

Tezucuo.

Translations in the English and Spanish languages have been made of ancient manuscripts found in Mexico by the Spaniards at the time of the conquest of that country—one especially contains the advice of an Aztec mother to her daughter on the occasion of her marriage—inculcating the precepts of monogamy; conjugal fidelity, the idea of a Supreme Being to whom we are responsible, and who sees all our actions. This document also contained an admonishment to the bride to persevere in the practice of those graces and virtues which had adorned her ancestors—advice in fact altogether equal to what might be expected of a Christian mother of the present day.

The Abbe Brasseur De Bourbourg shews that the symbols of phallic worship were described by Spanish writers at the time of the conquest. That they were prevalent in the countries of Central America, abounding in *Colhuacan*, a city on the Gulf of California and at Panuco, (the former was at one time a flourishing city and the capital of an important kingdom);—here Phallic institutions had existed from *time immemorial*. In the temples at Panuco, phallic symbols abounded, and also on the public monuments. These with the serpent devices, the sun worship, the remarkable knowledge of astronomy accompanying them, shews a system of religion of which, the Abbe says: "Asia appears to have been its cradle as also that of the social institutions which it consecrated."

The traditions of the inhabitants of Mexico and Central America are very explicit, they uniformly assert that the ancient American civilization came originally from the East "across the ocean."

The Abbe de Bourbourg speaking of the earliest civilization of the inhabitants of these countries says: the native traditions generally attribute it to "bearded white men, who came across the ocean from the east." The history of Sahagun also states that according to the traditions of the people of Yucatan "the original civilizers came in ships from the east." Montezumo related a similar tradition to the Spaniards. There were in Central America three classes of ancient inhabitants, first the Chichimecs, who seem to have been the uncivilized aborigines of the country: The Colhuas, who were the first civilizers, and who were "the bearded whitemen" who came in the earliest times across the Atlantic, and who built Palenque and other cities, originated the oldest and finest monuments of the ancient civilization, and established the great kingdom of Xibalba celebrated in tradition and history; it comprised Guatamala, Chiapas, Yucatan, and probably other countries.

The third class of inhabitants mentioned, were the Toltecs, a powerful race, (whom Humboldt believed derived their origin from

the Huns,) who came much later as peaceable immigrants, but uniting with the uncivilized Chichimecs caused a civil war and gained the ascendancy over the land, *Desiri Charnay*, speaking of the ruins of the ancient city of Mitla, points out that the most ancient architecture, paintings, mosaics and artistic designs are in the the highest style, shewing marvellous workmanship, while the later additions are in a much lower style and seem to be the work of a people less advanced in culture and skill than the original founders of the city.

The finest and most remarkable monuments found in these countries are believed to be remains of the ancient kingdom of Xibalba. Other traditions point to an existing acquaintance with the country among the Malays and Chinese. The Abbe De Bourbourg relates that there was a constant tradition among the people who dwelt on the Pacific ocean, that people from distant countries across the Pacific, formerly came to trade at the ports of Coatlco and Pechugui which belonged to the kingdom of Tehautepec.

Again, the traditions of Peru tell of people who came to that country, by sea and landed on the Pacific coast, probably the Malays of the great Malayan maritime empire that flourished in ancient days.

If we now turn to the ancient writings, traditions, and mythology of the old world we will find much that points directly to an acquaintance with the "Atlantic or continent beyond the sea," which either refers to America or is utterly meaningless, which latter opinion is not entertained by any antiquarians of the present day.

In ancient mythology there is reference to "a great continent beyond the *Cronian* sea, meaning the Atlantic. And it was in the *Atlantids* of Homer and Horace, 'beyond the 'western waters' that the ancient poets placed their "Elysian fields."

Theopompus, a learned historian and celebrated orator, who lived in the days of Alexander the Great, relates in his book entitled *Thaumasia*, a very ancient dialogue which took place between Midas, king of Phrygia, and Silenus, in which the latter is made to say "there is a continent beyond the sea, the dimensions of which are immense, almost without limit, greater than Asia, Europe and Lybia (Africa) together; and so fertile that animals of prodigious size, are to be seen there; as likewise a race of men, calling themselves Meropes, whose statue is much greater than ordinary men, and who attain to an extreme old age; that a great many large towns and cities were to be found in that continent, one of which contained above a million of inhabitants; and having different laws and customs from those of the people of Asia, Africa and Europe; and finally, that gold and silver were found very common over a" the surface of that vast country.