

# The Life and Travels of Herodotus in the Fifth Century, Vol. 1 of 2 (Classic Reprint)

James Talboys Wheeler

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Excerpt from The Life and Travels of Herodotus in the Fifth Century, Vol. 1 of 2

The present work is an attempt to give in a popular form a complete survey of the principal nations of the ancient world as they were in the days of Pericles and Nehemiah. With this view, the author has written an imaginary biography of Herodotus, the Greek historian and geographer, who flourished in the fifth century before Christ; and by describing his supposed travels to the most famous cities and countries of antiquity, he has been enabled to review their several histories, narrate their national traditions, describe the appearance of each people, point out their peculiarities and manners, and develop the various religious views and ideas which belong to their several mythologies.

Such a work is peculiarly open to criticism. The author's anxious desire to render it as popular as possible has led him to take such freedoms as may probably be censured by the severer scholar. He has taken Herodotus to Persepolis and Jerusalem, and brought him into contact with Nehemiah, for the sake of connecting the sacred history of the world with the profane.

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