

ials which have been preserved from ancient times, we know a good deal more about the actual life of the ancient Egyptians than we do of those of Mesopotamia. Assyrians were interested in keeping careful descriptions of what occurred year by year during the reigns of their kings, and particularly of the kings' great conquests. Only occasionally do we find such records among the Egyptians. The historic sense does not seem to have been as well developed among them as among the Assyrians. On the other hand, their interest in anecdotes was more developed, and they give us long and interesting stories which throw much light on the culture of the people, although it is not always easy to tell how much of the story is intended to be fact and how much is of pleasant fiction.

There is comparatively little of direct connection between things found in Egypt and events recorded in the Bible. However, there is a good deal of background material that is quite useful as giving us an impression of the actuality and the verisimilitude of the Biblical narrative. The trip of Abraham down to Egypt to sojourn there, for instance, is illustrated by a picture found in one of the tombs in Egypt showing an Asiatic chieftain called Ipsha coming into the land to sojourn for refuge in time of famine, and a statement is made, addressed to his cattle that "formerly he trod upon the desert, now ye walk on herbage".

A very interesting confirmation of a background element in the story of Abraham is found in the account in Genesis 12 -- of the wealth which he acquired in Egypt. In his catalogue of wealth, no mention of horses is contained. Later records of Egyptian history always refer to horses as very common in Egypt, for many of the best horses were bred there. We recall how Moses speaks of Pharaoh and his horsemen pursuing after the Israelites, and Solomon speaks of getting horses from Egypt. It is strange to read of Abraham's going into ~~the~~ Egypt and ~~amassing~~ great wealth, ^{of} and finding it catalogued ^{out with} and no mention of horses in it, as if a European, where automobiles are comparatively scarce and luxurious, were to describe a man from his country coming to America and amassing great wealth here, and to list the things which he had and not to mention motor cars in the list! Yet it is certain that Abraham's visit is to be placed before the Hicksos' ~~visit~~ conquest, and we not know that the way the Hicksos were ^{enabled} ~~able~~ to make their conquest into Egypt was by the lightning weapons which they had in their use of horses and chariots. We find various