**IS BRITAIN THE LOST ATLANTIS?**

By COMYNS BEAUMONT

The legend of the lost island of Atlantis, believed to have been submerged in some prehistoric convulsion of nature, has tantalised the imagination of man ever since the days of Plato. Here a new and extraordinary theory of the island's identity is presented.

**The Pillars of Hercules**

In a visit to Egypt, Solon, the famous Athenian philosopher and lawgiver, was told of Atlantis by an aged priest at Sais, who added, "there dwelt in Atlantis the fairest and noblest race of men who ever lived, of whom you and your country are but a seed or remnant." The original Atlantis, he said, was pre-eminent in laws, performing the boldest deeds, and possessed the finest constitution, its antiquity being such that it was "founded by the goddess Athena a thousand years before Sais." It was "a great and wonderful empire, which had rule over the whole island and several others, as well as over parts of the continent." A "mighty power" invaded it "and endeavoured to subdue our country (Egypt) and yours (Athena) and the whole land within the straits."

But violent earthquakes and floods in a single day and night caused the island and its warlike men to sink beneath the sea. Such, in brief, is the legend; and itsAuthenticated relationship with Egyptian traditions support the story, the people of Atlantis formed an event in the world's history.

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**War Of The Giants**

**A**nother tradition support the legend. Athens held its five-year festival of the Pan-Athenia, traditionally instituted by Erechtheus, who rebuilt Athens after the Deucalion or Trojan Flood, which commemorated the city's heroic deeds in the fabled war between the Gods and the Giants, the latter being the invaders. In this war the Giants hurled rocks and burning trees against heaven and in their plight the Gods called on Hercules, always represented with a pillar or column in each hand, and who on this occasion hurled the Giants under rocks and stones. Likewise the Giants represented as fabulous beings, with scaly serpents in place of legs and accornded wings, and their heads being the colossal statues of Athena. The fate of their brother Phaeton was thus determined by Jupiter when he tried to burn up the earth! The columns thrown down by Hercules are there staring us in the face!

We have indeed, if we have open minds, facing us here the real Pillars of Hercules, held in such awe and superstition by the ancient Britons, in the isles off Western Scotland obtained the name of Hebrides, Isles of the Hebrews, The Welsh tongue is full of Hebrew words to this day. So the Atlantis "myth" brings us irrecoverably to our own Britain!

**Sky Bombardment**

The geographical view is that amorphous basalt fell in liquefied form on old Red Sandstone, together with basaltic columns in vast profusion. At that time Ben Mhòr, and the islands of Skye, Eigg, Staffa, were one vast sea. Ben Mhòr ('Giant Mountain') is only found in the north and once was by no means rare in the Scottish regions, while tin, in ancient times, was only obtained in Cornwall and adjacent isles.

Who were the Cimmerians? Their descendants in Wales and the Scottish islands are known as the Cymry, claimed in the ancient Welsh Triads as the aboriginal natives of Britain. Racially, they were the Iberi, or Hebrews, after whom the Iles off Western Scotland obtained the name of Hebrides, Isles of the Hebrews. The Welsh tongue is full of Hebrew words to this day. So the Atlantis "myth" brings us irrecoverably to our own Britain!
tion and scouring. Prof. W. J. Judd, the seismologist, estimated it originally towered to a height of 16,000 ft. or more. It was crushed down by a celestial bombardment.

This mountain possesses at least two unusual features. One is a series of terraces rising towards its summit which look as though artificially constructed. Another is its enormous cavern, looking westward to the broad Atlantic, called MacKinnon’s Cave, with remains of a former cromlech or altar named Fingal’s Table. Dominating the west, and surrounded by the islands, it answers to the sacred Mount Atlas or Prometheus (one and the same) by whose volcanic fires Deucalion, the Greek Noah, was warned of the coming disaster and built his Ark.

Proof Of Flood

If we cross to the mainland opposite Mull, not far inland stand the Lochaber Mountains, dominated by Ben Nevis. These too bear evidence of the past event with their series of terraces or sea-beaches, which range from 847 ft. to 1,278 ft. in Glen Gloy, above sea level. They bear proof of the most stupendous flood in this mountain region, where the waters were unable to subside for long and have left behind their drives. I may add that this part of Scotland compares completely with the original Greek Thessaly, some of the Deucalion Flood, as it should do if the priest of Jaha were correct in his story.

Did Deucalion or Noah learn here, then, of the imminent danger and hasten to build his Ark? At the base of Ben Cruachan, is ‘Glen Noe’ and in the Aberdeen country to the northeast stand the remains of a vitrified fort or castle in the Strath of Bogie, 1,851 ft. above the sea, called ‘Tap O’Noth.’

Struck By A Comet

I may be said of ‘this most complicated igneous centre of the world,’ as described in the ‘Geological Survey of Scotland,’ that at some time over three thousand years ago a celestial body, a comet, Phaeton ‘the Shining One,’ struck the earth in these parts, whereby the remainder probably fell into the broad Atlantic, while a few isolated masses fell in Iowa and Brazil. No doubt great numbers of survivors escaped, or migrated to other regions, including Egypt and Mexico.

In Egypt the priesthood reconstructed completely their religious system and left, as a priceless legacy, the ‘Book of the Dead.’ It was the Egyptian faith that all the spirits of the dead must appear before the god Osiris, Amenta, the region where he, a mortal king, was struck down by his evil brother Seth, the Comet. Therefore from distant Egypt the souls set out; it was taught, to the West; hence the key of mysteries to the West, to the West.” It was an arduous and dangerous journey that led them through the seas, largely through tunnels, where lurking demons and mountains waited to devour them unless they were provided with magical amulets and charms, sold them by the priests. Eventually they reached their destination, led thither by Thoth and jackal-headed Anubis, god of the dead, where they sought the Pillars of the Tuat or ‘Tuat,’ a word akin to the Gaelic Twath, the North, depicted on Egyptian wall-paintings with polygonal stripes to indicate the Pillars. The Tuat was deemed to lie “at the ends of the earth,” always in the West, and the name is still extant in Loch Twath, adjoining Inveraray.

Arrived at Amenta, the soul was conducted into the Hall of Judgment where Osiris sat enthroned, holding the sacred ankh, symbol of life, attended by the goddesses Isis (Law) and Nepthys (Conscience). In this Hall also sat the Twelve Great Gods and Goddesses, forming a sort of jury, and beyond them in two rows sat the forty-two lesser gods, each representing a nome (district).

In the representation in the Papyrus of Horus, he and his wife Ntaha are led into the Hall of Judgment by Anubis. In a tableau above are shown all the gods and goddesses, but before entry Thoth had propounded the riddle to Horus: “Who is he whose roof is fire, whose walls are living serpents, and whose floor is a stream of water?” The mystic answer was “Osiris.”

One Inevitable Conclusion

We may identify this ‘Hall of Judgment’ in Fingal’s Cave, Staffa, a pagan temple of a myriad of papyri, ‘the Hall of the Dead’ from which is taken (below) portion of the papyrus of Homer depicting souls in the Hall of Judgment.

One of Nature’s marvels which inspired Mendelssohn to compose a haunting piece of music—Fingal’s Cave, Isle of Staffa, connected by the author of this article with the Egyptian ‘Book of the Dead’ from which is taken (below) portion of the papyrus of Homer depicting souls in the Hall of Judgment.