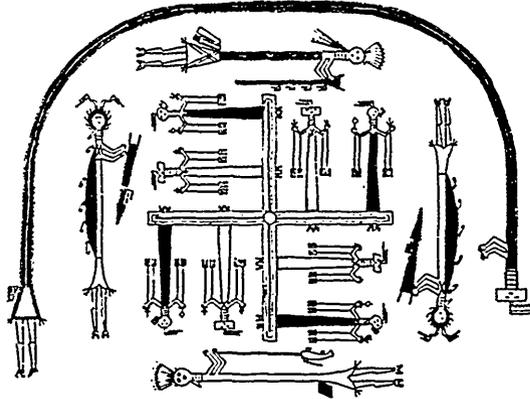


found by M. le Plongeon among the Maya ruins. The learned explorer seems inclined to look upon the Mayas of Yucatan as the earliest human race, misled perhaps by some of the traditions pointing to the primeval Americas as the cradle of humanity. In a note in the second volume of the *Secret Doctrine*, H. P. B. says that "Although certainly coeval with Plato's Atlantis, the Mayas belonged to the Fifth Continent, which was preceded by Atlantis and Lemuria."

As supplementing M. le Plongeon's account one may turn to an article by the Rev. Stephen D. Peet in *The American Antiquarian* for last March, and gather a few interesting facts about some others of the early American races and their descendants. The Navajos are among the most interesting of these, and their rock inscriptions and sand paintings exhibit the same symbolism as we are familiar with from Eastern sources. The execution of these is much ruder and the designs more primitive, but the intention is evident. We reproduce with acknowledgments to the *Antiquarian* a form of the Swastica, with its suggestions of the "eight persons" of our arks, the four "lives," the world serpent, and other matters. Further north the Ojibwas speak of the "four degrees of the sacred mysteries." These were guarded by certain malignant spirits . . . who opposed the passage of a candidate into the sacred lodge where he would receive the gift of immortality. . . . When he has passed into the second degree he receives from Dzhe Manido eyes to look into futurity; ears that can hear at a great distance; hands that can touch those that are remote; feet which can traverse all space. When he has

passed to the fourth degree he is in a position to accomplish the greatest feats in magic, and can read the thoughts and intents of others. His path is beset with dangers and points to which he may deviate from the true course of propriety."

The increasing mass of evidence with regard to the immense antiquity of humanity on continental regions preceding our present land tracts, this particular period of over eleven thousand years now marking an admittedly historical epoch; the unanimity of the ancient and modern re-



EMBLEMIZED SWASTICA OF THE NAVAJOS.

ords on the subject of the mysteries, the "mysteries of the kingdom" of the New Testament, the sacred wisdom and magic of the ancients; the universal testimony of men in all ages to the reality of other phases of being and consciousness than that which we consider normal, the attainment to these higher conditions being always spoken of as the initiation, the perfecting, the *teleiosis*; these things demand the attention of those who profess to lead religious thought, and if they will not hearken, the people will as surely cease to hear in their turn. Medieval theology must vanish before such a fact as this of Atlantis with its crowded populations of a hundred and twenty centuries ago, while the true knowledge of the Father of Lights must spread and increase as the waters cover the sea.

No sudden heaven nor sudden hell for man,
But through the Will of One who knows and
rules—
And utter knowledge is but utter love—
Aeonian Evolution, swift or slow,
Through all the spheres—an ever-opening
height,
An ever-lessening earth.

—Lord Tennyson.