

**THE VANDERBIL ORIENTAL
SERIES. ASSYRIAN AND
BABYLONIAN CONTRACTS: WITH
ARAMAIC REFERENCE NOTES**

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The Vanderbil Oriental Series. Assyrian and Babylonian Contracts: With Aramaic Reference
Notes by James Henry Stevenson & Herbert Cushing Tolman

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JAMES HENRY STEVENSON & HERBERT CUSHING TOLMAN

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BY

JAMES HENRY STEVENSON

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PREFACE.

IN the present volume all the cuneiform tablets in the British Museum having Aramaic inscriptions, are brought together for the first time, and arranged for purposes of comparative study.

The cuneiform texts with their Aramaic readings, as they appear on the tablet, are reproduced with as much fidelity as possible; and the individual Aramaic texts appear separately in a body of notes, where each is discussed. The reader is requested to compare the legends in both places, as it may sometimes happen in the process of etching, that the original is more faithfully produced in one place than in the other. The entire corpus of Aramaic inscriptions will be found grouped together at the close of the cuneiform texts, where readings may be compared, the development of the alphabet traced, and the individual peculiarities of the scribes noted.

In the transliteration and translation the cuneiform order is followed, so that the line for line of the Assyrian may be preserved. This has obvious disadvantages, but I think the advantages outweigh them.

I have not thought it necessary to mark all accented letters, as *ā*, *ā́*, etc., nor have I usually indicated long vowels when they were not indicated by the

scribe. In the translation I have generally shown the constituent elements of proper names where these were certain.

I desire to acknowledge the uniform courtesy which I received while copying these tablets in the British Museum, from Dr. E. A. Wallace Budge, keeper of Assyrian and Egyptian antiquities, as well as from his assistants. Every facility and encouragement was given me toward making the collection complete.

I am indebted to my instructor, Prof. Robert Francis Harper, for valuable suggestions and help while studying these texts. Rev. C. H. W. Johns, M.A., lecturer in Assyriology in Queen's College, Cambridge, has also laid me under obligation by reading the greater part of this book in the proof sheets. While this kindness on the part of Dr. Harper and Mr. Johns is highly appreciated, yet neither of them is to be held responsible for opinions expressed here.

Parts I., II., and IV. of this book were originally presented to the University of Chicago for the degree of doctor of philosophy.

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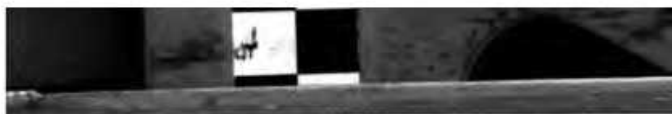


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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

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- A. B. P.*—Br. Meissner, *Beiträge zum Altbabylonischen Privatrecht*, Leipzig, 1893.
- A. B. R.*—J. Kohler und F. E. Peiser, *Aus dem Babylonischen Rechtsleben*, Leipzig, 1890, *ff.*
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- B. A. L.*—A. H. Sayce, *The Semitic Series: Babylonians and Assyrians, Life and Customs*, New York, 1900.
- B. V.*—F. E. Peiser, *Babylonische Verträge*, Berlin, 1890.
- C. I. S.*—*Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum*. De Vogüé, Paris 1881, *ff.*
- Doc. Jur.*—J. Oppert and J. Menant, *Documents Juridiques de l'Assyrie et de la Chaldée*.
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- G. A. S.*—J. A. Knudtzon, *Gebete an den Sonnengott*, Leipzig, 1893.
- H. W. B.*—Friedrich Delitzsch, *Assyrisches Handwörterbuch*, Leipzig, 1894–1896.
- J. R. A. S.*—*Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, New Series, London, 1865, *ff.*
- K. B.*—Eberhard Schrader, *Kerlinschriftliche Bibliothek*, Berlin, 1880, *ff.*
- Muss-Arnolt*—W. Muss-Arnolt, *A Concise Dictionary of the Assyrian Language*, Berlin, 1894, *ff.*
- Ph. Gl.*—A. Bloch, *Phœnicisches Glossar*, Berlin, 1890.



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- Ph. Spr.*—Paul Schröder, *Die Phönizische Sprache*, Halle, 1869.
- P. S. B. A.*—*Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, London, 1872, *ff.*
- Ph. S.*—M. A. Levy, *Phönizische Studien*, Breslau, 1850, *ff.*
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- Str. II.*—J. N. Strassmaier, *Babylonische Texte. Inschriften von Nabonidus*, Leipzig, 1887–1889.
- Str. III.*—J. N. Strassmaier, *Babylonische Texte. Inschriften von Nabuchodonosor*, Leipzig, 1889.
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- Z. A.*—C. Bezold, *Zeitschrift für Assyriologie*, Leipzig, 1886, *ff.*
- W. A. I., III.*—H. C. Rawlinson, *Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia*, London, 1870.

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