

attention. Sometimes there was a persecution when thriving industries were threatened or when a scapegoat was needed, but on the whole the religion progressed unnoticed through the underworld, a great part of which was on fire with a fervid zeal before the upper classes had any inkling of what was going on. When the ruling aristocracy did find it out, they sought to extirpate the superstition as dangerous to the existing order, but by then the number of believers had become too great to be so overwhelmed. At length a military leader saw in the new religion a powerful weapon to further his ambition, and by setting up as its champion won his way to the empire of the world. At once the politicians flocked to the faith militant just as they had scorned the faith submissive, and by their influence the "pernicious superstition" of the first century, not without great absorption of pagan ideas and pagan ceremonies, became the Roman Church Triumphant of the fourth, which has endured the storms of all succeeding ages.

A NEW HISTORY OF THE EARLY WORLD.

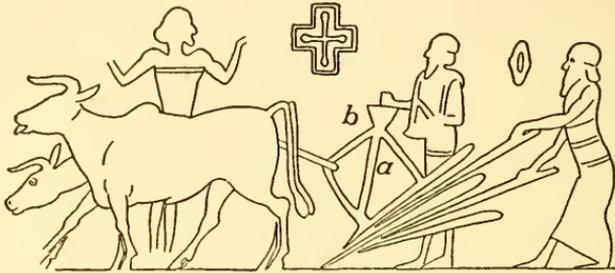
BY THE EDITOR.

ONE book has been needed for a long time more than any other by teachers and professors of general history as well as by the reading public for their general information, and a recent work from the pen of Prof. James H. Breasted of the University of Chicago entitled *Ancient Times, a History of the Early World*¹ fills the demand admirably. It not only accomplishes the task with the authority of a writer well equipped for the work by his historical and philological education, but the subject is presented with the skill of a fascinating narrator who holds the reader's attention in showing the growth of man's intellectuality from crude beginnings through the development of the earliest civilization down to the establishment of the Christian church.

In the last half century our historical outlook has been considerably widened. Formerly our history lessons in school began with Greece, and ancient history consisted mainly of a tale of Rome's development. Egypt was known only as the mysterious land of pyramids, and to Babylon there were some interesting references in Herodotus and the Bible. Since then expeditions have been sent

¹ Published by Ginn and Co. of Boston. Pp. xx. 742; 8 colored plates and numerous maps and illustrations. Price, \$1.60.

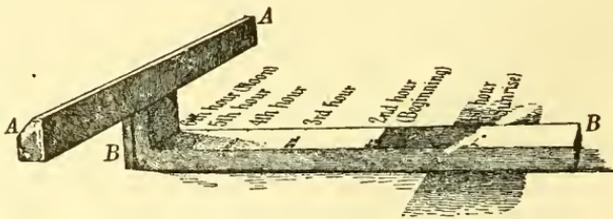
to the Orient, to the banks of the Nile and to Mesopotamia, and great treasures of information have been unearthed. By good luck and with ingenious skill the old long-forgotten languages were deciphered, the hieroglyphs by Champollion and the cuneiform script by Grotefend, and so we groped our way into unknown periods of history from which Greece and Rome are comparatively modern developments. We know now that the history of Rome is an



ANCIENT BABYLONIAN SEEDER.

orientalization of the west in social, political and religious conditions.

We have thus become familiar with some of the results of the new sciences which have so recently arisen under our eyes; we know their importance and many of us have also familiarized ourselves with some translations of the Babylonian creation story, or the old epic of the deluge, etc. But a coherent account of this part of man's development did not as yet exist in a comprehensive form so as to



AN EGYPTIAN SHADOW CLOCK.

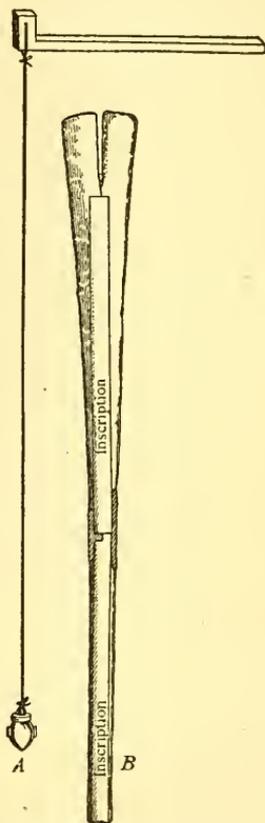
fill the gap of this most important chapter of ancient history without which the story of Greece and Rome can really not be fully understood. This is the task which Professor Breasted has set himself and he has accomplished it well. Eduard Meyer, the noted historian of Berlin, has covered the same ground in his new edition of the *Geschichte des Alterthums*, but the work is voluminous and practically inaccessible to the average English reader, while here we

have in small compass a pretty concise outline of the development of man from the times of savagery to the rise of Christianity.

There is one peculiarity about the ancient times of Babylon which strikes one as strange. It would seem to us that information of a period so far back would be more uncertain than our knowledge concerning the later Greece and Rome, but just the reverse is true; for on tablets of baked clay we have before us the very originals of our historical informations while the history of Greece and Rome is extant only in manuscripts copied and recopied in corrupt and sometimes even falsified and interpolated editions. In Babylon, we have the text as it was written in ancient days, and so we have the very documents themselves on which our knowledge is based written by contemporaneous scribes.

The famous lawbook of Hammurabi is preserved in its original shape, and we have innumerable letters of business firms containing orders and various transactions in detail, so as plainly to indicate the methods of great concerns in attending to their business and showing the state of civilization in which the people lived in that age. Similar direct reports concerning Roman or Greek antiquity are very rare, in fact hardly exist at all.

Professor Breasted's book, however, is not limited to the history of Egypt and Babylon, but it is enlarged by an elaborate study of anthropology, furnishing us with the main facts of prehistoric times before written documents originated either in Egypt or in Babylon. Thus the work is complete in adding the recent results of archeology to this primitive period of history, but it is helpful also for readers who wish to gain a general view of the facts of ancient history, such for instance as Babylonian art which, especially in its reliefs, is as perfect as Greek art later on; and the collection of illustrations is very useful in helping us to understand the significance of ancient art and history.



THE OLDEST ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENT.

Now in the Berlin Museum.

The book is a textbook meant to be within the range of high-school children. Indeed the subject matter is set forth in a very clear and lucid way, always illustrated by pictures and diagrams, and we are struck impressively with the modern character of ancient civilization at its very beginnings. The arts are developed and agriculture is carried on with machinery almost as in modern times. On page 108 we have the illustration of a seeding plough. The divinity that rules over the tilling of the ground appears above in the shape of a cross.

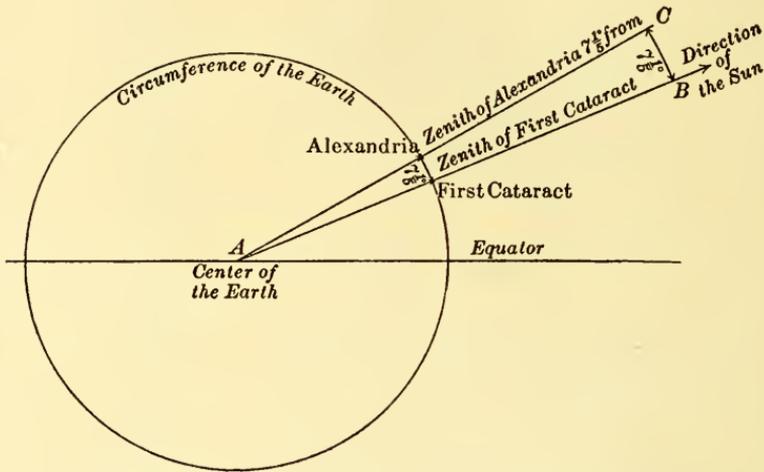


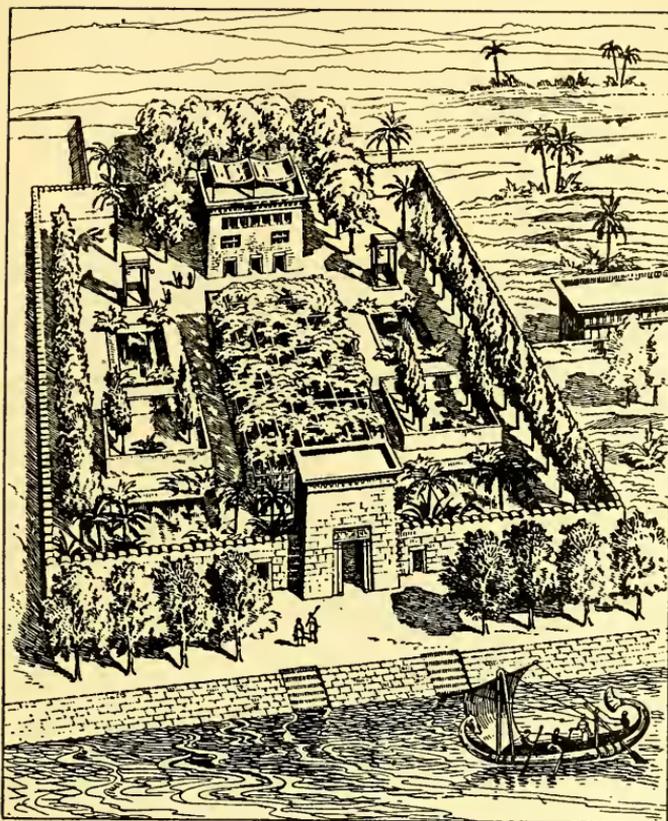
DIAGRAM SHOWING ERATOSTHENES'S METHOD.

The oldest clock in the world of which we have any knowledge is preserved in the Berlin Museum and is reproduced on page 91. It differs somewhat from modern sun dials, but was nevertheless serviceable in Egypt and showed the progress of time very nicely.

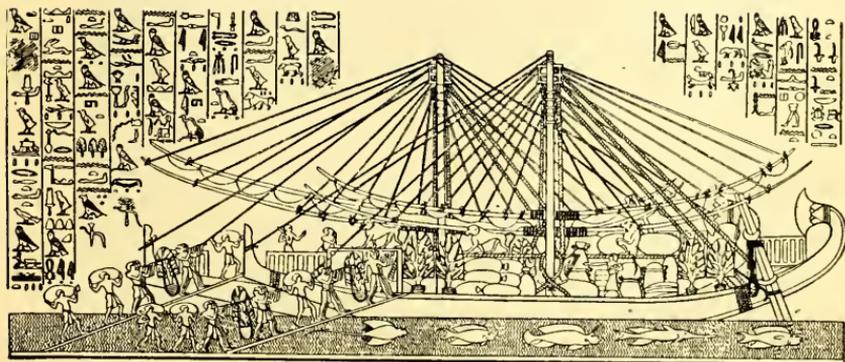
On page 78 we see a primitive instrument for measuring the azimuth of stars, and in later days the Egyptian-Greek astronomer Eratosthenes was one of the first who suspected the earth to be a sphere. He measured its size pretty approximately by a method which Professor Breasted shows on page 470 in a diagram representing the argument of the Greco-Egyptian astronomer very plainly.

We receive an insight into the life of ancient Egypt in a restoration of the house of a nobleman (page 69) which shows the usual entrance in the shape of an Egyptian pylon, the garden and in the background the residence of the owner.

It is well known that one of the greatest rulers of Egypt was



THE VILLA OF AN EGYPTIAN NOBLE.



QUEEN HATSHEPSUT'S SHIPS LOADING IN THE LAND OF PUNT.

Queen Hatshepsut, an ancient Queen Bess, famous for her expedition to the ancient holy land of Egypt, the land of Punt, and for having two enormous obelisks erected in the temple of Karnak. Professor Breasted reproduces a scene restored from an ancient Egyptian wall illustration showing Queen Hatshepsut's obelisks being transported from the granite quarries at the first cataract down to their place of erection at Thebes in lower Egypt, and we

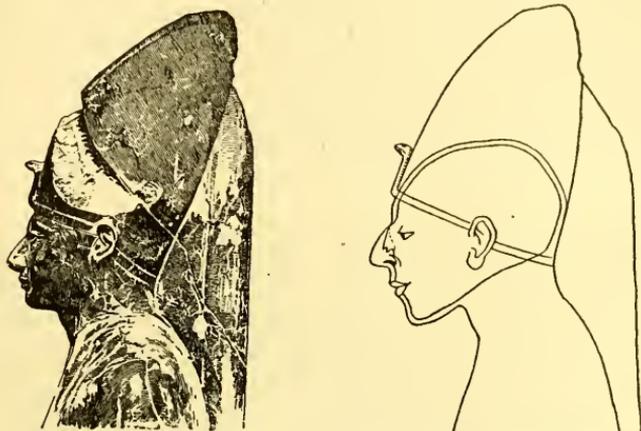


HEAD OF KING IKHNATON.
Found at Amarna.

here repeat another illustration showing the mechanical devices used in loading the queen's fleet in the land of Punt (page 84).

A most beautiful head wrought in limestone is left us and has been recently discovered by Borchardt at Amarna. It is a portrait of the heretic king Ikhнатon (Amenhotep IV) known in Egyptian history as the first monotheist. The beauty of the chiselling reminds us of the best ages of Greek art.

One instance to show how careful the ancient sculptors were in modeling the faces of their subjects is seen on page 85, where the



PORTRAIT OF THUTMOSE III COMPARED WITH HIS MUMMY.

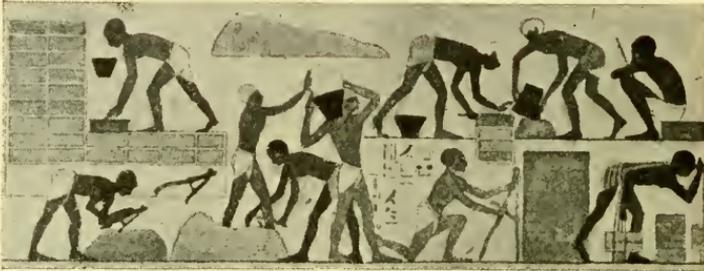


EARLY CRETAN STATUETTE.

mummy of a king may be compared with his statue as worked out from life by the ancient artist.

In later art a lady of Crete, possibly representing a goddess or a priestess or a queen or even a court snake-charmer, is dressed in a closely fitting bodice and flounces—as modern a costume as that of a lady of the nineteenth century in evening dress. The statuette is carved in ivory, and the bands of trimming and the snakes are of gold (facing page 235).

We are naturally interested in the history of Israel, and on this subject too we find plenty of information in Professor Breasted's



ASIATIC CAPTIVES IN AN EGYPTIAN BRICKYARD.
Painting of the 15th century.

book. The Israelites were employed in Egypt as brick makers and we find on page 198 the reproduction of an ancient wall painting where Asiatic captives like the ancient Israelites are seen at work making bricks. The power of Egypt spread over the isles in the sea and over Hither Asia until it finally broke down and the

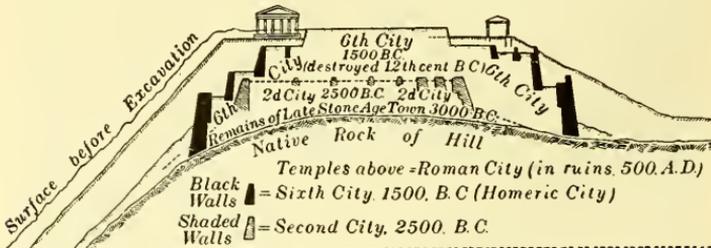
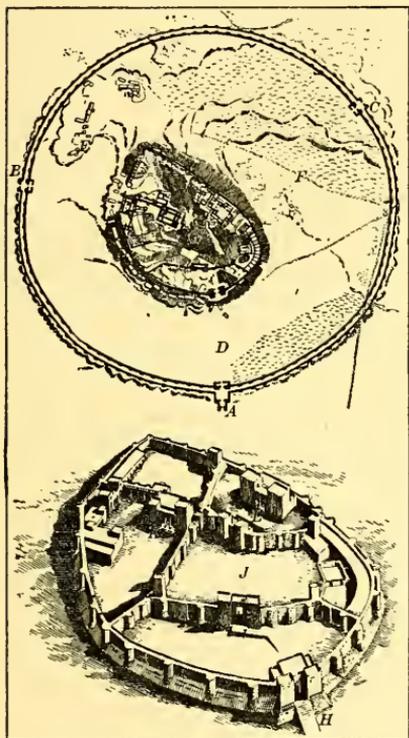


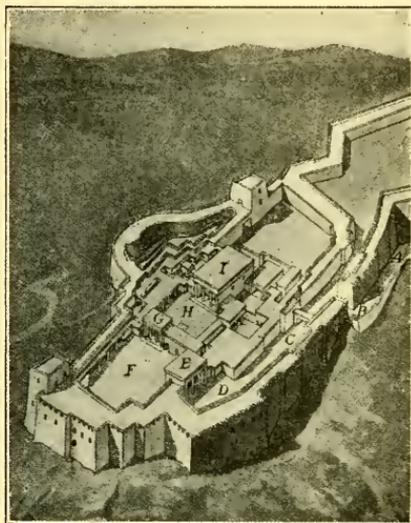
DIAGRAM OF TROY SHOWING THE SECOND AND SIXTH CITIES.

Egyptians ceased to be able to enforce their rule over the countries which they held in subjection. Thus Professor Breasted reproduces a letter of the Egyptian governor of Jerusalem telling of the Hebrews invading and conquering the country (page 204). It characterizes the time of the Judges so well described in the Old Testament. Jerusalem became the capital of the southern Israelitic country Judea and led an independent existence for some time, but the

Babylonians and the Assyrians rose in power. We see on page 211 a Hebrew ambassador sent with gifts and a declaration of submission to the Assyrian king Shalmaneser. This is one of the reliefs from the famous black obelisk of King Shalmaneser, and for an outline picture of the whole and details of its slabs we can refer our readers to an editorial article on "The Semites" which appeared in *The Open Court* of April, 1909. This is only the prelude to more serious contact of Assyria with Judea. We find a bas relief on a



THE ARAMEAN CITY OF
SAMAL.



THE FORTIFIED CASTLE OF
TIRYNS.

black stone of King Sennacherib receiving Hebrew captives of Lachish (page 212).

Many problems are solved and presented in Professor Breasted's book in a very concise and clear way. Who for instance is not interested in the story of Troy in the northwestern part of Asia Minor which arose and fell not once but several times? It flourished and was destroyed again and again. Homer's story of the conquest of Troy shows there to have been a city in that place of a definite character which can be identified in its ruins to-day, but

there were other cities that met a similar fate in the same place. Here in the adjoined illustration we have in a diagrammatic form the results of excavations as known to us now in addition to the first achievements of Schliemann. We see before us the outlines of the second, sixth and ninth cities, the others having been omitted solely in order to render the outlined picture clearer (page 246).

The "tower of the winds" in Athens is well known and the reliefs on its frieze are frequently reproduced (page 468) but it is not so well known that this tower was the town clock of Athens. It consisted of a water clock run by water-works that supplied it with a constant flow of water and showed the people of Athens the exact hour of the day.

The material collected in this book is in fact exhaustive and thoroughly covers the period of the world's history which it describes. We can see here for instance not only the development of writing in Egypt and Babylon but also the beginning of fortifications. Probably the first and oldest fortified city is the Aramean Samal, but it is surpassed by the Greeks in the fortress of Tiryns which was built in Argos near Mycenae approximately in the Homeric period (page 237). It is a stately castle prepared for defense with consummate skill and strategic considerations, and it is the earliest one in Europe with outer walls of stone. A restoration of it is shown on page 237, and the two are here reproduced in reduced size side by side for comparison.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WAR-FEELING.

BY ALICE EDGERTON.

NOTHING is easier than to make people want war. Some people believe in fighting; but even the more peaceable respond warmly to the stimulus of activity, of something doing in a grey and steady world. Men were never made for this fat, office-going life; at heart they want to be sinewy. They like to feel themselves brave, and in dull peace times this primordial desire has small chance of expression. Men like to be male, and women glory in seeing them male. In no way can the sharp distinction of sex be made more pleasingly than in war. Nowhere else is man so aggressive and so protective; nowhere else can women experience on so vast a scale the sense of being protected and at the same time of ministering to the protector. Though civilization and personal fear may have