

are said to have procured the famous Tyrian dye, used in coloring the royal robes of kings. This shell is known to have been highly esteemed by the Hindoos, and is used by the Brahmins as the musical instrument of their gods; what better evidence is necessary to prove at some unknown period of time the existence of a Hindoo population in this country?

Joseph Merrick, Esq., in 1815, was levelling some ground on Indian Hill, after having conveyed away earth, &c., to some depth, he discovered a black strap, about six inches long, and one and a half broad, about the thickness of a harness trace, having at each end a loop; he cut it open and found four pieces of parchment of a dark yellow hue, having on them quotations from the old Testament written with a pen in Hebrew, plain and legible. 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.

On the bank of the River Desperes, in Missouri,