

Egyptians have also exercised a strong intellectual influence upon the world. The progress made by them in some of the sciences—especially in geometry and astronomy—was appreciated by later nations, and formed a basis for further scientific achievements. We may, therefore, look upon Egypt as one of the sources of modern thought and culture.

SYNOPSIS FOR REVIEW

- I. THE EARLY BABYLONIAN EMPIRE.—Meaning of History.—The First Centres of Civilization.—The Tigris-Euphrates Valley.—The Early City States; Sargon I.—Hammurabi and the Old Babylonian Empire.—Babylonian Civilization.
- II. ANCIENT EGYPT.—The Valley of the Nile.—Periods of Egyptian History.—Egyptian Society and Government.—Egyptian Civilization.—The Influence of Egypt.

CHAPTER II

PHœNICIA AND JUDEA

I. PHœNICIA AND ANCIENT COMMERCE

Phœnicia and its People.—On the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea was a land which, as we have seen, was the meeting ground of the Babylonians and the Egyptians. For the want of any other common name we call this land Syria. The most important peoples living here were the Phœnicians and the Hebrews, both of whom belonged to the Semitic race. Of these the first to reach an important position in the Oriental world were the Phœnicians. Their home was a narrow strip of territory bordering on the shores of the sea, about one hundred and fifty miles long and from ten to fifteen miles in width, and shut off from the interior of the country by the range of the Leb'anon Mountains. This country, having been conquered in succession by Babylonia and Egypt, became the common heir of these two older civilizations. For example, the religion of the