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## NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP.

Golden heap so lowly bending,  
Little feet so white and bare;  
Dewy eyes, half shut, half opened,  
Lisping out her evening prayer.

Well she knows when she is saying—  
"Now I lay me down to sleep"—  
'Tis to God that she is praying—  
Praying Him her soul to keep.

Half asleep, and murmuring faintly—  
"If I should die before I wake"—  
Tiny fingers clasped so saintly—  
"I pray the Lord my soul to keep."

Oh, the rapture, sweet, unbroken,  
Of the soul who wrote that prayer;  
Children's myriad voices floating  
Up to Heaven, record it there.

If of a'l that has been written  
I could choose what might be mine,  
It should be that child's petition  
Rising to the throne Divine.

—Ladies' Home Journal.

## ANCIENT FORTIFICATIONS.

### A TESTIMONY TO THE TRUTH OF THE BOOK OF MORMON.

Gen. Harrison, sometime President of the United States, is reported in the *Historical Society of Ohio*, Vol. 1, p. 212, as saying that: "These fortifications were not erected for a defense from a sudden invasion, for the height of the wall and the solidity of their construction show that the danger they were to guard against was ever present. The three mounds I have visited have a military character stamped upon them which cannot be mistaken."

To the thoughtful explorer and archaeologist these silent witnesses of ancient feuds and conflicts between races that have long since passed away, present a succession of puzzling enigmas. But these would be solved if people would accept the reliable testimony and proofs that exist, and not reject them simply because they are unpopular.

Since the records concerning the

aboriginal races of America, their derivation, manners, religion and social condition, contained in the Book of Mormon, has been given to the world, numerous witnesses of a most astounding character have appeared to testify of the genuineness of the history. They have come, too, like the record, from the ground, "whispering out of the dust." While one class of learned men—the religious class—have been denying the truth and respectability of the Book of Mormon annals, another class have been seriously laboring to bring to light the most powerful and palpable proofs of the reliability of the statement of the exhumed record.

The explorers came to the conclusion that "war was evidently an important subject of thought with the mound builders."

Why was war a subject of thought with those ancient nations? The strife was evidently of a civil and an unintentional character. There are no signs indicating incursions of foreign invaders, or of armies of different races. There are no anatomical characteristics in the remains proving that the combatants were of different nationalities. Mr. Morton, Philadelphia, 1839, published a work on *Crania Americana* or a comparative view of the skulls of various aboriginal nations of North America, in which he remarks that a unity of physical type exists among all the inhabitants of both Americas, with the sole exception of the Esquimaux.

Another weighty fact in support of the theory that a single race peopled all the Atlantic coast of America is found in the analogies between the languages of the ancient inhabitants of those regions. Dr. Crevaux, an industrious laborer in the scientific field, and whose life was sacrificed in the cause—we learn that he was murdered by the Tobas—noted a marked similarity between the languages of the natives of Guiana, the Upper Amazon, the Antilles, and that of the ancient

inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro. (Bull. Soc. Anth., 1881, p. 564.)

While many important diversities in color, stature and other physical features, as well as egrees in moral, social and artificial status existed; and although they were broken up into numerous tribes, yet all the most reliable writers agree that they had one common origin.

The Book of Mormon relates that under the direct command and guidance of the Almighty a small colony of the ancient inhabitants of eastern Asia emigrated to America about the time of the building of the Tower of Babel. After peopling a vast area of the American continent, extending through a period of seventeen hundred years, the people became exceedingly low and depraved, lost every characteristic of human affection and cultured civilization. They engaged in the most dreadful wars and savage conflicts which included the entire population—even women and children—and resulted in the total destruction of the race. These exterminating wars carried off not less than fifteen million souls.

These early inhabitants of America were named Jaredites, after the name of the founder of the colony. They lived principally in North America. The nations cotemporary with them were the Babylonians, Chaldeans, and Egyptians. And whatever remains at the present day of the Jaredites must bear the marks of their primitive origin. But the relics of the Jaredites would not be likely to consist to any great extent of fortifications and walled cities, since their founders left the plains of Nimrod before the inhabitants of the early world had divided into separate and rival nations. In the days of the departure of the Jaredite pilgrims, war and military engineering had not become the proud boast of great nations. Jared had seen, probably, some examples of ancient masonry, temples, pyramids