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MESOPOTAMIA**

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## ARAM AND ISRAEL

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# ARAM AND ISRAEL

OR

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BY

EMIL G. H. KRAELING, Ph.D.



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## NOTE

GRADUALLY the tangled skein of the early history of Western Asia is being unwound. Through excavations on the one hand and intensive study of the received documents on the other, the relation is being understood born by the various peoples and races to one another; and light is being thrown upon the forces that played in the great historic drama that history has unrolled for us in this part of the world. Our own interest in this history is certain; for whatsoever we are and whatsoever we possess comes to us from the Eastern half of the Mediterranean Sea. The Coast and the Hinterland of that Sea have played a preponderating part in determining the influence that was supreme there.

One of the peoples engaged in playing that part were the Aramaeans. Who they were and what their rôle was have been studied by Dr. Kraeling with much assiduity and with great care. From the various quarters he has gathered every scintilla of evidence available; and, in the following pages, he has put this evidence into connected form, so that he who reads may learn. It is with much pleasure that I commend the work that Dr. Kraeling has done.

RICHARD GOTTHEIL

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
Nov. 7, 1917





## FOREWORD

THE following pages purport only to give a sketch of the history of those Aramaean groups, which are of interest to the student of the Old Testament. I have endeavored to make my account readable and yet thoroughly scientific. The book offers no new and astonishing revelations, but I hope that here and there scholars may find a modest wayside flower worth the picking. The original sources are constantly cited. The secondary sources, so far as they were of value to me, or may be to the reader, are also continually referred to. The inclusion of numerous references in the text has made many abbreviations necessary and has caused the omission of the names of authors of magazine articles quoted. Only those versed in Oriental studies will realize how much we owe to men like Delitzsch, Hommel, Johns, Kittel, Lidsbarski, Meyer, Müller, Sachau, Schiffer, Streck, Winckler and others, whose researches have clarified the history of the ancient east and many obscure passages in the inscriptions. I have devoted special attention to geographical matters, for geography forms the basis of exact historical study. The transcription of modern place names generally follows that of Richard Kiepert.

I cannot close without expressing my deepest gratitude to Professors Richard Gottheil and J. Dynely Prince of Columbia for the kindness they have shown me, as well as to Professors A. T. Clay of Yale, J. A. Montgomery of Pennsylvania, and to Professors F. Weissbach, Geheimrat H. Zimmern, Geheimrat D. R. Kittel of Leipzig, my revered guides in the realm of Oriental research.

EMIL G. H. KRAELING

Luther's Birthday (Nov. 10), 1917

