

It had just rained just before that and you could look at the trench, one of these trenches. And there you could see on the wall in the deep trench they had dug, you could see the foundation of 30 cities one above the other. But imagine what do you learn from just a trench? You learn there were 30 cities. You learn a little bit about them. But suppose you dug a trench across here. You might get a little of the corner of this, a little of the corner of the piano perhaps. Maybe you'd get the flag and maybe you wouldn't. What you would get would be very very fragmentary, and the guesses you'd make. If you every really want to see the kind of guesses you might make read Edgar Allen Poe's little article Milonet Tauta (?) in which he describes how some in Australia came in 2500 A.D. to the buried land of Knickerbacker land here and down in near Yorktown he found the monument to the surrender of Lord Cornwallis ~~and~~ to Gen. Washington and he made his guesses as to why these barbarians here wanted Lord Cornwallis to surrender and decided it was probably was for mincement[?]. He goes on and shows what you would probably be apt to guess with a little bit of information about a time long gone. Well that is the situation with these trenches, but unfortunately when they dig up the trench what they dug there is gone. So on the present maps of what they found there in Megiddo you have just a blank where these trenches were dug. But these German excavators figured that the fourth city from the top was the city from the time of Solomon, and it is now felt that they were indeed correct, that it was indeed the time of Solomon. In the layer of this mound from the time of Solomon they found a square column lists say something like this pulpit here, only not as big as thing around but square. This square column stood up fairly high, and at that time in 1906 it was customary to think that whenever you found a column in the Near East it represented a symbol of some kind of ancient worship. Now later on the German archeologists proved that the great majority of the columns found in the ancient east are ~~x~~ simply to hold up the second story of the houses, but at that time that was the fad to think they all represented symbols of ancient worship as indeed some of them do. But ~~x~~ in this one they found a strange thing. From one side of the column to the other a few feet from the ground there was a whole cut obliquely / ^{across} from one side to the other, and what was the purpose of that hole? Now if this was an altar and ~~xxx~~ came from the top you might say it's to let the blood drain off. But it didn't come from the top~~x~~