

PRIVATE WILL OF  
SENNACHERIB KING OF ASSYRIA.

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TRANSLATED BY  
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A TRANSLATION of the Private Will of Sennacherib may suitably be connected with the specimens of Assyrian traffic and mercantile customs which follow. It is moreover the earliest example of a Will extant. Esarhaddon was not the eldest son, and at the time this Will was made, was not heir presumptive to the throne. He was, however, Sennacherib's favorite son; and the treasure named in the Will was accordingly deposited with certain priests of Nebo to be paid over to him after his father's death. Documents of this kind usually required the signatures of witnesses in order to be valid; this rule, however, was dispensed with in the case of the monarch. The original document is printed in the third volume of the *Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia*, pl. 16, No. 3.

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I, SENNACHERIB, King of multitudes, King of Assyria, have given chains of gold, stores of ivory, a *cup* of gold, crowns and chains besides, all the riches of which there are heaps, crystal and another precious stone and bird's stone: one and a half manehs, two and a half cibi, according to their weight: to ESAR-HADDON my son, who was afterwards named ASSUR-EBIL-MUCIN-PAL according to my wish; the treasure of the Temple of AMUK and (NEBO)-IRIK-ERBA, the *harpists* of NEBO.

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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