

ANNALS OF THOTHMES III.

INSCRIPTION OF AMEN-EM-HEB.

TRANSLATED BY

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THIS inscription was found on the walls of a tomb at Gournah. It was published and translated by Dr. G. Ebers, *Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Alterthumskunde*, 1873, S. 1-9 and S. 63, 64; and by M. Chabas, *Mélanges Égyptologiques*, 1873, Tom. II. p. 279-306; *Académie des Inscriptions et des Belles lettres. Comptes rendues*, Paris, 1873, Tom. I. p. 155. This important tablet gives the date of the reign of Thothmes III, which was upwards of 53 years, as the king died on the 30th Phamenoth, in the 54th year of his reign, evidently having been a mere child when he ascended the throne.

The events recorded in it complete the account of those described in the Statistical Tablet, Amen-em-heb having been engaged in some of the campaigns mentioned in the Tablet, and having brought back portion of the spoil. This inscription, with that of Aahmes and the tomb of Rekmara, helps to complete the history of the reign of Thothmes III.



INSCRIPTION OF AMEN-EM-HEB.

- 1 I was the better part of the Ruler, Living and Well,¹ the half of the heart of the King of Upper Egypt, the glory of the heart of the King of Lower Egypt, I followed
 2 my Lord at his footsteps in the land of the North and South as he wished, I was accompanying his feet, I (did not leave) him
 3 out of sight, his power and his valour were intrepid. I took spoil in that land of
 4 Kabu,² I led thence Amu³ 3 persons, living captives. When His Majesty approached Naharaina⁴
 5 I took 3 persons (as) my spoil thence, I set them before Thy Majesty as living captives.
 6 Again I took spoil at the expedition in the vicinity of the land of Uan⁵ on the West of Kharubu,⁶ I brought
 7 Amu³ living prisoners 13 persons, 70 live asses, 13 weapons of bronze and weapons inlaid with gold:
 8 I again took spoil in the expedition of the land of Karukamasha,⁷ I led thence . . .⁸ (persons)
 9 living captives, I transported them (on) the waters of Naharaina,⁴ they were in my hand (as slaves).
 10 (I set them) before my Lord. He rewarded me with a great reward, the amount (was) a chain
 11 (of gold). Again I saw the power of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt RA-MEN-KHEPER,⁹ the Giver of Life, in the land of Sentaru¹⁰ he made⁸

¹ *anx uta suut*, some read, "may he live."

² Unknown.

³ Asiatics.

⁴ Mesopotamia.

⁵ Uan, or Van.

⁶ The Chalybes or Aleppo.

⁷ Carchemish.

⁸ Lacunæ.

⁹ Thothmes III.

¹⁰ Or Senqaru, Singara.

- 12 (they) were captured by me before the King ; I brought a hand¹ thence. He gave me gold² for my reward, the amount (was) a gold chain
 13 and 2 silver rings. Again I saw his valour I was among his followers capturing
 14 Kateshu,³ I did not leave the place where he was, I led officers 2 persons, (living prisoners I placed them)
 15 before the King the Lord of the two Worlds THOTHMES ruler of the Thebaid, the Ever-living he gave me (gold) for (my) valour before all persons,
 16 the amount (was) a gold chain, the buckle (in shape) of a lion, 3 collars, 2 flies, and 4 bracelets. I saw my Lord in⁴
 17⁴ in all his forms in the confines of the land of (Ta⁴
 18 ha . . . and again he gave me. I was raising⁴ my⁴ (for).
 19 I again saw his might in that land of Takhisa (I brought thence) the hand of a dead man
 20 I spoiled it before the King, I brought three Amu as living prisoners, gave to me
 21 my Lord gold for a reward, the amount was 2 gold collars, 4 bracelets, 2 flies,⁵ a lion (and) a slave.
 22 Again I saw a second time a good work done by the Lord of the two countries in the land of Nii⁶ he hunted 120 elephants on account of their tusks there ; of (them was)
 23 captured the largest one which was among them he rushed in front of His Majesty I cut his hand,⁷ he (fell) alive (in my power).

¹ *I.e.* "slew a prisoner."² Or "a collar."³ Kadesh, or Kadytis.⁴ Lacunæ.⁵ *Apa*, or "jewelled scarabei."⁶ Nineveh, or else India. The Assyrians had no elephants; at present none are nearer Mesopotamia than 1200 miles.⁷ His trunk.

- 24 I went also in the water which is between the two rocks,
my Lord rewarded me with gold.
- 25 He gave me¹ dresses, three pairs. The King of
Kateshu² made a mare come forth
- 26 in front (against His Majesty). She ran in the midst of
my troops, I followed after her
- 27 on foot having my weapon. I ripped up her belly, I cut
off her tail, I gave
- 28 it to the King, praised be god for it. He gave me joy,
it filled my belly with delight it united my limbs.
- 29 His Majesty ordered that all the valour of his troops
should be exerted to open the new walls at Kateshu, I
- 30 broke them open, I led all the valiant. No other person
went before me, I brought officers
- 31 two living prisoners. Again His Majesty ordered that I
should be rewarded on account of it¹ in all
- 32 good places, giving satisfaction to the heart of His
Majesty that I had made this capture. I was Captain
(of the¹ boat)
- 33 I ordered the towing in¹ at the head of his
companions
- 34 in rowing (the boat) in the good festival of (Southern)
Thebes to the place of¹ mankind in joy."³
- 35 So the King ended his time of existence of many good
years of victory (and) power, and was made
- 36 justified, commencing at the 1st year and ending at
his 54th year in the 30th of the month Phamenoth of (the
reign) of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt
- 37 RA-MEN-KHEPER,⁴ Justified, he ascended to heaven, and
joined the Sun's disk a divine follower, urgent in doing, it
shone to him as the morning, he was

¹ Lacunæ.² Kadesh, or Kadytis.³ Name of the palace or temple, probably of "Amen who unites mankind in joy;" a part of Thebes.⁴ Thothmes III.

- 38 the disk of the Sun coming out of the heaven. The
 anointed King of Upper and Lower Egypt RA-AA-KHE-
 PERU the Son of the Sun AMEN-HOTEP¹ the Giver of Life
 39 was established on the throne of his father he rested
 in the royal residence, all invaders he thrust back, the
 Kau²³
 40 of the land of Tert⁴ he hewed off the heads of their
 Chiefs, (He was) crowned as HORUS the son of ISIS, he took
 41 (possession of) that land. The inhabitants of the land
 of Kenem,⁵ every land bowed to his spirits,⁶ their tribute
 was on their backs
 42 (he gave) them the breath of life. His Majesty saw me
 for I led him in his boat (on the river)
 43 (Shaa) ta-em-ua⁷ was its name. I (was rowing it with)
 my hands in the good festival of Southern Apt⁸ also I
 arranged³
 44³ I went also into the harem of the palace, I was
 allowed to stand in the presence of the King of Upper and
 Lower Egypt RA-AA-KHEPERU.¹ It was
 45 an honour. I was bowing myself forthwith before His
 Majesty. He said to me, I know about thee. It has
 been told me all thou hast done
 46 following my father. Given to thee for an honour that
 thou hast commanded the troops. Likewise it was said,
 you watch over the valiant troops of the King. (The
 officer Mahu performed all) his words.⁹

¹ Amenophis II.² "Miserable."³ Lacunæ.⁴ Teshr.⁵ The word may mean vineyards.⁶ *Bau*, "will" or "mind."⁷ M. Chabas reads "crowned in the boat of Ma." It is perhaps
 "crowned with Truth."⁸ A part of Thebes.⁹ Or, "Being a true (faithful) officer doing all his words."

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