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'TWOULD MAKE A BETTER WORLD.

If men cared less for wealth and fame,
And less for battlefields and glory;
If writ in human hearts a name
Seemed better than in song or story;
If men instead of nursing pride
Would learn to hate it and abhor it;
If more relied
On Love to guide,
The world would be the better for it.

If men dealt less in stocks and lands,
And more in bonds and deeds fraternal;
If Love's work had more willing hands
To link this world with the supernal;
If men stored up Love's oil and wine
And on bruises human hearts would
pour it;
If "yours" and "mine"
Would once combine
The world would be the better for it.

If more would act the play of Life,
And fewer spoil it in rehearsal;
If Bigotry would sheath its knife
Till good became more universal;
If Custom, grey with ages grown,
Had fewer blind men to adore it—
If Talent shone
In Truth alone,
The world would be the better for it.

If men were wise in little things—
Affecting less in all their dealings;
If hearts had fewer rusted strings
To insulate their kindred feelings;
If men, when Wrong beats down the Right,
Would strike together to restore it—
If Right made Might
In every fight,
The world would be the better for it.

—N. H. Cobb.

ANCIENT FORTIFICATIONS.

A TESTIMONY TO THE TRUTH OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.

Mr. Short in his work "North Americans," p. 81, gives the following list: 1—Enclosures—(a) For defense; (b) for religious purposes; (c) miscellaneous. 2—Mounds—(a) Of sacrifice; (b) for temple sites; (c) of sepulchre; (d) of observation.

Works of defense seem to be regarded as the object for which the greatest number of mounds were built. From reports made by distinguished

explorers to the Peabody Museum and the Smithsonian Institution, we learn that a succession of entrenched camps and fortifications are to be met with in the whole space separating the Alleghanies from the Rocky mountains. The sites for these ramparts, stockades, and trenches were evidently chosen by persons possessing engineering skill and military acumen in a marked degree. The positions selected were such as would utilize natural conditions and advantages. Thus projections, promontories, eminences, and especially the junction of rivers were fixed upon as strategic points; and many of these selections bear witness to an intelligence that would do honor to the most famous of modern military experts.

All the defensive remains are found in the neighborhood of water-courses, and in close proximity to many of them are the remains of villages and towns, which they evidently were intended to protect.

It is a remarkable fact that those incidental sites of ancient cities have been pitched upon as most favorable situations for such modern cities as St. Louis, Newark, Portsmouth, Frankfort, New Mexico and many others.

Reference is made to these fortified cities in numerous places in the Book of Mormon. Alma speaking of the great General Moroni says:

"He had been strengthening the armies of the Nephites, and erecting small forts, or places of resort; throwing up banks of earth round about to enclose his armies, and building walls of stone to encircle them about, round about their cities and the borders of their lands." (Alma xlviii, 8, 9.)

"And it came to pass that Moroni did not stop making preparations for war, or to defend his people against the Lamanites; for he caused that his armies should commence in digging up heaps of earth round about all the cities, throughout all

the land which was possessed by the Nephites. (Alma i., 1.) In corroboration of the statement that stone was sometimes used in the Nephite fortifications, the author of "Pre-historic America" says: "Bourneville, twelve miles from Chillicothe, is one of the most curious fortified enclosures in Ohio. It occupies the summit of a steep hill; the walls—a rare enough instance—are of stone, built up without cement. The mound builders used the materials at hand. When stones were abundant they piled them up with earth to make their walls, but these stones are never quarried or dressed, nor are they ever cemented with mortar. Several instances may be quoted, notably a stone fort on Duck River, near Manchester, Tennessee, in which the walls are of unworked stone, detached from neighboring rocks. At the entrance two mounds can be made out, which are supposed to have been posts of observation." (P. 89 and footnote.)

With regard to the area of some of the defensive earthworks, and the vast extent of some connected systems of fortifications, we have the testimony of several reliable authorities.

Squier describes an ancient fortress on Fort Hill, Ohio. It is built upon an eminence overlooking a stream called Paint creek. The walls enclose an area of one hundred and eleven acres. There are ample evidences that the space protected was occupied with human habitations. Mr. Cox reported in 1874 to the American Association, Hartford, Conn.: "A remarkable ancient stone fort in Clarke county, Ohio. The space covered by the fort is only about ten acres, but the works are remarkably strong and skilfully built. The hill upon which it stands is washed at its base by the Ohio and the Fourteen Mile creek. This hill rises two hundred and eighty feet above the river, and on that side presents almost perpendicular walls. A break or fault which occurs is defended by a wall