

RECORDS OF THE PAST.

VOL III.

ASSYRIAN TEXTS.

NOTE.

Every Text here given is either now translated for the *first time*, or has been specially revised by the Translator to the date of this publication.

RECORDS OF THE PAST:

BEING

ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

OF THE

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P R E F A C E .

THE third volume of the "Records of the Past" contains a continuation of Translations of Assyrian Texts, and some of the principal historical and other documents found in the Cuneiform inscriptions. Their importance to historical, biblical, and philological studies, has been already pointed out, and the monuments which appear in the present, are not of less interest than those in the first volume. The great mass of literature already exhumed, the attention directed to it by more scholars, the interest awakened in the study, and the learning displayed in the elucidation of Assyrian and Babylonian Cuneiform, promise the most valuable contributions to the knowledge of these oldest of races of mankind. There still remains, should even the present materials be exhausted, a mine of literary treasure in the mounds of Mesopotamia, which sooner or later must be brought to light, and help to solve some of the problems which the monuments hitherto found have presented to different inquirers. The data are by degrees arranging themselves in their respective places, and their value is more justly appreciated. Indispensable to a due

knowledge of the history of Western Asia, they are hardly less so for the unexpected information they afford to the proper comprehension of the events in Palestine which preceded the fall of the Jewish kingdoms, the conquest of Egypt and Cyprus, and the unexpected and important part which the Assyrians played in the history of the world. The materials of this volume, like the preceding, have been prepared by different Assyriologists with great care, and those which have appeared elsewhere have been carefully revised and corrected or retranslated for the present volume. They will be found to be of interest to the students of chronology, history, and comparative mythology.

S. BIRCH.

December, 1874.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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