

reminiscence of the Aztec civilization from the earth. He told of their histories, their literature, their medical science, their astronomical knowledge, and then related with pride and pleasure the joy he felt in seeing all their sacred books of knowledge placed in a huge bonfire and destroyed beyond all hope of resurrection.

Since then centuries have come and gone, and archæologists have been able to gather here and there small threads in the chain of evidence as to the nature of these civilizations. But the calendars of the Aztecs and the Mayas disclose even a greater knowledge of astronomy than Cæsar possessed when he ordained the Julian calendar, with the aid of the Alexandrian scholars, and greater than was at the disposal of Pope Gregory when he revised it. But certain it is that the ruins of Mitla, of Palenque, of Quiragua, of Yucatan, of Casa Grande, and of the Incas, tell of races which in their day could match their best contemporaries of Asia, Europe, and Africa.

That the emigrants who laid the foundations of these civilizations came from across the seas seems certain. We see the Toltecs migrating across the barren plains which stretch almost from the Rio Grande to the vale of Anhuac. Then they disappear, legend says through the