

similar tribe such as that of Jacob and his sons ; while the fact that to the Egyptian "every shepherd was an abomination," not only accounts for the bad times that fell to the lot of "Israel in Egypt," but shows the long-preserved tradition of hatred against their former conquerors.

The New Empire, which began about seventeen centuries before Christ, saw the downfall of the Hyksôs kings, and the beginning of the "Golden Age" for Egypt.

Under Thothmes the First, the men of the land marched forth in warlike array, and for the first time made it their aim to conquer outside territory, and thus to enlarge the borders of their land. This is described with the usual exaggeration and glowing colours of the fervid Eastern imagination :—

"Thotmes has taken tribute from the nations of the north, the south, and from those of the whole earth. He has laid hold of the barbarians ; he has not let a single one escape his grip upon their hair. He has made their waters to flow backward ; he has overflowed their valleys like a deluge, like waters that mount and mount. . . . *All the countries of the entire earth are prostrate under his feet.*"

If this is not a mere figure of speech, the limits of the known world were narrow indeed, for the utmost done by Thothmes was to march through Syria, the neighbouring country on the north-east,

