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Bearing on the Book of Mormon

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Abstract: This article discusses the Chinese account of their first settlement in China and relates their experiences with the migration of the Jaredites from the Tower of Babel to the great sea.

the varieties of animals and the particular time they existed—and this, years before science or any human agency knew?

If, as the fact is, he did not write the book originally, it is true that, as Gregory Mason says, “where a few centuries ago thousands of human beings fashioned a high civilization” they “abandoned their cities to the devouring jungles of the tropics * * * from causes still wrapt in mystery.” Isn't it more reasonable to believe that this record has been brought forth from the earth, as have these other things, only by Divine direction for the spiritual enlightenment of man? The scientific phase is, of course, only incidental.

Bearing on the Book of Mormon

Students of the Book of Mormon are always on the lookout for any item in history or science bearing upon that record, and so the following is submitted:

An account of the tradition among the Chinese, of their first settlement in China, seems to hint at that remarkable migration of the Jaredites from the Tower of Babel to the “great sea which divides the lands,” where some of them (doubtless only a part of them) took to the barges which were lighted in so remarkable a manner. Dr. Fisher, of Yale, gives this account:—

“The nucleus of the Chinese nation is thought to have been a band of immigrants, who are supposed by some to have started from the region southeast of the Caspian Sea, and to have crossed the headwaters of the Oxus. They followed the course of the Hoang Ho, or Yellow, river, having entered the country of their adoption from the northwest, and they planted themselves in the present province of Shan-se.”

Further to identify these people to the Book of Mormon reader, Dr. Fisher adds, “Although nomads, they had some knowledge of astronomy.” Of the occurrences while the migration halted at that point, history, of course, says nothing, but the annual pilgrimage of hundreds of thousands of Chinese to the top of their sacred mount just at the point of the peninsula of Shantung, testifies to the Book of Mormon student very eloquently of the wonderful manifestations received there by the brother of Jared.—*L. A. Wilson, Manti, Utah.*

