

The neighbours tore one of the pieces to atoms; the writing on the three remaining pieces were from Exodus, Chapter xiii, verse 11 to 16, inclusive, and Deuteronomy, Chapter vi, from 4 to 9 verse, inclusive, and also Chapter xi, verse 13 to 21 inclusive, to which the reader can refer. These passages unquestionably had been written on these pieces of parchment, before Israel left the land of Syria, more than twenty-five hundred years ago. It is said by Calmet that the above texts are the very passages of Scripture which the Jews used to write on the leaves of their Phylacteries. This intimation of the presence of the Hebrews in America, is too unequivocal to be passed unnoticed.

5. On the bank of the River Desperes, in Missouri, was found by an Indian, and presented to Governor Clarke, a Roman coin; and many enclosures, similar to the Roman camps described by Josephus, may yet be seen in the Valley of the Mississippi. He represents these camps as being four square by measure, adorned with Towers at equal distances, with gates or places of entrance on every side. At Marietta, in Ohio, may yet be seen the remains of one of these camps, with its elevated squares at each corner, more than one hundred feet square, and nine feet high, and various other earthworks, similar in construction, may be seen north to the lakes, and west to the Mississippi, west of which the Romans may never have held empire.

6. A farmer of Monte Video, in Brazil, in 1827, in one of his fields discovered a flat stone, upon which, to him, strange and unknown characters were engraved, and beneath the stone he discovered a vault formed by masonry, in which were deposited two ancient swords, a helmet, and shield. This Planter caused the flat stone and deposit to be removed to Monte Video, where in spite of the ravages of more than two thousand years, Greek words were easily made out, which being translated, read as follows:—"During the dominion of Alexander, son of Philip, King of Macedon, in the sixty-third Olympiad, Ptolemæis." On account of the ravages of time it was impossible to decipher the rest; but on the handle of one of the swords was the supposed portrait of Alexander himself. On the helmet there was the sculptured work, representing Achilles dragging Hector around the walls of Troy. The Ptolemæis or Ptolemy may refer to one of Alexander's Generals, sometimes called Ptolemy Lagus or Soter. From this discovery it is evident

that the soil of Brazil was formerly broken by an Egyptian more than a thousand years before the discovery by Columbus.

7. On the rocks of Dighton, in Massachusetts, near the sea, have been discovered Phœnician letters, legibly engraved, a strong evidence of the presence of Phœnicians, or their descendants on this Continent. The Phœnicians once held dominion on the Island of Malta in the Mediterranean, and were in the habit of depositing their dead in caves. Near the junction of the Illinois river with the Mississippi, one of those Phœnician depositories was discovered some years since, it contained the remains of thousands.

8. The hypothesis of the discovery of the American Continent by the Phœnicians has of late received additional support. Glass beads of accepted Phœnician manufacture have been found in an ancient estuary of the Copperage at Beverly in Canada.

9. Lexington, Kentucky, stands nearly on the remains of an ancient town, which was of great extent and magnificence, as is amply evident by the wide range of circumvallatory works, and the quantity of ground it once occupied. Connected with the antiquities of this place there was a Catacomb, formed in the limestone rock, about fifteen feet below the surface of the earth; it was discovered in 1775, by some of the first settlers, whose curiosity was excited by something remarkable in the arrangement of the stones that filled the entrance to the cave; they removed them, and on entering found themselves in a spacious apartment; the sides and extreme end were formed into niches and compartments, occupied by mummies, preserved by the arts of embalming, to as great a state of perfection as was known among the ancient Egyptians, eighteen hundred years before the Christian era, in the days of Abraham, when this art was in its perfection. Catacombs are numerous all over Egypt, vast excavations under ground, with niches in their sides for their embalmed dead, exactly such as the one here described; a custom so peculiarly characteristic of that people being found here in a state of perfection, not exceeded by the mother country, most evidently leads to the conclusion, that a colony from Egypt, inhabited that region of country.

Traits of Egyptian manners were found among many of the nations of South America, and other tokens of the presence of Egyptians are not wanting in North Amer-