

story in the Bible of, when the people were increasing, Pharaoh said, "Go make your tale of bricks, and I give you no straw;" and how they had to go up and down the fields and get the stubble and get the rushes and get whatever they could to try and keep the bricks together, and when that was exhausted they had to make bricks without them. Marvellous it is that God should be burying these cities and opening them up now as we stand in need of them. Then it is said there is no mention of the Children of Israel in Egypt; but the last story about that is that they find a tablet with the very word "Israel" there. And then they say, "Your Bible is wrong, because in the fifty-second chapter of Isaiah it is stated, 'My people have gone down into Egypt and the Assyrian has oppressed them.' "The Assyrian was not in Egypt; the Assyrian could not have oppressed them." Yet they have now got the face of that king of the oppression, and they say it is perfectly clear from his lineaments that he was not an Egyptian; it is the Assyrian mould, and now they are beginning to enter into that history to show that the Assyrians had come and the Assyrians had ruled, and instead of it being an Egyptian that was upon the throne at the time of the oppression it was really an Assyrian, and so that God's Word is true when it says, "My people went down into Egypt, the Assyrian has oppressed them." Then only one further glance for a moment from the Old Testament to the New. You remember how they attacked that statement of St. Luke in the Acts that this ruler was a proconsul. They said, "Your Bible, as usual, is wrong. At this time the Island of Cyprus was under the rule of the Emperor," and I dare say most of you Sunday-school teachers know that there was this difference in the ruler. The ruler that was under the Emperor was a procurator, and he had the power of life and of death; and as the country was not in a settled state he had far larger power than the proconsul; but when the Island, or when the Province, or when the city became well controlled, then the Emperor used to hand that place over to the senate, and the senate appointed a procounsel. They said, "Your Bible, as usual, is wrong." This place was under the control of the Emperor, and the governor must therefore have been a procurator, and not a proconsul; but they have turned up coins that God has kept there with the fact upon them, that at this time the person was a proconsul; and they have got on the slabs there the fact that he was a proconsul; and