

The women of Jerusalem today do their washing at the place where the water comes out of the tunnel and enters the pool of Siloam. They are extremely annoyed to have someone walk through the tunnel and make the water muddy and delay them in their washing. Some friends of mine who walked through the tunnel were met with a volley of mud and stones from these women when they emerged from the tunnel.

Sennacherib conquered most of the other cities of Syria and Palestine. His representatives came to the wall of Jerusalem and called out to Hezekiah and to all the people to surrender to Sennacherib, declaring that there was no God who was able to deliver them out of the hands of Sennacherib. They pointed out how they had conquered so many other very powerful cities and that it would be impossible for Jerusalem to resist them.

The Book of Isaiah tells us how Hezekiah turned to God for help in this great crisis and how Isaiah came to the King and told him that the Lord had heard him and would defend the city and save it from the Assyrians. Then we are told that the angel of the Lord smote in the camp of the Assyrians 185,000 in a night and Sennacherib departed and returned to Nineveh.

This incident has been immortalized in Byron's famous poem

"The Assyrian came down like a wolf on the fold"

And his cohorts were gleaming with silver and gold

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We would not expect to read of this pestilence in the writings of Sennacherib himself. It was not customary in ancient times any more than it is today to put up monuments to celebrate defeats, nor to immortalize them in historical writings. If you read a school history used in the United States, the part telling about the war of 1812 is almost certain to hardly mention the land battles in which the American assaults on Canada were completely repulsed, but the incidents in which a single American boat or a small group of American boats met one or