

TIGLATH PILESER II.

TRANSLATED BY

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TIGLATH-PILESER II was king of Assyria from B.C. 745 to B.C. 727. From the circumstance that no less than five Hebrew kings are mentioned in his annals, the greatest interest attaches to the fragments of his history which have come down to us. That they are only fragments is deeply to be regretted, especially, as will be seen from the translations given below, even these are in a deplorably mutilated and imperfect condition. The kings of Judah therein mentioned are Azariah and Jehoahaz (Ahaz); the Kings of Israel, Menahem, Pekah and Hoshea, with their cotemporaries Rezon of Damascus, Hiram of Tyre, and two queens of Arabia, previously unknown to history, Zabibi and Samsi. The title of

Rabshakeh mentioned by Isaiah occurs at line 66 of p. 67, Vol. II of *W. A. Inscr.* as well as the name of Merodach Baladan mentioned by the same prophet, at line 19 of the Nimroud tablet. It need scarcely be added, that what has been thus providentially preserved, confirms the general accuracy of 2 Kings xv. especially which should be carefully compared with them.

The name Tiglath-Pileser or Tiglath-Pilneser probably means, according to Professor Schrader, (see his *Keilinschriften*, pp. 149-151,) who also identifies him with the Pul of Scripture, "He who puts his trust in Adar." The corruptions of this name since the time of the Septuagint translator who gives it as *Θαλγαβφελλασαρ*, by Greek Historians, are curious enough, viz., Thaglabanasar, Thagaphamasar, Thag-laphelladar and as a climax Thaglathphalnasar! The inscriptions of this monarch have been translated in full by Mr. G. Smith in his *Assyrian Discoveries*, pp. 254-287, and partially by M. Ménant in his *Annales des rois d'Assyrie*, pp. 137-148.

TIGLATH PILESER II.
WAR WITH AZARIAH, KING OF JUDAH.

ABOUT B.C. 739.¹

- I²
 2 (in the) course of my expedition the tribute
 which
 3 (AZARI)AH of the land of Judah like
 4 AZARIAH³ of the land of Judah in
 5 without number to heaven were raised
 6 in their eyes like that which from heaven
 7 battle and to my yoke
 8 of Assyria the great they heard and their heart
 feared
 9 I pulled down, I razed
 10 (to AZARI)AH went over and strengthened him
 and
 11
 12 in combat
 13 he closed his camp
 14 placed and his going forth
 15 he brought down and
 16 his forces he marshalled up to
 17 he caused them to be surrounded and
 18 his great lake

¹ *Inscriptions of Western Asia*, Vol. III, p. 9, No. 2.

² Lacuna. The commencement of all the following lines is wanting.

³ Compare 2 Kings xv. 17. Azariah is the same person as Uzziah who would therefore seem to have been known by both names. See a valuable note in *Bagster's Comprehensive Bible*, p. 434.

THE WAR OF TIGLATH PILESER IN SYRIA
AND THE EAST.

B.C. 738, 7. (Fragment No. 3.)

- 1¹ then
- 2 (of) AZARIAH as a mighty conqueror
. . . .
- 3 tribute like that of
- 4 as his alliance the city of Ma
- 5 the cities of Uznu, Sianu, Ma . . . ka . . . bu,
near the sea as far as the cities of N (and) as far
as the land of Saua.
- 6 The mountain which is in Lebanon obeyed me, the
land of Bahalizephon as far as Ammana the land of
Izku and Saua, throughout its whole extent, the district
of Karanim
- 7 the city of Hatarika,² the district of Nuqudina, the
land of Háza with the cities of the whole, the city of
Ara their helpers,
- 8 the cities of their whole territory, the land of Sarbua,
the entire mountain, the cities of Ashani and Yadabi and
of Yaraqū the entire mountain,
- 9 the cities of ri, the cities of Illitarbi and Zitanu
to the midst of the city Atinni Bumami nineteen
districts.
- 10 belonging to the city of Hammatti³ together with the
cities which were around them, which are beside the sea
of the setting sun who in seditious rebellion to AZARIAH
had gone over
- 11 to the boundaries of Assyria I added ; my Civil Officers
as Governors over them I appointed, 30,300 . . .

¹ This fragment abounds with lacunæ.

² Hadrach.

³ Hamath.

- 12 in their cities and the city of Ku . . . I caused to capture. 1223 men in the land of Alluba did I place. The people of Quru
- 13 I took the road. The people of Quru across the river Zab to the conquest of the Ahlamakkazi and the Gurumi
- 14 the Arumu¹ who were by the side of the river, their warriors they slew, their cities they took, their spoil they carried off
- 15 the Arameans came in numbers and set in order the battle array; the Arameans his supporters they slew
- 16 to save his life he fled away singly and went up to the city Birtu of Kinaya. The city of Saragitu
- 17 together with the cities of their environs they captured: 12,000 of their people as well as their children, their oxen, their sheep,
- 18 Dira to the land of the Hittites, to my presence they brought: my Viceroy, a man of Lullumi, the city of Mulugani
- 19 Kuridannitu belonging to the sons of Babylon, with the cities of their environs he captured, their warriors (he slew)
- 20 to the land of the Hittites to my presence they brought. My Viceroy, a man of the land of Nahiri, the city of Sabargillu
- 21 together with the cities of their environs, captured; their spoil he carried away. SIQUILA the Commander of the interior
- 22 to the land of the Hittites to my presence he brought. 600 women of the city of Amlate of the Damuni, 5400 women of the city of Dur

¹ Arameans.

- 23 in the city of Kunalie, the city of Huzarra, the city of Tae, the city of Tarmanazi, the city of Kulmadara, the city of Hatatirra, the city of Sagillu,
- 24 in the country of Unqui I placed women of the land of Gutie, of the land of Beth-sangibute, 1200 men of Illilai, 6208 of the tribes of Nakapai and Badai
- 25 (in) the city of Zimarra, the city of Arqae, the city of Uznu, the city of Ziannu which were on the sea-coast I placed. 588 men of the Badai tribe and of the city of Dunai
- 26 250 men of the Belai, 544 men of the Banitai, 380 men of Sidu-il-ziri, 460 men of Sagillu
- 27 men of the Illilai, 457 women of the land of Quti, and of the land of Beth-Sangibute in the district of the city of Tuhimmi I located ; 555
- 28 women of Qutie and the city of Beth-sangabute in the city of Tul-garmi I placed ; with the Assyrians I reckoned them ; the performance of service like Assyrians
- 29 (I imposed upon them). The tribute of KUSTASPI of the city of Kummuhai, of RAZINU¹ of the land of Damascus,² of MINIHIMMI³ of the city Samirinai,⁴
- 30 of HIRUMMU⁵ of the city of Zurai,⁶ ISIBITTI BAHAL of the city Guplai,⁷ of URIKKI of the land of Quai, of PISIRIS of the city of Carchemish, of ENIEL
- 31 of the city of Hamath, PANAMMU Governor of the city of Samhalai, TARHULARA of the land of Gangumai, SULUMAL of Militdai, DADILU
- 32 of the city of Kaskai, UASSURMI of the land of Tubalai, UHIDTI of the land of Tunai, URPALLA of the land of Tuhanoi, TUHAMMI of the city of Istundai
- 33 URIMMI of the city of Husannai, ZABIBIE Queen of

¹ Rezin.² Syria.³ Menahem.⁴ Samaria.⁵ Hiram.⁶ Tyre.⁷ Gebal.

- the land of Aribi, gold, silver, lead, iron, skins of buffaloes, horn of buffaloes
- 34 vestments of wool and linen, tapestries of blue and purple, strong wood, wood for weapons, slave-girls, treasures of Royalty, the skins of sheep, their wool
- 35 of *purple dye*, birds of the sky, their wing-feathers of bright blue, horses, horses for the yoke of large size, oxen, sheep and droves of camels,
- 36 she camels together with their young ones I received. In the ninth year of my life ASSUR my Lord protected me and to the country of, etc., etc., etc.

The following fragment¹ refers to the Northern Campaigns.

- 1 The city of Histu, the city of Harabisina, the city of Barbaz, the city of Tusa, as far as the river Ulurus I captured, their warriors I slew, 8650 persons
- 2 300 horses for the yoke of large size, 660 asses, 1350 oxen and 19,000 sheep I carried away ; (the cities) I pulled down, razed and burned with fire,
- 3 (their territory) to the borders of Assyria I added. Those cities I built anew : people of the lands which my hands had acquired, I placed in the midst (of them)
- 4 in the midst I raised, and to province of Nairi I added. The cities of Daikansa, Sakka, Ippa, Elisansu,
- 5 Lugadangar, Quda, Elugia, Dania, Danziun, Ulai, Luqia, Abrania, Evasa
- 6 (I captured), their warriors I slew, 900 men, 150 oxen, 1000 sheep, horses, horses for the yoke of large size, and asses I carried off ;

¹ *Inscriptions of Western Asia*, p. 10, No. I.

- 7 their cities I pulled down, razed and burned with fire.
The people of the land of Muquani the marshalling of
my expedition beheld, and the city Ura
- 8 which is in the midst of Muqun
- 9 their sons, their daughters, their families
- 10 I cut off, and in their land
- 11 horses, horses for carriages,
- 12 I pulled down, razed, burned with fire.
- 13 I captured and slew their warriors



Fragment No. 2.¹

THE WAR IN PALESTINE.

- 1² the city of Hatarika³ as for the land of
Saua
- 2 (the city) of Zimirra,⁴ the city of Arqa
- 3 the city of Uznu, (the city of Zihanu, the city
of Ri)hanu, the city of Rihraba, the city of Rihisuzu,
- 4 the cities (on the coast of) the upper sea I
mastered. Six officers
- 5 (as my Viceroy) over them I appointed . . . Asbuna
which is beside the upper sea,
- 6 the city Gaal . . .⁵ . . . Abil⁶ which is the
boundary of the land of Humri⁷
- 7 the spacious, throughout its whole extent to the
borders of Assyria I joined,
- 8 (my Officers) as Viceroy over them I appointed.
HANUNU of the city of Házatái⁸
- 9 who before my arms had fled (and to the land) of
Egypt escaped, (and) Gaza
- 10 (I captured :) . . . his furniture, his gods . . . and a
couch for My Majesty
- 11 within the palace the gods of their land
I distributed and
- 12 I established and like a bird
- 13 to his land I brought him back.
- 14 gold, silver, vestments of wool and linen

¹ *W. A. I.*, Vol. III, p. 10.² Lacuna.³ Hadrach.⁴ Or land. Probably the *Arkite* and *Zemarite* mentioned in Gen. x. 17, 18 as Canaanite tribes. Both were to the West of Lebanon.⁵ Gilead.⁶ Abel Beth-maacha.⁷ Omri.⁸ Gaza.

- 15 great (I re)ceived. The land of Beth-
Omri¹
- 16 the population the goods of its people
- 17 (and the furniture to) the land of Assyria I sent
PAKAHA² their King they had slain . . . HUSIH³
- 18 to the kingdom over them I appointed. 10 talents of
gold, 1000 of silver I received from them as their
(tri)bute and
- 19 to the land of Assyria I sent. SAAMSI the Queen of
the land of Aribu⁴
- 20 men 30,000 camels, 20,000 oxen
- 21 5000 *simi* numerous images of her gods
- 22 her valuables I captured. To save her life
- 23 (fled) to Bazil an arid place, like an ass of the
desert⁵ and
- 24⁶

¹ Samaria.² Pekah.³ Hoshea.⁴ Arabia.⁵ Comp. Hosea viii. 9, "They are gone up to Assyria a wild ass alone by himself."⁶ The remainder of the text is in too fragmentary a state to present any details of interest unless it be the fact that Tiglath-Pileser appointed an officer called Nigabuti in Egypt (Musri), l. 40. There was however a country N.E. of the Tigris which bore the same name. *Norr. Dict.* p. 671.

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