

should be established by the fact that the men who handed it down were the contemporaries in Egypt and in Thebez itself of those whose names it commemorates, then it follows of necessity that this Theban dynasty is that in which Jabez occurs. In order, therefore, to restore the history of Jabez to the world, all the glories of the reign of Moeris must be added to those of Pepi Merira and the obscure notices of Apophis. As we have seen, many modern writers place Joseph under a Pharaoh of this dynasty, feeling compelled to do so by the coincidence of the reforms introduced by the Hebrew viceroy, as these are recorded in Genesis, with those attributed to the Osirtesens and Amenemhes. The most ancient monument that marks the site of On or Heliopolis, the city whence came Joseph's wife, is that of Osirtesen I.

The materials at my disposal are not such as to enable me to give the Pharaohs of the twelfth dynasty their individual places in the scheme of Chronicles. The present system of chronicling the monarchs of Egypt by their dynastic titles is as absurd and useless as it would be to call the English John, Plantagenet III., and Elizabeth, Tudor v. The Pharaohs had simple names like other people, and these names, such as Cheops, Schafra, Pepi, are the only ones by which they can be identified in other records. For they do survive in other records, not only in that contained in the book of Chronicles, nor in those which Sanscrit and Persian, Greek and Latin authors have written, but also in the oral tradition of far-off peoples in whose ears the name of Egypt has never been breathed. And one great mission of the long-neglected chapters with which this paper has been occupied is to reduce to system and unity all these old legends of the world's second infancy, and prove that God has made of one blood all nations of men.

It was no part of my scheme to reduce the alleged antiquity of the Egyptian annals and place the patriarch Abraham not many generations later than their commencement. I had no theory to work out, no preconceived notion to prove true. The study of Chronicles led me, whether I would or not, into Egypt, astonishing me more, perhaps, than any of my readers may be astonished with the new revelation the book unfolded, when read in the light of the ancient glories of that historic land. Nor did it diminish these glories to find that Abraham