

**THE PERIPLUS OF HANNO: A
VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY DOWN
THE WEST AFRICAN COAST
OF THE FIFTH CENTURY B.C.**

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CARTHAGINIAN ADMIRAL & WILFRED H. SCHOFF

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THE PERIPLUS OF HANNO

A VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY
DOWN THE WEST AFRICAN COAST,
BY A CARTHAGINIAN ADMIRAL
OF THE FIFTH CENTURY B. C.

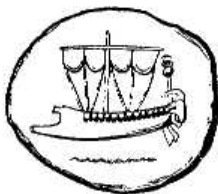
THE GREEK TEXT, WITH A TRANSLATION

BY

WILFRED H. SCHOFF, A. M.

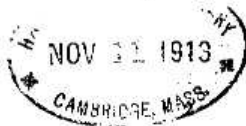
Secretary of the Commercial Museum, Philadelphia.

With explanatory passages quoted from numerous authors



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ΑΝΝΟΝΟΣ ΚΑΡΧΗΔΟΝΙΩΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΕΡΙΠΛΟΥΣ

ΤΩΝ ΥΠΕΡ ΤΑΣ ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟΥΣ ΣΤΗΛΑΣ ΑΙΒΥΚΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΓΗΣ ΠΕΡΑΝ

(Ὅν καὶ ἀπέθηκε ἐν τῷ τοῦ Κρόνου ταμίει, δηλοῦντα τάδε:)

1. Ἐδοξε Καρχηδόνιοις ἄνωγα πλεῖν ἔξω Σιγλῶν Ἡρακλείων καὶ πόλεις κτιζειν Λιβυροϊνίκων. Καὶ ἔπλευσε πεντηκοντόρους ἐξήκοντα ἄγων, καὶ πλῆθος ἀνδρῶν καὶ γυναικῶν εἰς ἀριθμὸν μυριάδων τριῶν καὶ σίτα καὶ τὴν ἄλλην παρασκευήν.
2. Ὡς δ' ἀναχθέντες τὰς Σιγλάς κερήμεψαμεν καὶ ἔξω πλοῦν δυοῖν ἡμερῶν ἐπλεύσαμεν, ἐπίσταμεν πρώτην πόλιν, ἦντινα ἀνομάσαμεν Θυματήριον· πεδίον δ' αὐτῇ μέγα ὕψη.
3. Κῆπιτα πρὸς ἐσπέραν ἀναχθέντες ἐπὶ Σολόεντα, Λυβικὸν ἀκρωτήριον λάσιον δένδρσι, συνήλαμεν.
4. Ἐνθα Ποσειδῶνος ἱερὸν ἰδρυσάμενοι πάλιν ἐπέβημεν πρὸς ἥλιον ἀνίσχοντα ἡμέρας ἡμισυ, ἄχρι ἐκομισθήμεν εἰς λίμνην οὐ κόρρω τῆς θαλάττης κειμένην, καλάμου μεστήν παλλοῦ καὶ μεγάλου· ἐνῆσαν δὲ καὶ ἐλέφαντες καὶ τάλλα θηρία νεμόμενα κάμπολλα.
5. Τὴν τε λίμνην παραλλάξαντες ὅσον ἡμέρας πλοῦν, κατφικίσαμεν πόλεις πρὸς τῇ θαλάττῃ καλουμένας Καρικὸν τε τείχος καὶ Πύττην καὶ Ἄκραν καὶ Μέλιτταν καὶ Ἄραμβυν.
6. Κάκειθεν δ' ἀναχθέντες ἤλαβομεν ἐπὶ μέγαν ποταμὸν Λίξον, ἀπὸ τῆς Ἀβύθς ῥέοντα. Παρὰ δ' αὐτὸν νομάδες ἄνθρωποι Λιξίται βουακήματ' ἐνεμον, καρ' οἷς ἐμείναμεν ἄχρι τινός, φιλοὶ γενόμενοι.
7. Ταύτων δὲ καθόπερθεν Αἰθίοπες ὄψκουν ἄξιοι, γῆν νεμόμενοι θηριώδη, διειλημμένην ὄρεσι μεγάλοις, ἐξ ὧν ῥεῖν φασὶ τὸν Λίξον, περὶ δὲ τὰ ὄρη κατοικεῖν ἀνθρώπους ἄλλοιομόρφους, Τρωγλοδύτας· οὗς ταχυτέρους ἴππων ἐν δρόμοις ἔπραζον οἱ Λιξίται.

THE VOYAGE OF HANNO, KING OF THE CARTHAGINIANS

To the Libyan regions of the earth beyond the Pillars of Hercules,
which he dedicated also in the Temple of Baal, affixing this

1. It pleased the Carthaginians that Hanno should voyage outside the Pillars of Hercules, and found cities of the Libyphœnicians. And he set forth with sixty ships of fifty oars, and a multitude of men and women, to the number of thirty thousand, and with wheat and other provisions.

2. After passing through the Pillars we went on and sailed for two days' journey beyond, where we founded the first city, which we called Thymiaterium; it lay in the midst of a great plain.

3. Sailing thence toward the west we came to Solois, a promontory of Libya, bristling with trees.

4. Having set up an altar here to Neptune, we proceeded again, going toward the east for half the day, until we reached a marsh lying no great way from the sea, thickly grown with tall reeds. Here also were elephants and other wild beasts feeding, in great numbers.

5. Going beyond the marsh a day's journey, we settled cities by the sea, which we called Caricus Murus, Gyttæ, Acra, Melitta and Arambys.

6. Sailing thence we came to the Lixus, a great river flowing from Libya. By it a wandering people, the Lixitæ, were pasturing their flocks; with whom we remained some time, becoming friends.

7. Above these folk lived unfriendly Æthiopians, dwelling in a land full of wild beasts, and shut off by great mountains, from which they say the Lixus flows, and on the mountains live men of various shapes, cave-dwellers, who, so the Lixitæ say, are fleet of foot than horses.

8. Λαβόντες δὲ παρ' αὐτῶν ἑρμηνέας, παρεπλέοντες τὴν ἑρμῆμν πρὸς μεσημβρίαν δύο ἡμέρας· ἐκεῖθεν δὲ πάλιν πρὸς ἥλιον ἀνίσχοντα ἡμέρας δρόμον. Ἐνθα εὗρομεν ἐν μυγῶ τινος κόλπου νῆσον μικράν, κύκλον ἔχουσαν σταδίων πέντε· ἦν κατωκίσαμεν, Κέρνην ὀνομάσαντες. Ἐτεκμαίρομεθα δ' αὐτὴν ἐκ τοῦ περίπλου κατ' εὐθὺ καίθῃσι Καρχηδόνος· ἐφώκει γὰρ ὁ πλοῦς ἐκ τε Καρχηδόνος ἐπὶ Στήλας κακίθῃεν ἐπὶ Κέρνην.

9. Τούντεσθεν εἰς λίμνην ἀρικόμεθα, διὰ τινος ποταμοῦ μεγάλου διαπλεύσαντες, [ᾧ ὄνομα] Χρήτης· εἶχε δὲ νήσους ἢ λίμνη τρεῖς μείζους τῆς Κέρνης. Ἄφ' οὗν ἡμερήσιον πλοῦν κατανύσαντες, εἰς τὸν μυγὸν τῆς λίμνης ἤλθομεν, ὑπὲρ ἣν ἔρη μέγιστα ὑπερέτεινε, μετὰ ἀνθρώπων ἀγρίων, δέρματα θήρεα ἐνημμένων, οἱ πέτροις βάλλοντες ἀπήραζαν ἡμᾶς, κωλύοντες ἐκβῆναι.

10. Ἐκειθεν πλέοντες εἰς ἕτερον ἤλθομεν ποταμὸν μέγαν καὶ πλατὸν, γέμοντα κροκοδείλων καὶ ἵππων ποταμίων. Ὅθεν δὴ πάλιν ἐπιστρέψαντες εἰς Κέρνην ἐπανήλθομεν.

11. Ἐκειθεν δὲ ἐπὶ μεσημβρίαν ἐπλεύσαμεν δώδεκα ἡμέρας, τὴν γῆν παραλεγόμενοι, ἣν πᾶσαν κατώκουεν Αἰθίοκες φεύγοντες ἡμᾶς καὶ οὐχ ὑπομένοντες· ἀσύνετα δ' ἐρθέγγοντο καὶ τοῖς μεθ' ἡμῶν Λιξίταις.

12. Τῇ δ' οὖν τελευταίᾳ ἡμέρᾳ προσωρμίσθημεν ἕρσει μεγάλῳι δασέσιν. Ἦν δὲ τὰ τῶν δένδρων ξύλα εὐώδη τε καὶ ποικίλα.

13. Περιπλεύσαντες δὲ ταῦτα ἡμέρας δύο ἐγινόμεθα ἐν θαλάττης χάσματι ἀμετρήτῳ, ἧς ἐπὶ θάτερα πρὸς τῇ γῆ πεδίον ἦν· ὅθεν νυκτὸς ἀφρωρῶμεν πῦρ ἀναφερόμενον πανταχόθεν κατ' ἀποστάσεις, τὸ μὲν πλεόν, τὸ δ' ἔλαττον.

14. Ὑδρευσάμενοι δ' ἐκεῖθεν ἐπλέοντες εἰς τοῦμπροσθεν ἡμέρας πέντε παρὰ γῆν, ἄχρι ἤλθομεν εἰς μέγαν κόλπον, ὃν ἔρχσαν οἱ ἑρμηνέες καλεῖσθαι Ἐσπέρου Κέρης. Ἐν δὲ τούτῳ νῆτος ἦν μεγάλη καὶ ἐν τῇ νήσῳ λίμνη θαλασσοῦδος, ἐν δὲ ταύτῃ νῆτος ἕτερα, εἰς ἣν ἀποβάτες ἡμέρας μὲν οὐδὲν ἀφρωρῶμεν ὅτι μὴ ὕλην, νυκτὸς δὲ πυρὰ τι πολλὰ καίόμενα, καὶ φωνὴν ἀλῶν ἠκούομεν κυμβάλων τε καὶ τυμπάνων

8. Taking interpreters from them, we sailed twelve days toward the south along a desert, turning thence toward the east one day's sail. There, within the recess of a bay we found a small island, having a circuit of fifteen stadia; which we settled, and called it Cerne. From our journey we judged it to be situated opposite Carthage; for the voyage from Carthage to the Pillars and thence to Cerne was the same.

9. Thence, sailing by a great river whose name was Chretes, we came to a lake, which had three islands, larger than Cerne. Running a day's sail beyond these, we came to the end of the lake, above which rose great mountains, peopled by savage men wearing skins of wild beasts, who threw stones at us and prevented us from landing from our ships.

10. Sailing thence, we came to another river, very great and broad, which was full of crocodiles and hippopotami. And then we turned about and went back to Cerne.

11. Thence we sailed toward the south twelve days, following the shore, which was peopled by Æthiopians who fled from us and would not wait. And their speech the Lixitæ who were with us could not understand.

12. But on the last day we came to great wooded mountains. The wood of the trees was fragrant, and of various kinds.

13. Sailing around these mountains for two days, we came to an immense opening of the sea, from either side of which there was level ground inland; from which at night we saw fire leaping up on every side at intervals, now greater, now less.

14. Having taken in water there, we sailed along the shore for five days, until we came to a great bay, which our interpreters said was called Horn of the West. In it there was a large island, and within the island a lake of the sea, in which there was another island. Landing there during the day, we saw nothing but forests, but by night many burning fires, and we heard the sound of pipes and cymbals, and the

πάταγον και κραυγήν μυρίαν. Φόβος οὖν ἔλαβεν ἡμᾶς, και οἱ μάντις ἐκέλευον ἐκλείπειν τὴν νῆσον.

15. Ταχὺ δ' ἐκπλεύσαντες παρημεϊβόμεθα χώραν διάπυρον θυμιαμάτων μεστ[ήν] μέγιστοι δ' ἀπ' αὐτῆς πυρώδεις ῥύακας ἐπέβαλλον εἰς τὴν θάλατταν. Ἡ γῆ δ' ὑπὸ θερμῆς ἀβρατος ἦν.

16. Ταχὺ οὖν κακίθεν φοβηθέντες ἀπεκλεύσαμεν. Τέτταρας δ' ἡμέρας φερόμενοι, νυκτός τὴν γῆν ἀπεωρώμεν φλογός μεστήν· ἐν μέσῳ δ' ἦν ἠλίβατόν τι πύρ, τῶν ἄλλων μείζον, ἀπτόμενον, ὡς ἐδόκει, τῶν ἀστρων. Τοῦτο δ' ἡμέρας ὅρος ἐφαίνετο μέγιστον, Θεῶν ὄχημα καλούμενον.

17. Τριταῖοι δ' ἐκείθεν πυρώδεις ῥύακας παρακλεύσαντες ἀπικόμεθα εἰς κόλπον Νότου Κέρας λεγόμενον.

18. Ἐν δὲ τῷ μυχῷ νῆσος ἦν, οἰκίαι τῇ πρώτῃ, λίμνη ἔχουσα· και ἐν ταύτῃ νῆσος ἦν ἑτέρα, μεστή ἀνθρώπων ἀγρίων. Πολὺ δὲ πλείους ἦσαν γυναῖκες, δασεῖται τοῖς σώμασιν· αἱ οἱ ἐρμηνέες ἐκάλουν Γορίλλας. Διώκοντες δὲ ἄνδρας μὲν συλλαβεῖν οὐκ ἠδυνήθημεν, ἀλλὰ πάντες (μὲν) ἐξέφυγον, κρηνοβάται ὄντες και τοῖς πέτροις ἀμυνόμενοι, γυναῖκας δὲ τρεῖς, αἱ δάκνουσαι τε και σπαράττουσαι τοὺς ἄγοντας οὐκ ἤθελον ἔπεισθαι. Ἀποκτείναντες μέντοι αὐτάς ἐξεδείραμεν και τὰς δορὰς ἐκομίσαμεν εἰς Καρχηδόνα. Οὐ γὰρ ἔτι ἐπλεύσαμεν προσωτέρω, τῶν σίτων ἡμᾶς ἐκλιπόντων.

noise of drums and a great uproar. Then fear possessed us, and the soothsayers commanded us to leave the island.

15. And then quickly sailing forth, we passed by a burning country full of fragrance, from which great torrents of fire flowed down to the sea. But the land could not be come at for the heat.

16. And we sailed along with all speed, being stricken by fear. After a journey of four days, we saw the land at night covered with flames. And in the midst there was one lofty fire, greater than the rest, which seemed to touch the stars. By day this was seen to be a very high mountain, called Chariot of the Gods.

17. Thence, sailing along by the fiery torrents for three days, we came to a bay, called Horn of the South.

18. In the recess of this bay there was an island, like the former one, having a lake, in which there was another island, full of savage men. There were women, too, in even greater number. They had hairy bodies, and the interpreters called them *Gorilleæ*. When we pursued them we were unable to take any of the men; for they all escaped, by climbing the steep places and defending themselves with stones; but we took three of the women, who bit and scratched their leaders, and would not follow us. So we killed them and flayed them, and brought their skins to Carthage. For we did not voyage further, provisions failing us.