

the great Phœnician stock, according to Dr. Movers,¹¹¹ is the nation of the Philistines, and of them I cannot forbear quoting Hitzig's decided language, "Ich habe gefunden: die Philistäer sind keine Semiten, sondern pelagischen Stammes; und ihre Sprache war deren spärliche Ueberreste, meist Eigennamen, darthun, mit dem Sanskrit und dem Griechischen verwandt."¹¹² It is not a little remarkable that the first state we hear of after the destruction of the cities of the plain is that of Abimelech, king of the Philistines of Gerar, who bordered closely upon the Amalekites.¹¹³ These Philistines, who are shown from the names Phicol, Ahuzzath, Gerar, etc., to have been of the Indo-European or Japhetic family, like the Phœnician pastors of Egypt,¹¹⁴ were in a favourable position for invading that country, as the Arabian tradition charges them with doing,¹¹⁵ being situated just midway between the old home on the Jordan, whence earthquake and flood expelled them, and the coveted wealth of the Nile valley. A striking coincidence appears in the earliest history of Persia, which has links to bind it with that of almost every other people, and especially with the histories of Egypt, India, Chaldea and Arabia. The first Iranian king, after the great destruction of mankind, which came upon them on account of their wickedness, was Gilshah or Kaiomers, whom the Arabs call Ubul-Muluk, or the Father of Kings.¹¹⁶ His grandson Houcheng, or Pischdad, connects by the first name with the Indian Viechnou, and by the second, removing the mere prefix of the Coptic article (Pi), with the Arab Shedad, which is identical with the Welsh Seithwedd, the Indian Soutadanna, the Egyptian (Fo)stat, the Philistine Ashdod, and the Athenian Astu or Fastu.^{116*} The legend connected with this name is invariably that of a flood. The son of Houcheng, again, is Tahmouras, who is thoroughly identified with Demarous, or Demaroon, of Phœnicia, and Demophon of the Greek story.¹¹⁷ This latter

¹¹¹ Movers die Phœnizier, i., p. 1, &c.

¹¹² "I have found it: the Philistines are no Semites, but of a Pelagian stock, and their language, as the slender remains, mostly of proper names, prove, was related to the Sanskrit and the Greek."

¹¹³ Genesis, xx., xxvi.

¹¹⁴ Hitzig, die Philistäer, 77, 119, 294, &c.

¹¹⁵ Ritter, Comp. Geog. of Pal., iii., 269. Sale's Koran (Preliminary Discourse, Section 1).

¹¹⁶ Russell's Connection, ii., 28, 31.

^{116*} Diod. Sic. i., 16.

¹¹⁷ This connection appears in Dewbund (demon destroyer), a name of Tahmouras. Demophon is a word like Bellerophon. Movers (die Phœnizier, 661, &c.) connects Demarous (Demaroon) with the river Damouras or Tamyras, in Phœnicia, and thus with Tamyras of Cyprus. Tahmouras, like Tamyras, is the sun. As Demarous is the father of Melcartus, so Tahmouros is father of Djemschid. As Demaroon is adopted son of Dagon, so is Tahmouras the