Old Testament History 111

the section which he was digging in was the section of ancient Nineveh, and they were finding where these people lived there but nothing that threw much light on ancient history. He went up to this other place,

, fifteen miles northeast of the mounds he had been digging in and there he found a palace, covered over with sand, he found a palace filled with interesting inscribed bas reliefs, in a city about a mile in circumference. Under the corner of the palace were many cylinders of clay with inscriptions on them. He found that it was a palace built by Sargon, the king of Assyria, who reigned from 722 to 705 . Sargon had so disappeared from ancient literature that nothing whatever was known of him and his name had not been produced except in one place, in Isaiah 20:1.

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Old Testament History 112

a great many interesting discoveries, not only of remains of the building, statues, pictures, but also the thousands of interesting clay takets, but then he and his successors began digging again in the mound which they thought was Nineveh across the Tigris river, and a young Englishman. Austin Henry L , a young Englishman of Huguenot descent, had come through there just before Botta began his diggins. He was a young man going on his way to India to seek his fortune but he became so interested in this matter of excavation that he soon returned and went to Constantinople and persuaded a wealthy Englishman there who was embassador to Constantinople to give him some money for the purpose of beginning excavation and La went back to these mounds and he began to dig in a different part of the mound than that in which Botha had been digging and he found the palaces of the kings of Assyria there at Nineveh, and

did some very important excavation work during the next five years but in addition to considerable ability as an excavator he also had great ability as a writer and he was a fine student of the Bibbs and was constantly quoting Biblical statements in connection with the discoveries which he was making, some of which fit very accurately, some of which had very little to do with

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