

A Paper on the Topography of Northern Syria, with special reference to the Karnak Lists of Thothmes III, was read by the Rev. Henry George Tomkins.

In the *Proceedings* of our Society for January, 1883, is contained a communication on the "Ancient Geography of Northern Syria." In continuance of this subject I now beg to lay before the Council and Members the second Karnak list of tributary places.

Mr. Rylands has had prepared, with great accuracy, *facsimile* plates reproduced from Mariette's "Karnak," including not only the northern list but also that of Palestine. On the latter I hope to offer some notes hereafter, but in the present paper must restrict myself to that which Mariette described as "a supplemental list of 240 names of localities in the north added to one of the copies of the first list." "As to the 240 names," he adds, "the title belonging to them, if it ever existed, had disappeared with the demolished part of the pylon. One can therefore say nothing with certainty on the position of the country whither they carry us, except that we are to the north of Egypt, and in a land whither, in all likelihood, we arrive after having passed through the Upper Ruten." ("Karnak," page 53.)

It is now clear that the distinguished Egyptologist was right.

In the endeavour to throw some light on these names I have neglected nothing within my reach.

Since the end of 1882, when I made my previous communication on this subject, I have met with nothing so important as the last

studies of M. Lenormant, to which I have above referred, cut short by his lamented death on the 9th December, 1883.

The results of his labours I have duly acknowledged.

M. Lenormant cannot have seen the corrected readings given by M. Golenischeff, and this affects some of his suggested identifications. He considers that only 20 names, which he specifies, can be recognized as positively Semitic, viz.: "125. Tel-manna; 137. Uurt [*corr.* Tsen-rt, *Gol.*]; 151. Aubillin; 186. Khaduma; 189. Nireb; 190. Theleb; 198. Abatha; 206. Abirnath [*corr.* Abilteth, *Gol.*]; 208. Aurma; 217. Tul-Benta; 222. Qarta-Merut; 231. Athrun; 233. Abeth; 282. Maschaua; 287. Abellenu; 306. Aibel ou Aiber; 316. Puroth; 320. Puqiu; 333. Iurima; 348. Retep (Reçeph)."

May we not venture to add to the list several more, such as: 130. Tsarb; 136. Tsekar; 139. Erets-kna; 141. Bursu; 157. Kharres; 161. Tseker-el; 197. L'tseker; 201. Natub; 202. Tsetar-set; 205. Tuaub; 216. Tsetar-seta; 225. Ianu-khu; 249. Ketasha; 252. Sûr; 265. Retama; 292. Talkh; 318. Ari-penekha; 322. Thinnûr?

If this be so, still, omitting about 72 erased or defective names, there will remain more than four-fifths of the entire list of names in this region to be classed as "non-Semitic."

Leaving to philologists the origin and affinities of these names, I have tried to gain some light on their geographical position, so as, if possible, roughly to reconstruct the map of Northern Syria, as known to the "intelligence department" of Thothmes III, the "little corporal" of Pharaonic Egypt, and thus both to help and to stimulate the labours of the traveller and the student.

"Northern Syria," writes M. Rey, "only embraces, properly speaking, one great basin, that of the Orontes, to which those of the Kara-Su and the Afrîn attach themselves, these latter two mingling their waters in the lake of Antioch, which is itself tributary to the Orontes. To the north-east the Sajûr and the Kersin belong to the basin of the Euphrates, whose course forms the eastern boundary of Syria."

Now taking the results of whatever inquiry I have been able to make, and including all degrees of likelihood, I think that, deducting 72 names as erased or defective, out of the remaining 168 about 50 places will be found to belong to the Orontes basin, and about 20 to that of the Euphrates, with a few outlying to the north, and a

few in the Lebanon and the Phœnician coast. These results agree very well with the course of the campaigns of Thothmes in Syria, and the districts laid by him under tribute.

Let us, for instance, going northwards, take as guiding-points (246) Lebu, Lebweh on the upper stream of Orontes; (141) Bursu, if it be Brisa near Hermel; (279) Khaitu, Hait.

Then (249) Ketasha, if it be Kadesh on Orontes; (122) Amātu, Hamath: (130) Tsarb, Zerbi, south-east of Aleppo; (311) Khalebu, Aleppo; and (127) Tunipa, perhaps Tennib; and (177) Khatsa[tsu], Ezzaz; and (168) Khetsletsau, Kiliza, Killis; and (157) Kharres, Kharis, which leads us further north to (292) Talekh, Dolikhé (*Maspero*), and to (314) Samālua, if that be Sam'ala.

Then to the east, on Euphrates take (316) Pureth (the river-name itself?); and (288) Pederi, Pethor, and (270) Karkamasha; and (252) Sûr, capital of Sukhi; and on the Phœnician coast (123) Arethu, Aradus, and perhaps (120) Piltu-u, Paltos.

Then, as instances of subordinate places probably identified, may we not reckon (134) Ara, Arra; (140) Khalka, Khalkis; (189) Nireb, Nerab; (190) Tereb, Tereb; (196) Niashepa, Nisib; (205) Tuau, Kefr Tôb; (221) Atur, Hatûra; (237) Taleta, Talit; (247) Farina, el Fairyouny; (345) Abshaten\*, Bostan; and finally (349) Mauriqa, Mûrik?

I hope I am not rash in thinking that these and similar guesses are leading us towards some light in the topography of the Hittite land.

It seems to me that while on the one hand we miss the Biblical record of the names, which has been so great a stimulus and help in Palestine (since at the most there are only fourteen Biblical places in this list), and have instead to turn to the Assyrian annals; on the other hand the existing local names in their Syriac rather than Arabic forms are less disguised than those of the Southern list.

We have a land comparatively unknown, unsurveyed, unexplored, to deal with; but I trust the learned scholars and accomplished travellers of our Society will allow me to bespeak their "favourable censure" of my humble contributions towards Hittite topography.

In this paper I have kept within the Northern Syrian list. But I have collected some material bearing on other places, besides the

better known list of Palestine, which I hope to submit on some future occasion to the Society.

I need not say how very grateful I shall be for corrections, additional information, or any suggestions from gentlemen who know far more about this subject.

At any rate, I trust that the list as now brought forward may be found useful to travellers and students who, like myself, have to do most of their work at a distance from the great libraries and museums, and who have not the luxury at their command of "discoursing with a learned Theban" when their own learning threatens to run dry.

Remarks were added by Rev. W. Wright, D.D., Rev. W. Hayes Ward, D.D., Mr. J. Park Harrison, Mr. T. Tyler, Rev. W. T. Pilter, Mr. Theo. G. Pinches, and Rev. A. Löwy.