

→* THE GARDEN OF EDEN DISCOVERED. *←

ONE of the most interesting discoveries of recent times is the finding last year by Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr of the Garden of Eden. One day whilst in pursuit of a lion, to his great surprise, he kicked against a palæolithic instrument. Further search revealed the existence of thousands more. Mr. Karr, persuaded that he stood in the midst of the remains of a dwelling-place of pre-historic times, made a careful and scientific study of his surroundings, with the result that he came to the conclusion that he had discovered the birthplace of the human race, and that he stood in the Garden of Eden itself, as it is described in the Book of Genesis.

He was standing upon an immense plain of rolling upland, 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, and in the horizon he caught a glimpse of a long low hill some 15 miles away, to which he at once bent his steps. Arrived there, he climbed the hill, and discovered that there were four rivers converging there, three of which surrounded the hill, the fourth joining at the foot from the north. On the east was an immense basaltic plateau, perpendicular cliffs enclosing the north and east sides; and through this the four streams, united, forced their way by a narrow and precipitous gorge. This exactly resembled the physical features of the Garden of Eden as described in the

Bible. There was the gorge in which the angel of the Lord stood with his flaming sword. Or, if one would explain it on natural grounds, we may take it that the Cherubim with the flaming sword was in reality the volcano which threw up this barrier of once molten lava, in which case Adam would have been driven westward into the middle of Africa.

It was this extraordinarily faithful resemblance to the Genesis account that assured the traveller that he stood in Eden at last—Eden, which has been located by the faithful in every part of the world, even in the Arctic regions. And very beautiful the country described

by Mr. Seton-Karr appears to be. The hill itself is covered with an exquisite forest of mimosa and other trees; there is also a beautiful variety of aloe plants, flowers of the most exquisite tints; grasses of every description, which were greedily devoured by flocks of sheep tended by Somali children; and goats the most beautiful in the world. Mr. Seton-Karr camped by the biggest river for the sake of the water supply and made daily visits to the hill, searching the ground thoroughly for palæolithic instruments, which he found in a quantity far greater than have ever been discovered in any other part of the world,

and of the most perfect description, as well as of the earliest period. Indeed, as Mr. Karr himself says, for aught he knows, he may have discovered the very spade with which Adam "dugged the Garden."

There were, of course, no remains of dwellings. They were pastoral people in those days, who dwelt then, as they do now, in skin tents. Mr. Karr discovered every kind of stone implement in use in that far-off pre-historic age, finding even stone borers for sewing the skins together with sinews.

It is quite certain that Eden was largely populated in later days, as we are distinctly told that "Eden traded with Tyre." We may take it that Africa was, according to Huxley and Darwin, the country

of Eden and the home of man. "And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden."

Mr. Seton-Karr considers that the old Biblical statement that Havilah was a river with gold can be proved to be actually true. Only last year a traveller stated that he extracted gold from the sand at the rate of 500 ozs. to the ton, and that in his opinion there was enough gold to discount the Klondyke output for the next twenty years.

THERE are people who boldly assert their willingness to suffer anything for the Lord, who cannot eat a cold dinner on Sunday without growling.



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