In the most ancient times of which we have any record,<sup>2</sup> Egypt had only a small number of inhabitants, who were so ignorant that they *claimed to have been created before*<sup>3</sup> all other men, from the mud of the Nile, warmed by the sun. These Egyptians had no idea of agriculture, and, in the most fertile country in the world, they lived upon roots and herbs, the spontaneous productions of the soil. >

\* But a black race, who claimed to be the descendants of Ham, the son of Noah, came from Ethiopia, a neighboring country, also crossed by the Nile. In this country are found gold, ebony, and elephants' tusks, from which ivory is obtained. This new people went down the river, and