TRAVELS AND STUDIES IN THE NEARER EAST, VOL. I, PART II: HITTLE INSCRIPTIONS, PP. 1-48

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649306343

Travels and studies in the nearer east, Vol. I, Part II: Hittle Inscriptions, pp. 1-48 by A. T. Olmstead & B. B. Charles & J. E. Wrench

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TRAVELS AND STUDIES



THE NEARER EAST

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B. B. CHARLES

J. E. WRENCH

VOLUME I

PART II
HITTITE INSCRIPTIONS

ITHACA, NEW YORK

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Dr. Charles' work on the Hittite Inscriptions is printed in advance of the publication of the results of the Cornell Expedition to Asia Minor and the Assyro-Babylonian Orient. This is done for two reasons: 1, because scholars who knew of the fresh material discovered by the Cornell Expedition and of the importance of the work done by Dr. Charles on the old material were eager to have it published at once; and 2, it was feared, and not without reason, that much of the Expedition's work on the Hittite Inscriptions would be anticipated by others, if publication were postponed until the entire volume could be printed.

It is a matter of great regret that the publication of the results of the work of the Cornell Expedition has been delayed so long. Upon their return to America the members of the expedition were handicapped by their University work to such an extent that they had almost no time to devote to the elaboration of their results. This unhappy condition illustrates anew the fact, really axiomatic, that provision should be made in advance for the maintenance of an expedition as a body nutil the publication of their results shall have been completed. Such provision has rarely been made in the past; it could not be made in the case of the Cornell Expedition to Asia Minor and the Assyro-Babylonian Orient, and the consequence has been that the publication of the results of the expedition has been greatly delayed. However, it is hoped that the first volume can be given to the public before the end of 1912.

THE CORNELL EXPEDITION

TO

ASIA MINOR

AND THE

ASSYRO-BABYLONIAN ORIENT

ORGANIZED BY

J. R. S. STERRETT

ITHACA, NEW YORK 1911

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NOTE.

As a result of the interest shown in our Hittite discoveries and in response to the desire that these should be published as early as possible, the part of our work, the second of the first volume, dealing with the Hittite inscriptions is now issued. For a general account of the organization of the expedition as well as for the names of the generous men who have made that expedition possible, we must refer to the introduction which Professor Sterrett will contribute to the first part. Here too will be found the full description of the localities in which these inscriptions have been discovered.

A word may not be out of place as to the methods used in securing the inscriptions and as to the purpose of this publication. As the study of the Hittite inscriptions was recognized from the first as one of the most important of our duties in Asia Minor, we made special preparations. We had long been interested in the question of Hittite decipherment and had through this gained a fairly accurate knowledge of the Hittite characters, real or supposed. We carried with us the Hittite Corpus and all possible time was devoted to its study with special attention paid to the grouping of the signs. All Hittite inscriptions known in the field were visited and a number of new ones discovered. When an inscribed rock was reached it was first cleaned, often a matter of much time and trouble. Then the squeeze paper was pounded in. In this condition, a hand copy was made, the uniform white surface showing every slightest rise or incision which might hitherto have been concealed by the weathered and discolored rock. When the sun gave the longest shadow, this white surface was photographed and this photograph of the squeeze became the basis for the drawing now presented, the relative positions of the various signs as well as their forms being thus best preserved. When the inscription was of special difficulty, the squeeze was taken off a character at a time, so that the original rock and each side of the squeeze could be examined together. In America, the squeezes have been repeatedly studied with special reference to the possibility of finding in mutilated passages the same groups of signs which are to be found in other parallel sections. In this way, fragments of signs have been identified with the whole ones while a number of rare signs hitherto listed now turn out to be wrongly joined fragments of some that are perfectly well known. Finally, all these copies have been collated with the photographs. By thus sparing no possible labor, though it has sadly delayed the publication, it is hoped that the newly discovered inscriptions have been presented with as great an accuracy as their frequently mutilated and weathered condition will permit to a first attempt. As for those already known, a comparison with the copies in the Corpus will show wide differences. The Corpus copy was regularly compared with the stone itself and disagreements with it are to be taken as deliberate corrections. Reference has regularly been made to the Corpus number and this has been considered suf-