ANNALS OF THOTHMES III.

ACCOUNT OF THE

BATTLE OF MEGIDDO.

TRANSLATED BY

S. BIRCH, LL.D.

THE text of this inscription, which is given in Lepsius Denkmäler, records in detail the great battle of Megiddo between Thothmes III and one of the confederations of the small kings and princes of Palestine. This campaign commenced in the 22nd year of his reign, and the defeat there suffered by the allies appears to have assured to Egypt the submission of the neighbouring countries and the extension of the power of Egypt to Nineveh, and possibly to India itself. The record of this campaign was placed on a wall near the cella subsequently erected by

Philip II or Arridæus at Karnak, and it is one of the most important hieroglyphic historical texts known. Unfortunately it is much mutilated but not so greatly so that the reader cannot follow the general sense and meaning and supply the defective portions. It has been translated in the Archæologia, and by Brugsch Bey, Histoire d'Égypte, p. 95. There is only one copy of the text, that of Lepsius, but it is well given, and doubts only exist as to the proper restoration of its lacunæ. The general order of these fragments is as follows: I. Lepsius, Denkmäler iii. 31 b. III. Lepsius, Denkmäler iii. 32. IV. Lepsius, Auswahl, Taf. xii. V. Lepsius, Auswahl, Taf. xii., Denkmäler iii. 31 a. VI. Lepsius, Denkmäler iii. 30 b.



FRAGMENT.

(2)

Lepsius, Denkmäler, Abth. iii., Bl. 31 b.

1	The speech. Has been consecrated
2	from the contribution of each (year).
3	dwelling (in Thebes)
5	
6	
	bearing tribute
	the awe of His Majesty in (their hearts) '
	to remain in the mouths of the living '
	of all countries, repulser of '
	the Horus, the living Sun, the powerful Bull, crowned
	in Uas,2 the Lord of diadems (whose kingdom has in-
	creased like the sun in heaven
	King of Upper and Lower Egypt, Lord of the earth,
	RA-MEN-KHEPER), the Son of the Sun (THOTHMES may
	he live for ever!)
	His Majesty ordered to be placed (on the wall
	the extent of his power)
	a tablet at this temple which His Majesty made for 1
•	the expedition in its name, together with the tribute and
	captives brought to it
6	all (which) he gave to his father the Sun. On the
	I Lacure ² The Thebaid

day of the month Pharmuthi, of the 22nd year of
his reign (His Majesty) proceeded from the city)
7 of Tairu in his first campaign of victory (to
extend the)
8 frontiers of Egypt through the victory (which his father
AMEN-RA had promised him),
9 when it was the time appointed for (meeting)
1
o hastened each (to take to)
II then the warriors and the men
who were
12 in the fortress of the land of Sharuana,3 commencing
from Iuruta. ⁴
13 continuing to the seats of the country were coming to
rebel against His Majesty. On the 4th of Pashons, of
the 23rd year the day of the festival of the royal crowns,
at the
14 fortress made by the Ruler of Katatu
15 On the 5th of Pashons entering the place in triumph
(with power)
16 defence, and justification to overthrow the vile enemy, to
extend
17 the confines of Egypt as his father, AMEN-RA, (had pre-
dicted to him.)
18 Taking his way on the 16th of Pashons of the 23rd
vear to the fortress of Juhem, proceeded (His Majesty)
19 discoursing with his brave troops telling that the vile
(enemies)
20 of Kateshus had come entered to Maketa;6 it was (done
21 at the moment. He reviewed for him the Chiefs of the
countries (who were)
¹ Lacunæ. ² Pelusium or Tsur. ³ Sharon. ⁴ Jericho. ⁵ Khodesh or Kadytis.
Snaron.

⁴ Jericho.
⁶ Megiddo.

22 from the waters of Egypt, to the	e places of Naharama
(the Khita),	1 .1 .
23 the Kharui, the Katu,2 their hors	
24 Inasmuch as he has said, that I	stand at (the fortress
which is)	
25 in Maketa I have told you	
26 They say in reply to His Majesty	. What is it like going
on this road	
27 which leads along so narrow? I	
28 said the enemy (are there) standi	ng on 3
29 moreover many, where a horse	e does not go behind
30 men also. We are 3	
31 longing, to fight. The enemy we	ere standing at the main
roads	
32 of Aaaruna; they will not fight.	Now (as to the course)
of the main roads	
33 one of the roads, it leads 3	us 3
34 of the land Aanaka,5 the other le	
35 the North road of Tefta.6 Let u	is proceed to the North
(of) Maketa. ⁷	
36 How our mighty Lord will m	narch on (the way in
triumph there). Let His Majesty	make
37 us go on that unknown road. W	Vere
38 the guides 3 to overthrow	
39 Spoken as before were the wo	rds of His Majesty to
them,	
40 I am the beloved of the Sun,	praised by my father
AMEN, the youth of the Sun	
41 with life, health, and strength.	I will go on this road
of Aa-	
I.Mtauria	2 C:-
¹ Mesopotamia. ³ Lacunæ. ⁴ Ajalon.	² Syria. ⁵ Or Taanaka.
⁶ Gaza or Gath.	⁷ Megiddo.
	megnato.
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64 65 66	the southern horn from A(anaka) the northern horn from the southern angle. His Majesty in its power in they will overthrow the enemy	
2	¹ Horn or wing of the army. Or Taanaka (Thaanac of the Greeks).	³ Lacunæ.



FRAGMENT.

(3)

Lepsius, Denkmäler, Abth. iii., Bl. 32.

- 9 our troops firm. His Majesty was beyond them (going) 10 in front guarding the advance of his valiant troops, when the Capt-
- 11 ains advanced coming forth on that road; it was the time of
- on the shore of the waters of Kaina, it being the seventh hour from noon. His Majesty pitched (his tent) to make a speech before his whole army, saying, "Hasten ye, put on your helmets, for I shall fly to fight with the vile enemy on the morning." Therefore was
- 13 a rest at the doors of the King's tent, made by the baggage of the Chiefs, things of the followers and supplies. Was passed the watch (word) of the army, who say,
 - Ajalon. 2 Lacunæ. 3 Megiddo. 4 Keneh, xen

"Firm, firm, watch, watch, watch actively at the King's pavilion." The land of Meru, and those born of the South and North have come to address His Majesty. Moreover on the 22nd day of the month Pashons, the day of the festival of the new moon and laying the royal crown, on the morning then in presence of the entire army was passed (the watchword)

- His Majesty proceeding in his chariot of gold, distinguished by the decorations of work, like the terrible Horus, the Lord who makes things, like Mentu Lord of Uas.² His father Amen-Ra gave the might of his arms. The Southern horn of the army of His Majesty was at the shore (of the lake) of Kaina,³ the Northern horn (extending) to the North-west of Maketa,⁴ His Majesty being in the midst of them, the god Amen being the protection in his active limbs, he (wounding them with)
- 15 his arms. His Majesty prevailed over them before his army. They saw His Majesty prevailing over them, they fell prostrate on the (plains) of Maketa on their faces through terror; they left their horses, their chariots of gold and silver which drew them, and were dragged by the entanglement of their clothes to that fortress. The men shut up in that fortress took off
- 16 their clothes to haul them up to that fortress. Then the troops of His Majesty took no heed of capturing the things of the fallen. The (army reached) Maketa⁴ at the moment when the vile enemy of Kateshu and the vile enemy of the fortress were striving to let them enter the fortress. His Majesty frightened (them)
- 17 5 their arms, he prevailed by his diadem over them. Their horses and their chariots of gold and of

[&]quot; "By the Life," or "the life of the Pharaoh." Cf. Gen. xlii. 15.
" The Thebaid. " Keneh.

⁴ The North wing of the army at Megiddo.

⁵ Lacunæ.

•
silver were captured, were brought (to His Majesty)
· · · · · · in which was (his) son
glory (to Amen for what) he had given to his son. (The
bringing the spoil they took of hands, living captives,
horses chariots of silver and gold, of (divers colours).
horses chariots of silver and gold, of (divers coady
19 The words of his troops in saying make ye ready
power ' give ye ' the Sun upon that day,
inarmuch as every Chief of the countries and repellious
places came into it, inasmuch as the filling of a thousand
fortresses, and the filling of Maketa, the filling worked
by the Sun (in heaven)
20 the Chief of his troops to return
all' his place' They measured the fortress'
in (or of) ditches r encircled with the green wood of
in (or of) ditches Effected with the green woods
their beautiful woods. His Majesty delighting himself
with the Eastern citadel of the fortress to watch
i windled with the wall of the tower Its tower
which he gave the name of RA-MEN-KHEPER-UAH-
~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~

of His Majesty.

22 them outside which was behind this wall, guiding them to come forth opposite the gate of their citadel. For His Majesty strengthened this fortress against the vile enemy, and his vile troops placed on the

SAT giving persons to watch at His Majesty's doors, saying to them, Steady, steady, watch, watch at the doors

Lacunæ.

² Or "quivering."

³ That is, the capture of Megiddo is equal to the capture of a thousand other fortresses.

^{4 &}quot;Holder of the plains of the Sati," or East.

day, in his name, by the name of (Amen) of the going \dots

- 23 their ' placed on a roll of leather in the temple of Amen, on that day, then the Chiefs of that land came, (bringing the usual tribute), adoring the spirits of His Majesty, asking breath for their nostrils of the greatness of his power and the importance of his spirits '
- 24 · · · · · · · came to his spirits, having their tribute of silver, gold, lapis lazuli, (turquoise 3) and alabaster, vessels of wine, flocks. The army of His Majesty, made the prisoners bear the tribute in the galley. Then His Majesty faced the Chiefs anew · · · · · · · · ·
- 25 ¹ living captives, 340, hands 83, mares 2041, fillies 191, cattle 6,⁴ plants ¹ chariots plated with gold, an ark of gold of the enemy, an excellent chariot plated with gold of the Chief of ¹
- 26 892 chariots of his vile army, total 924; r excellent suit of bronze armour of the enemy, a bronze suit of armour of the Chief of Maketa, 200 suits of armour of his vile army, 502 bows, his delight, 7 poles of the pavilion of the enemy plated with silver. Then the army took r
- 28 38 of their family, 87 sons of Chiefs of the enemy, and of the leaders with him 5, others, slaves,

Lacunæ.

2 Or "soul," always mentioned in the plural, the "importance" or "grandeur of his soul," or mind, or intention.

³ Or mafka, "glass" or blue porcelain.
4 Aber, "bulls" or "stallions."
5 Or little she goats, kids.

male and female, including children, 1796, prisoners who surrendered, starved out of the enemy 103; total 2503: besides gems, gold dishes, and various vases

- 29 ¹ a great cup the work of the Kharu, ² dishes ¹ various vases, for drinking, having great stands, 97 swords weighing 1784 pounds, gold in rings found in the hands of the workmen, and silver in many rings 966 pounds, 1 ounce, a silver statue made
- 30 ' the head of gold, seats of ' (men) of ivory, ebony and cedar, inlaid with gold, chairs of the enemies 6, footstools belonging to them 6, 6 large tables of ivory and cedar inlaid with gold and all precious stones, a stick in the shape of a sceptre 3 of that Chief, inlaid with gold throughout: 4 statues
- 31 of the fallen Chief, of ebony inlaid with gold, of which the heads are of gold (and lapis).... that..... vessels of bronze, an infinite quantity of the clothes of the enemy. When the fields of the district were taken to calculate their produce to the King's house, to lay down their quota, the total of the quantity brought to His Majesty from the plains of Maketa was ... 208,000 bushels of corn,
- 32 besides what was cut and taken away. His Majesty's army came ¹ the tribute of the Ruten on the 40th year, brought by the Chief of As-suru, ⁵ I great stone of lapis lazuli, weighing 20 pounds 9 ounces, 2 stones of true lapis lazuli, total 3; 30 pounds of ¹ total 50 pounds 9 ounces, good lapis lazuli of Babel 3, (heads) ⁶ vases of As-suru ⁵ of stone ¹
- 33 very many, the tribute of Chiefs of the Rutennu, the daughter of a Chief, ornaments, silver, gold, lapis lazuli of

¹ Lacunæ. ² Syria. ³ Karukaru, or "cylinder." ⁵ Assyria. ⁵ Assyria.

⁶ Or "covers" or "handles."

- the country . . . ¹ persons . . . ³ 30, the slaves male and female of its tribute 65, gold chariots ¹ 100, boxes of gold 4, a chariot of (silver inlaid) with (pure gold) ² ¹ with boxes ³ of studs 5, total 10; buffalo steers 45, bulls 500, (total) 1200 ¹
- 34 which could not be weighed, silver dishes and beaten out plates 104 pounds, 5 ounces, a gold *makargina*⁴ inlaid at the border with lapis lazuli, bronze reins bordered with gold * a bronze . silver . numerous suits of armour,
- 35 823 amphoras of incense, 1718 amphoras of wine, and honey ¹ numerous, cut and set studs, ⁶ ivory, and cedar, sycamore a vast quantity of firewood all the best of that country ¹
- 36 by all the places which His Majesty went round given in his camp. In the 24th year the amount of the tribute brought by the spirits of His Majesty from the land of the Ruten, the tribute of As-suru was h(orses)
- 37 bracelets of the leather of a masha, bolts of a chariot with the heads of wood 170 shekels 9
- 38 ¹ 343, 50 cedars, 190 mulberry ¹⁰ trees, 205 vines, fig trees 340, 20
- 39 willows 3000 various vases.
 - Lacunæ.
 - ² Tam or uasm, "electrum," or according to some "copper."
 - 3 The seats or body of the chariot, nailed or else of another material.
- 4 Or kamarigina, a "breast plate," or "covering" of some kind of a person.
- ⁵ xener, a doubtful word supposed to be "the reins of a chariot," according to Brugsch a "harp."
 - ⁶ Akat, as before, either a nail or material.
 - 7 Maxen, "a skin" or "stone."
 - 8 Apparently some kind of animal. 9 Or rings.
- ¹⁰ The meru or morus, possibly the sycamore, it has the same determinative pod as the ses and as.

FRAGMENT.

(4)

Lepsius, Denkmäler, Abth. iii., Bl. 31 A. Auswahl, xii. l. 42-54.

2 shekels, tata, abha stone, stibium, gums . . . tattle of the country, wood for burning, the work of the vile Kush,4 80 pounds I ounce of gold . . . I o male and female slaves, cattle steers (beside boats laden with) 3 ivory and ebony, and all the products of that land the quota (of the Kush in that year was) . . . 34 negro slaves, male and female, 94 bulls and steers besides boats laden with all good things. The quota of the Uauat was (Then His Majesty was) 4 in his 13th expedition, His Majesty destroyed x (in the) confines of Anaukasa. The amount of the captives brought by the army from the confines of the Anaukasa was 50 living captives, horses . . . r chariots . . . in 5 ornaments, men surrendered of the territory of Anaukasa the tribute brought to His Majesty's spirits in that year was 327 horses, 522 slaves male and female, 9 chariots inlaid with gold and silver, painted 61, total 70, a collar (of lapis lazuli) * a goblet, dishes, 6 heads of goats, and head of a lion, vases the work of the Tahai 5 1 2821 pounds 3 ounces, with 276 of bricks of the metal in its land 6 27 bricks of steel, 7 656 jars of incense, 3 jars of sweet and green dates,8 1752 amphoras of oil, 156 jars of wine, 12 bulls, 46 asses, 1 deer.

³ Or "glass," aba-geene, Copt. 2 Rings or earrings. Lacunæ. ⁴ Ethiopia. 5 Or Tsaha, a port of Phœnicia. 7 T'hat.

⁶ Or "metal ore."

⁸ Or "palm wine."

- 7 5 tusks of ivory, a table of ivory and cedar, white sandstone 68 pounds '21 (suits of armour) spears, shields and bows . . . 'all kinds of weapons and fragrant wood of that country, all the best products of that country. Then came every city supplying all good things according to the rate of their yearly produce in 'a galley the work of the Remenu'
- 8 likewise the quota of the Tahai³ in corn, green dates, and incense ¹ the tribute brought by the Chief of the Asi out of his land . ¹ was the iron of his country⁴ . . ¹ (bricks), 3 horses. The tribute of the Chief of Arurekh⁵ in that year (was) male and female slaves, 2 bricks of the iron⁶ of his country, 65 logs of cedar⁷ wood, with all the fragrant wood of his country. (There was) brought to the spirits of His Majesty from the land of Punt⁸
- 9 gums 240 sa measures, the work of the vile Kush gold 100 pounds 6 ounces . . . 36 negro slaves male and female, 111 steers, 185 bulls, total 306, besides boats laden with ivory and ebony and all the good products of that land with the quota of that land the work of the Uauat 2844, male and female slaves
- 10 negroes 16, steers 77, besides (boats) laden with all the good products of that land. (In) the 39th year His Majesty (was) in the land of the Rutennu⁹ in his 14th campaign after he went the fallen of the Shasu. The amount (of tribute brought by) (was) 197 male and female slaves
- 11 229 mares, gold dishes with rings 12 pounds
 - Lacunæ. ² Armenia. ³ Or Tsaha, a port of Phœnicia.

 4 Or "in its ore." ⁵ Erech. ⁶ Or "metal in its ore."
 - 4 Or "in its ore." 5 Erech. 6 Or "metal in 7 Ses wood, perhaps a kind of acacia or else cedar.
 - 8 Arabia or the Regio Barbarica.
 - 9 Northern Syria and Mesopotamia. 10 Arabs.

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