

DIRGE OF MENEPHTAH.

 TRANSLATED BY

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THE following short poetical eulogium of a king, apparently of Menephtah or Seti II of the XIXth dynasty, is found in Papyrus Anastasi 4 of the British Museum. It is published *Select Papyri*, Pl. lxxxiv, l. 2-9, lxxxv, l. 1. Although not divided by red dots it is clearly poetic in style, and is accordingly given in paragraphs. From the final line it appears to be addressed to the monarch after his death. Although the titles do not exactly correspond with those of Ramses II or Menephtah

it appears to relate to him, as the papyrus is of his reign and that of Seti II of the same dynasty. It may indeed refer to this later monarch, but as no cartouche is given and the titles after the palatial or so called Horus ones are doubtful, it is uncertain who the monarch is to whom it refers. It has been translated by M. Chabas, *L'Égypt aux temps de l'exode*, Chalons 1873, p. 118.



DIRGE OF MENEPTAH.

1 AMEN gave thy heart pleasure,
 2 he gave thee a good old age,
 3 a life-time of pleasure followed thee
 4 blessed was thy lip, sound thy arm
 5 strong thy eye to see afar
 6 thou hast been clothed in linen.¹
 7 Thou hast guided thy horse and chariot
 8 of gold with thy hand
 9 the whip in thy hand, yoked were the steeds
 10 the Xaru,² and Nahsi,³ marched before thee
 11 a proof of what thou hadst done
 12 thou hast proceeded to thy boat of *ās*⁴ wood
 13 a boat made of it before and behind
 14 thou hast approached the beautiful tower which
 15 thou thyself made
 16 thy mouth was full of wine, beer, bread and flesh
 17 were slaughtered cattle and wine opened :
 18 the sweet song was made before thee
 19 thy head anointer anointed thee with *kami*⁵
 20 the Chief of thy garden pools brought crown
 21 the Superintendent of thy fields brought birds
 22 thy Fisherman brought fish

¹ Or gone to the gap to which the dead went to in the Sun boat.

² Syrians as prisoners of war.

³ Negroes.

⁴ Cedar or acacia.

⁵ A kind of balsam.

- 23 thy galley came from Xaru' laden with good things
24 thy stable was full of *horses*²
25 thy female slaves were strong³
26 thy enemies were placed fallen
27 thy word no one opposed
28 Thou hast gone before the gods the victor the justified!⁴

¹ Syria.

² Or cattle.

³ Or industrious, *rut*.

⁴ Dead or departed.



END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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