## - Shaun Prario

#### Albion

Britain's oldest acknowledged name is perceived to be directly taken from a prehistoric giant king called 'Albion' who arrived on the island after being exiled from his homeland of Greece. "He was begotten by the sea-god whom the Greeks called Poseidon, the Romans Neptune." In *Chronicles of England, Scotland and Ireland*, by Raphael Holinshed, Albion and the giants were stated to have gradually consolidated their position within Britain where they ruled the land for hundreds, if not thousands of years.

### Albion Versus Hercules:

After a long reign, Albion went to the south of France (Called Gaul at the time) to help his army defeat Hercules. To ensure winning, Hercules summoned his father Zeus and a shower of stones fell from the sky. These were used as weapons against Albion and he was defeated. However, the giant race of Britain continued for hundreds more years, although their numbers decreased and ended up at southwestern tip of Cornwall, until the arrival of Brutus after the Trojan wars. However, Britain's original name could also be from a Greek giantess called 'Albina':

"The Chronicles of Britain, written by John de Wavrin between 1445 and 1455, relate that in the time of Jahir, the third judge of Israel after Joshua, Lady Albine and her sisters came to, and settled in, an island which they named Albion after her, and which afterwards got the name of Britain. While they were living there the devil assumed the shape of a man, and dwelt among the wicked women, and by they had issue great and terrible giants and giantesses, who afterwards much increased and multiplied, and occupied the land for a long time, namely, until the arrival of Brutus, who conquered them." Wavrin claimed they ruled the land of Britain for hundreds or possibly thousands of years.

"Corineus experienced immense pleasure from wrestling with the giants, of whom there were far more there than in any of the districts which had been distributed among his comrades. Among the others there was a particularly repulsive one, called Gogmagog, who was twelve feet tall." Attack of the Giants!

Additional sources state he was in fact twelve cubits tall. Therefore, this would've made him 18 feet (5.5 meters) tall. Gogmagog, was described as being so incredibly strong that he could uproot an oak tree and shake it like a hazel wand. This fierce giant attacked Corineus' camp with twenty of his kin. While developing into an all-out battle, Corineus and his men called on their local allies for assistance. By the end of this bloody conflict the giants were defeated. Brutus chose to keep one of the giants alive, Gogmagog. Brutus desired witnessing a wrestling match between Gogmagog and Corineus. During the tightly fought match, Gogmagog broke three of Corineus' ribs, and he was so enraged, he hoisted Gogmagog up on his shoulders with superhuman strength and ran to the cliff where he threw him off to his death. His body smashed into many pieces after hitting sharp rocks and stained the water red, "was so discolored with his blood as to continue tinged with it for a long time."

The cliff from which he was thrown became known as Langnagog or 'The Giants Leap'. It was on Plymouth Hoe that became the legendary place that the wrestling occurred because it was recorded in 1486 that a giant turf-cut figure was carved depicting two figures, one of them being Gogmagog.

"After scaring off the giants and launching attacks on the titans, the land was then divided. Corineus was given the southwest area to rule. Subsequently, this land became known as Cornwall.

Wherever it was, the names of Gog and Magog first appear in the Hebrew Bible with reference to Magog, son of Japheth in the Book of Genesis, then Gog, the king of Magog, appears in the Old Testament in Ezekiel (38:2) as the instigator of a terrible battle. Gog was referenced as being a person and Magog was the land he was from. Similar stories are echoed in the Book of Revelation and the Qur'an. The tradition is sparse and confused as Gog and Magog are presented as men, supernatural beings (giants and demons), national groups or lands, and appear widely in other folklore and mythology. For example, Gogmagog and Gogmaegot, are identified with giants in Spencer's *Faerie Queen* (1590) and within the medieval legends of Alexander. The names even reached Cambridge in Eastern England where the hilly area became known as the *Gog Magog Hills*, where interestingly, some taller than average skeletons were unearthed in the 1800s.

After defeating the giants, Brutus travelled throughout the entire country searching for a suitable area in which he could rule from. Finally, deciding on the River Thames he founded the city of Troia Nova, or New Troy. He famously arrived here along with his captured giant and later the named was altered to its Latin version called Trinovantum. Presently, we know this city as London.

In addition, to the story above, another version exists which describes the giants Gog and Magog as being two people who were taken prisoners. Thereafter, they were forced to become porters at the Royal Palace, now the London Guildhall. The effigies of Gog and Magog have remained at the Guildhall since the reign of Henry V. In, *The Gigantick History of the Two Famous Giants of Guildhall* (1741) it proclaims that Gogmagog and Corineus were in fact two giants:

"Corineus and Gogmagog were two brave giants who richly valued their honour and exerted their whole strength and force in the defence of their liberty and country; so the City of London, by placing these, their representatives in their Guildhall, emblematically declare, that they will, like mighty giants defend the honour of their country and liberties of this their City; which excels all others, as much as those huge giants exceed in stature the common bulk of mankind."

# The Giants of Cornwall, England

Cornwall was known as the Land of the Giants. The Cornish giants were a six-toed, six-fingered race,

- > 1. Cormoran and his blind wife <u>Cormelian</u> lived on St Michael's Mount.
  - 2. Holiburn of Carn Galva protected the people of Morvah and Zennor.
  - 3. Denbras lived in the Towednack hills.
  - 4. <u>Myen du</u> lived at Maen Castle near Land's End.
  - 5. <u>Dynas</u>, a deaf and dumb giant Treryn, lived in the stronghold of Dinas.
  - 6. <u>Bolster</u> lived in Beacon.

7. Jack the Tinkeard (or, the Hammer) perhaps the original giant-killer, found his fame here.

## Stonehenge

Stonehenge is perhaps the most famous megalithic structure ever built. While none of the structures so far mentioned were made during the vanished age when giants ruled the earth, they were definitely built by the survivors of the Great Flood who utilized technology borrowed from their giant predecessors.

Historia Regum Britanniae (The History of the Kings of Britain) by Geoffrey of Monmouth. (12<sup>th</sup> century).

In this work Geoffrey states that giants had built Stonehenge on Mount Killaraus which lies in Ireland. He explains the rocks of Stonehenge as special healing rocks and called the structure the *Giant's Dance*; not Stonehenge. He also claims these boulders were brought back from expeditions in Africa and had immense therapeutic properties. During the 5th century, Ambrosius Aurelius, (Arthurian figure) at the behest of Merlin, chose Stonehenge as a monument for the knights who perished fighting off Saxon incursions. The King dispatched Merlin along with Uther Pendragon and 15,000 knights into Ireland to capture the monument. Their orders were to bring the massive stones back to Britain. The knights slew 7,000 Irish warriors, but were unable to move the rocks with ropes and brute force.

Thereafter, failing to move the stones something amazing is said to have occurred. By utilizing the power of sound, Merlin disassembled the stones and transported them through a dimensional portal which had the stones arrive in Salisbury. Here they were re-assembled using more levitation. Ambrosius Aurelius then died and was buried with Stonehenge also known as "The Giant's Ring of Stonehenge."

Thus, when referencing Stonehenge, one of the most well-known of megalithic sites, mentions of giants and their ability to construct monuments from immense blocks of stones, weighing sometimes hundreds of tons, are well established. Until now, there has been no accurate method for pinpointing when rock was hewn from its quarry and constructed. On the contrary, a recently new dating method known as *Chlorine 23* dating has been developed. Recent attempts at using this new method on Stonehenge has revealed the monument to be far more ancient than the commonly accepted 4,500 years old. (A date maintained by current academia). According to this method of dating, Stonehenge registered as existing since 25,000 B.C. \*Mainstream scientists have rejected these figures. Subsequently, they don't consider the Chlorine 23 method of dating as reliable.



Giant chalk figures of England - The Long Man, Wilmington (left) & Cerne of Abbas; any connection? \*Additional giant chalk figures in England exist, including a man riding a horse.