

Bible Names In War Despatches

Historic and Sacred Places Where Blood is Being Shed.

(Kansas City Star.)

Names of many places familiar to Bible students appear often appear in the war news these days. Somewhere a French and British expeditionary force landed recently, is Thessalonica of old. Three hundred and fifteen years before the birth of Christ, this town

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was founded by Cassander, King of Macedonia, and named after his wife, sister of Alexander the Great. In the streets of this old town, where troops from the British Isles are marching, St. Paul often preached and his famous epistles were written to the early Christian church there. Mount Olympus, the home of gods of ancient Greece, looks down upon it, and above its domes the minarets the cross and the crescent have alternately waved.

In Palestine the Hill of Golgotha and the Mount of Olives have been awakened to a new life by the tramp of Turkish troops, and the very fields once trodden by the Apostles, even by the feet of Jesus, are now pressed by military motor cars and machine guns, and Turkish soldiers march over the mountains of Judea and in the suburbs of Jericho.

In the shadow of Mount Sinai, upon the summit of which Moses received the tables of stone from the hand of Jehovah, there has been desperate fighting between the Turks and British; and travellers through the Suez canal have told us of seeing the bodies of the slain afloat in its sluggish water.

Mount Arrarat, upon the summit of which Noah's Ark rested after the Deluge, looks down upon the fighting lines of Turks and Russians, and scenes of horror, the slaughter of Christian Armenians and piles of dead that choke the streams.

A British army is advancing up the valley of the Euphrates and the Tigris toward ancient Bagdad, up through the fabled site of the Garden of Eden, the birthplace of the human race; through Babylon, past the mounds of a long forgotten civilization. Upon these same plains lived and ruled and fought the greatest warrior kings of ancient times. Sennac

herib, the Assyrian, marched over the very ground. From there he sent his expeditions into Egypt. Somewhere on that plain his host of fighting men, sent against Judah, perished because a multitude of field mice devoured the quivers and bow strings and thongs of his army.

Here, Nebuchadnezzar, the most illustrious monarch of the Babylonian kingdom, organized his great army and sent it out against Egypt, and Jerusalem. Here the Scythians, Medes, Persians and Assyrians fought and alternately conquered and failed, and to this place came the armies of Xerxes and Cyrus and Alexander, walking then where the British walk now, camping, eating sleeping upon the same spot, fired with the same feelings of patriotism and loyalty, inspired by the same ambitions and vanities and longings to conquer, to win, to leave a name that will live down through the ages for all war is in large part vanity.

The world has forgotten those emperors of old, and what they fought for. The great cities they builded, then the wonders of the earth, are mounds of dust now and antiquarians dig in their ruins and dispute among themselves about their very names. The only record to us of a great battle, in which thousands perished, are a few strange tracings on a little cylinder of baked clay lying upon a dusty shelf of a glass case in a museum built by a race of men that did not even exist



when that ancient war was fought. A scribe worked for years to engrave upon a slab of granite the story of a glorious campaign in which ten thousand men died that one king might humble, another, and that slab, and only memory we have of that war, adorns the doorway of an American library, and the thousands who pass it daily do not know, or care, what it means. The great warrior kings swaggered for a brief space and filled the world with horrors that their vanities might be satisfied, and then they died and their forgotten dust has mingled with the dust of the ages. Their names are no more than the names of places one meets with on the pages of musty books, and there are scholars who dispute that some of the greatest of them ever lived.

They say that the lion and the lizard keep The courts where Jamshyd gloried and drank deep And Bahram, the great hunter —the wild ass— Stamps o'er his head, but cannot break his sleep.

The Providence Journal of Rhode Island, charges that be

tween thirty-five and forty million dollars have been spent in the United States, under the supervision of the German Ambassador, in a propaganda against the allies. Not a dollar of this sum, the Journal charges, has been spent legitimately.

The Defences Of The Rhine

The time is getting nearer when the Germans will be fighting along the line of the Rhine, and people are beginning to ask what the defences of the famous river are like.

The Rhine is really Germany's great barrier against invasion from France, but, like any other river, it is not impregnable.

Why some people think that the crossing of the Rhine will be difficult is because of the number of fortresses which defend it, Strasburg, Mayence, Coblenz and Cologne are all heavily fortified, but experience has shown in this war that fortresses are not so formidable as was supposed a few years ago. The Rhine, indeed will chiefly be defended by trenches dug along the banks.

At Cologne the river is about a fifth of a mile wide, its width increasing steadily up to half a mile at the Dutch frontier. The current is a rapid one, and the banks are more or less flat and marshy.

Food Prices in Continental Europe

A despatch to the New York Sun says that in Vienna fine cuts of beef are \$1.10 to \$1.25 per lb.; better grades of fish, 60c to 85c; and butter, 80c to 90c. Efforts are being made to gather in fall crops of mushrooms. The woods around Vienna and in other parts of the monarchy abound at this season in edible mushrooms, there being seventy varieties. They are all very nutritious and palatable, and as they are nitrogenous they furnish a good substitute for meat. One kind, the hallmasch, is sold at 15 cents a pound. Families go into the woods for days and come home loaded with baskets and satchels and gladstone bags full of mushrooms.

In a German shop a wealthy woman was mobbed by soldiers' wives when she sought to buy margarine. These making a attack said she could well afford to buy butter and that by buying margarine she was robbing poorer women of the only sort of fat they could afford.

Even some neutral countries are suffering. While beef is 15c in New York and 18c in London it is up to 80c in Copenhagen. The high price in the latter city is due to the action of the British naval authorities in checking American meat export to Denmark in order to prevent food supplies reaching Germany via Danish ports.

Vegetable Seed Situation

The following extract of an article from a newspaper of Gothen-

burg, Sweden, will be of interest to growers of vegetable seeds. The article refers to the Board of Directors of the Agricultural College of Alnarp, Sweden, asking for a Government grant for the encouragement of vegetable seed growing.

The Board points out that the war has most clearly emphasized the importance, for the country, of home production of vegetable seeds. Owing to the most important vegetable seed producing countries having prohibited the export of such seeds, the prices of a great number of important vegetable seeds have risen enormously. And still worse, some seeds can hardly be obtained at any price. It is reported, from a well informed source, that vegetable seed growing in the countries engaged in the war has been largely neglected during the past summer and that for this reason further advances in prices can be expected. Reports from Germany state that the supply of seed of spinach, carrots, most kinds of cabbage, onions, cucumbers and peas is utterly small. Furthermore, Germany has prohibited the export of vegetable seeds to the end of the war. There is therefore every reason to fear that we have to face the possibility of a very serious shortage of certain vegetable seeds.

Said Branch, Ottawa.

Could Not Evade The British

London, Nov. 18.—Lieutenant Henri Koch, one of the officers of the interned German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, who violated his parole and left Norfolk, Va., in the middle of October, has been taken off a Danish steamer in the North Sea by the British naval authorities. Lieutenant Koch, who was sailing as a seaman, joined the steamer at Baltimore, giving his nationality as Danish. He was found among the crew and identified by an official who knew him before the outbreak of the war.

FAITH IN DOMINION

Quiet Years More Breathing Space, Says Big Railroad Man

Speaking at Cochrane, Mr. A. W. Smith, chairman of the Grand Trunk Railway Board, declared his belief in Canada's future greatness and prosperity in the following words: "The quiet that animates you all to go forward and conquer will lead to a continuance of prosperity in Canada and there will be a little quieter year or two, do not think we should look upon it with any fear, but rather as a good omen that it will give us time to take breath to make the next big stride forward. I believe in the main Canada is sound, because as long as her immigrants come in, and as long as her food is broken up every year, that is the real source, the real standard of the wealth of Canada; and as long as that goes on I think the prosperity of Canada—although it may ebb and flow slightly—I do not think there is any considerable setback to be apprehended, but that she will go on and show continued progress as she has done in the past."

TO AVOID FIRES

- Don't go into closets looking for clothing with a lighted match. Don't kindle fires in stoves with kerosene. Don't put hot ashes and coal in wooden barrels or boxes. Don't thaw out frozen water pipes with a torch or lamp. Don't allow waste paper and rubbish to collect. Don't use gasoline for cleaning in a closed room. Don't look for gas leaks with a match or lamp. Don't allow face curtains near gas brackets. Don't allow oily rags near stoves or about the premises. Don't allow sawdust to be used in suspensors or on floors. Don't throw waste paper in a fireplace. Don't throw cigarettes or cigars away lighted. Don't keep matches in paper boxes, or lying about carelessly. Don't use snapping jumbo matches. Don't forget that matches are the beginning of many conflagrations. Don't hang your clothing near open fires or stoves. Don't fill lamps after dark, and never when lighted. Don't allow rubbish in hallways. Don't burn leaves and dead grass on windy days. Don't forget to have the chimneys of your home cleaned once a year. Don't fail to look twice at everything that looks like fire. Don't fail to give the fire department representatives every opportunity to make a careful examination of your property. Don't fail to notify the chief of the fire department of anything that may see that is dangerous and liable to cause fire, remembering that every day is fire prevention day.

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