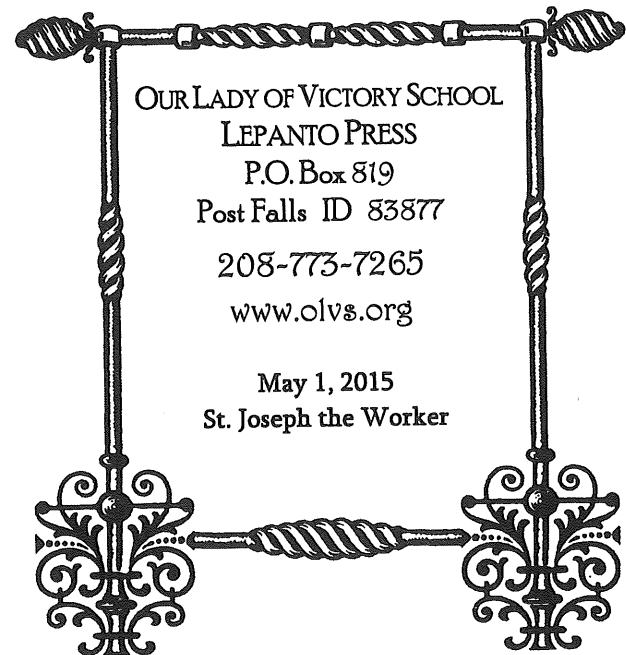


The OLD WORLD AND AMERICA

by Rev. Philip J. Furlong, Ph.D.

Professor of History Cathedral College, New York

TESTS AND EXERCISES
by BRENDAN BYRNE



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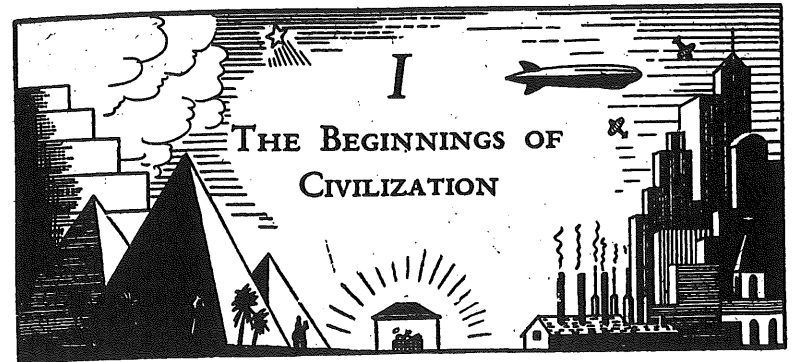
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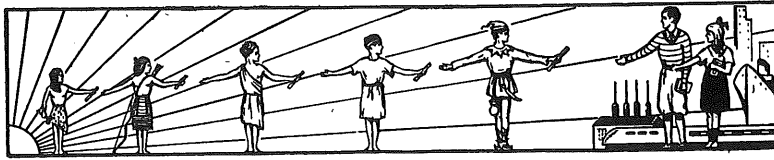


AIM

To understand that everything in the present comes from the past.

To realize that the earliest peoples knew how to do things that are useful to us in our daily lives.

TO BLESS yourself you make the sign of the cross. The sign of the cross is a reminder of the most important facts in history, that Jesus Christ was born for us, lived and died for us, and rose from the dead the third day after His death. These all important events occurred nineteen centuries ago in the Old World. From this you can understand why it is quite necessary to study about the Old World and American History.



I

Part 1: THE FOUNDATIONS OF HISTORY

Everything in your life is connected with the past. The prayers that you say, the knowledge that you learn in school, the style of your clothes, and the sort of food that you eat, all are related in some way with the past.

THE UNITED STATES FROM MANY NATIONS. The motto of the United States is "E Pluribus Unum." These three Latin words mean "one from many." There is a good reason for having this motto, for our great country is one nation made up of many states. But this motto might also tell us that our country is "one from many" nations. There are many things that prove this. Notice the names of the shopkeepers on the windows along the streets in your town. Look through the telephone book and see the different kinds of names there. These names may be seen: Italian, German, Irish, English, Polish and French. They are now the names of Americans.

Why are there such differences among American names? This is because America has drawn her population from the various European countries. Each of these countries in the Old World has had a share in the making of our wonderful nation.

THE DISTANT PAST. The influence of the Old World on America goes back many years. When people began to come to America, they brought with them much that was known in their own country. Thus the English settlers brought to



Drawn expressly for "The Old World and America"

One From Many

People from over all the world have given themselves to America. They brought with them from their native lands gifts of useful knowledge.

America among other things certain important ideas about government and the law. The Spaniards introduced their religion. They also introduced their art and architecture and their way of farming. The European nations were many centuries learning the things that their early explorers and colonists brought to our shores.

B.C. AND A.D. You will often see on the cornerstone of an important building something like this, "A.D. 1900." That means that the building was put up in the year 1900. The letters A.D. stand for the Latin words "Anno Domini" which mean "In the year of our Lord." Whenever you see "A.D." linked with a date, it means that the event happened so many years after our Lord's birth. The meaning of "B.C." you can guess. These letters in connection with a date tell us that the event took place "before Christ."

 QUESTIONS THAT TEST YOUR CHARACTER

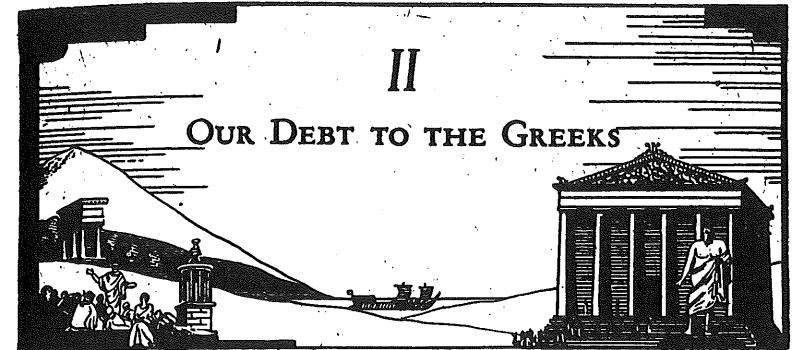
1. Do you think it is good to have a written code of laws? Why?
2. "The Egyptians took advantage of the gifts of Nature." In what ways may we Americans profit by this lesson?
3. "The Egyptians were industrious people." Give an argument for, or against this statement.
4. "The Hebrews were not great conquerors, yet they were great people." Just why do we say this statement is true?

 ACTIVITIES

1. Make a chart, comparing the contributions of each people of the ancient East.
2. From soap make an obelisk.
3. From soap or clay make a pyramid.
4. From clay construct the "Hanging Gardens of Babylon."
5. Ask a Hebrew friend to tell you the achievements of his race of which he is most proud. Tell the class what he said.
6. Make a chart comparing (a) hieroglyphics, (b) Chinese characters, (c) modern alphabet.
7. Paste pictures in your scrapbook regarding the people of the ancient East.
8. Find on your map all the countries mentioned in the lesson.

 IMPORTANT WORDS

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| pyramid | "Gift of the Nile" | "hanging gardens" |
| obelisk | "Babylonian captivity" | life after death |
| hieroglyphics | fertile loam | alphabet |
| papyrus | rotation of crops | "word of God" |
| | Pharaoh | |



AIM

To learn how Greek civilization helped to prepare the world for the preaching of the Gospel.

To learn how the accomplishments of the ancient Greeks are of value to the modern world.

WALK DOWN any street in your city and study the ornamentation used on the buildings. In a number of instances you will be looking at ornaments that the Greeks originated. Many letters of our alphabet are the same as those found in the Greek alphabet. A number of the words which we use are of Greek origin. In grammar school or in high school, you study geography, geology, physics, geometry. These words are taken directly from the ancient Greek. But more important still is the fact that from the Greeks we have learned some ideas about freedom, the value of education, and the nobility of thinking. We are to learn something about the Greeks, therefore, because they have taught us many things that are helpful to us in our daily lives.