

very plainly signifies the majesty of the judicial assemblies, the crown, or circle of the judges. But not knowing what this figure and its intentions were, and finding a relation of sound between that of Chronon and that of Chronos, which among them signifies *time*, they interpreted the whole symbol in that sense. The age of the figure squared with this incomparably well. But what were they to do with the scythe that he carried in his hand? Why he shall use it to cut down everything. Above all, the stones which they made him to devour in Syria, seemed to distinguish him perfectly well. Time consumes everything, and preys upon the very stones. And hence the *origin* of the modern *symbol of time*.

The sun being the grandest object in nature and in the symbolical writings of the ancient Egyptians often expressed by an *eye* from which they afterwards contracted a habit of adoring that luminary as God, as the author of all good and thus this symbol finally became that of God himself being called *the all-seeing eye*.

We have also been informed that the ancient Egyptians represented the symbol of harvest by an Isis, holding in her left hand a large goat's horn with *ears of corn*, vegetables and fruits and in her right a sickle; and that Isis, being frequently observed with a crescent or full moon as a head dress, has been mistaken for an emblem of the *moon*, which mistake in fact still is frequently found in books on Mythology.

The *ears of corn* allude metaphorically to the husbandman's reward which he receives in the produce of his labor, and have therefore with some propriety been construed to signify *plenty*, though the proper definition of the word *Shibboleth* is: *the reddening ear of wheat*. The enigma, why the representative of the moon should have the ears of corn as an emblem of his office and perform the duties of a paymaster, may be explained from the foregoing statement.

INITIATION INTO THE EGYPTIAN MYSTERIES.

The first condition upon which any person was admitted to the mysteries was that he was a freeman and possessed of a sound body, no slave nor any person who had a bodily defect could be admitted.

The neophyte after having been prepared for the solemn rite, by having passed through various ordeals of abstinence, fasting, prayer and penitence, was conducted by an initiate in disguise, on a long and painful pilgrimage through many dark and circuitous passages, into the sacred enclosure, and brought before Osiris, the representative of the divinity, who held in his hand the *flagellum* or *crook*, the emblem of justice and benevolence. The neophyte was then severely questioned and all the acts of his life scrutinized with the severest exactitude, to ascertain if he were worthy to be allowed to be passed on to the higher and more important mysteries.

After passing the dreaded Osiris, still guided by an initiate disguised, under the mask of a dog's head (the Anubis) he threaded his way