

of Abraham, passed much beyond the bounds of the Tigris and Euphrates until many centuries after the dispersion. But the tribes that in Abraham's time dwelt in Palestine to the east of the Jordan, including the Rephaim, Zuzim, Emin, Horim, Avim, etc.,¹ were the major part of the great Japhetic wave, that, following close upon the footsteps of the sons of Ham, soon engulfed, equally in Palestine, Arabia and Egypt, these heirs of the curse, and either drove them to more remote settlements or made them, from the beginning, a race of servants. Neither in Arabia, nor in Palestine, nor in Egypt, have we any record of Hamitic supremacy, or even of local rule and authority. Menes, the first Egyptian ruler, with all the solar line of Seb and Ra with which he connects, was a Japhetic Horite.² To the same distinguished family, Hamor and his son Shechem in the time of Jacob³, and Aholibamah, the wife of Esau, belonged.⁴ The Philistines, who dwelt in Gerar when Abraham sojourned there, have been proved beyond all doubt by Hitzig and myself to be a Japhetic tribe.⁵ I have also shewn their affinity with the Cherethites or Cretans of the sea-coast,⁶ and with the so-called Hittites, over whom Ephron, the son of Zohar, exercised authority in Hebron.⁷ Undisguisable traces of Aner, Eshcol and Mamre, the Amorites, may be found by any one with sufficient knowledge who cares to look for them in the geography and traditions of Sicily and Southern Italy.⁸ Palestine was the centre of a more important seat of empire, if scattered and somewhat disconnected principalities may be called an empire, than that of Babel, inasmuch as in it first the tribes of Japheth commenced to assume national names, divinities, and distinguishing characteristics, in connection with which alone history can begin to exist. It would be vain, however, to attempt the task of reconstructing the early history of the world, scattered as it must be over the traditions of these various nationalities, were it not that,

¹ Gen. xiv.; Deut. ii.

² The Horites, Canadian Journal, May, 1873.

³ Gen. xxxiii. 18, xxxiv. 2 They are called Hivites, but this name is synonymous with Horite; Gen. xxxvi. 2, compare verse 25 The presence of the geographical name Ebal, in the region of Shechem, seems to indicate descent from the third son of Shobal.

⁴ *Vide supra*, Gen. xxxvi. 2, *seq.*

⁵ Hitzig, die Philistaer. The Shepherd Kings of Egypt, Canadian Journal, Vol. xiv. Nos. 2 and 3, April and August, 1874.

⁶ Shepherd Kings, Canadian Journal, Vol. xiv., No. 2, p. 199.

⁷ *Ib.* 163.

⁸ The very name Sicilæ is derived from Eshcol. Ziklag and Zancle agree in Etymology. The Mamertines derive their name from Mamers the Oscan god, who is Mamre.