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THE CZAR AND THE DEAD SOLDIER.

Unarmed and unattended walked the Czar
Through Moscow's streets one wintery day;
The crown uncovered, as his face they saw;
"God greet the Czar!" said they.

Along his path there moved a funeral,
Gray spectacle of poverty and woe;
A wretched sledge, dragged by one weary man
Slowly across the snow.

And on the sledge, blown by the wintery wind,
Lay a poor coffin, very rude and bare;
And he who drew it bent beneath his load
With dull and sullen air.

The Emperor stopped and beckoned to the man;
"Who is it thou bearest to the grave?" he said.
"Only a soldier, sire," the short reply,
"Only a soldier dead."

"Only a soldier," musing said the Czar;
"Only a Russian, who was poor and brave.
Move on, I feel so; such a one goes not
Unhonored to the grave."

He bent his head and reverent raised his cap.
The Czar of all the Russias, pacing slow,
Following the coffin as again it went
Slowly across the snow.

The passers in the street, all wondering,
Looked on the sight, then followed silently;
Peasant and prince, and artisan and clerk,
All in one company.

Still as they went the crowd grew evermore,
Till thousands stood around the friendless grave,
Led by that princely heart who, royal, true,
Honored the poor but brave.
—Boston Evening Transcript.

WARS OF THE NEPHITES AND LAMANITES.

How clearly and fully has this writer described and followed the account given in the Book of Mormon of the two races who first settled America—the Jaredites from Asia, and the Lehitic colony from Jerusalem. The Book of Mormon fully explains the cause of those signs of contemporaneous social culture and barbarism. They are abundantly accounted for in the contrariety of the social status of the rival factions into which the

colony was separated. But the Lamanites were not all in the same condition of degradation. They occupied a vast area of the country, for as sheep hunted and harassed by wild beasts, the Nephites kept closer together. Some of the Lamanites dwelt in cities, and cultivated to some extent the arts of peace, and civilization, while the greater portion of the race were awfully degraded and filthy in all their habits, roaming in the wilderness with no fixed habitations, living upon the fortunes of the chase and what they could steal from the Nephites. The spirit of antagonism first manifested by the elder brothers against Nephi intensified with time, and settled down into deep and vehement hatred toward the whole race named after him; hence the cruel and incessant wars whose wrecks and remnants cover the land or lie buried under the deposits of a thousand seasons. In those wars sometimes the Nephites, at others the Lamanites were victorious. But the Lamanites were the final conquerors; they drove the Nephites before them, and took possession of their vacated lands. Evidences of these incursive wars and drivings of the defeated hosts have been often noticed in the writings of explorers.

A writer upon the subject of Mounds of America, named Force, quoted by De Nadailiac, says:

"It may be supposed that the wild tribes from the north and the northwest drove the mound-building people from Illinois and Indiana; that those of Ohio, protected by a solid line of fortified camps or villages, offered a more efficacious resistance, but that they, in their turn, were driven beyond the Mississippi, that the struggle went on in Kentucky and Tennessee, until the day when the remnants of this ancient people were driven back to the districts bordering on the gulf, when the vanquished were gradually merged with the conquerors."

These wars, in which was contested,

during a thousand years, the supremacy on the American continent, included various modes of warfare and a great variety of weapons and defenses. There is no evidence or sign that gunpowder was used, or chemical explosives of any kind. The accounts given in the Book of Mormon of names of military commanders, of the discipline and evolutions of armies, are very meagre.

One of the greatest generals mentioned is Moroni, who commanded the armies of the Nephites during the first half of the last century before Christ.

The building of forts, walls, towers, citadels, the digging of trenches, and throwing up of mounds and heaps of earth and other details are treated of with considerable minuteness.

In Moroni's time the country was covered with earth-works and walls encircling towns, villages and strategic points; also high towers for observing the movements of the enemy. In some cases the lines of fortification extended entirely across the country, from the sea east to the west, and from the Pacific ocean to the Magdalena river.

It is surprising how fully and clearly recent discoveries have corroborated and proven the accuracy of the ancient records translated by the Prophet Joseph Smith. Hundreds of these defensive works have been described by numerous writers who have made them the subjects of their study.

As a plentiful supply of water is a very important item of interest to military commanders who have charge of forts, and enclosed cities, with a great army, and a numerous population depending upon their providence for needful supplies, we will give the following account of one of the means of obtaining a supply of the liquid element. After giving a minute description of some vast systems of ancient military forts on the Muskingum river, the author of "American Antiquities," on page 108 says: