

THE INSCRIPTION OF
 THE GOVERNOR NES-HOR,
 IN THE LOUVRE.
 SAITE DYNASTY.

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A FINE statue in the Museum of the Louvre¹ represents a functionary of Apries, named *Nes-Hor*, who was governor of the southern provinces of Egypt. He is kneeling and holds the effigy of the Triad which was adored at the Cataracts. The pillar against which his back leans, bears the following Inscription, from

¹ No. A 90, of the Catalogue.

which it is proved that this statue, now unfortunately denaturalized by a modern restoration, came from the more ancient of the two temples of Elephantine, now destroyed. The text of it has been faithfully reproduced in Clarac, *Royal Museum of the Louvre*, No. 367.



INSCRIPTION OF NES-HOR.

. ¹ His Majesty hath placed him in a most high
 dignity,
 dignity of his eldest son, (as) Governor
 of the regions of the South,²
 5 to repulse from thence the rebellious communities.
 He hath established his fear amongst the people of the
 South
 and hath driven them towards their mountains.
 He hath sought the graces of his master,
 10 the King APRIES³ whose favour was for (him) NES-HOR,
 surnamed (PSAMETIK-MENKH,) son of (AUFREER,)⁴
 born of the lady (TA-TENT-HOR), truthful.
 He says: "O Lord of the creating-ardor,
 maker of gods and men, KHNUM, Lord of Nubia,
 15 SATI and ANOUKE, Ladies of Elephantine !

¹ Half of the first column is blank.

² The title of " Prince of Ethiopia " is, in fact, usually given to the heir to the crown.

³ Apries, Hophra, or Uahprahet as he is called in the hieroglyphic inscriptions, was one of the petty kings of the Dodecarchy in the Saite dynasty. He was the son of Psametik II by his aunt and mother the Princess Neitaker. He conquered Cyprus and Phenicia taking the city of Sidon by assault, and invited by Zedekiah king of Judah, came to his help against Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. His assistance was, however, useless and only provoked an Assyrian invasion of the Delta of Egypt. Uahprahet reigned twenty-five years, when he was dethroned by an insurrection among his subjects, strangled, and buried at Sais. His name has been supposed to mean, " the Sun enlarges his heart."

⁴ The same name, though not the same person, as the Hophra of Hebrew Scriptures.

- I am gladdened by your persons ; I adore your beauties ;
 I am incapable of weariness in the act of loving your
 persons ;
 my heart is full of your persons . . .
- 20 I call to your mind what I have done for your dwellings.
 I have rendered your temple splendid by silver vases,
 oxen, geese *sar*, and geese *apt*, in great numbers,
 of which I have constituted the feeding in their park,
 as well as that of their Keepers, for ever and eternally ;
- 25 I have built their house in this locality.
 I have made a gift of excellent wine
 of the country of Aoun¹ and of the South, of wheat and of
 beer
 I have had your storehouse constructed anew,
 30 in the great name of His Majesty.
 I have given oil of the tree *Tesheru*,²
 for the burning of the lamps of your temple.
 I have given weavers, servants, tailors for the august
 habiliment
- 35 of the great god and the gods of his cycle,
 for whom I have built chapels in his temple ;
 (these chapels) I have founded them for eternity
 by order of the good god APRIES, life-eternal.
 Remember that I have made embellishments in your
 40 dwelling,
 in its centre. Let NES-HOR perpetuate himself
 in the mouth of the citizen, in recompense of that !
 Let my name be placed in your dwelling,
 that my person may be remembered after my existence.

¹ It was wine of Syria. The inscription of Amenemheb tells us that Aoun was at the west of *Halep* or Aleppo.

² Otherwise called "The Red Tree," from *teshr*, "red." The species has not yet been identified.

45 Let my statue be erected to perpetuate my name
and that it may not perish as if I were put
in a dwelling afflicted with the ark of the Amu,¹
of the people of the North, of the Asiatics and the
profane . . .²

50 I have had a march made against the Shasu³ of the upper
country,

in the midst of them. The terror of His Majesty
was against the wicked act they executed
after having strengthened their heart in their design.

55 I have not let them advance quite into Nubia,

I have let them approach the place where was His
Majesty
who hath made a great carnage amongst them.”

The Governor of the South, NES-HOR says: “O Prophets

60 and Priests

of this temple of KHNUM, Lord of Nubia, of SATI and of
ANOUE⁴ . . .²

you shall be favoured by your gods, your body will prosper

¹ *Aamu*, “People,” an Egyptian word which was applied indiscriminately to the yellow race, or any of the Semitic nations or tribes with whom they were at war. It was derived from the Semitic noun *am*, which means “people” also.

² Lacuna.

³ The Shashous, or Schasu, was a generic term applied to the Arab or Bedouin tribes who inhabited the desert between Syria and the North-eastern frontier of Egypt; they were a great source of annoyance to the Egyptian kings, and were conquered but only for a short time, both by Amenhotep I of the XVIIIth, and Seti I of the XIXth, Dynasties.

⁴ Anouke, an Egyptian warlike goddess, possibly of Syrian origin. She was represented as a woman with a spear in her hand, and with a peculiar crown formed of high feathers curving outwardly from a white bonnet upon her head. She was the third member of the great Nubian Triad, and her worship dates to the period of Osirtesen III. of the XIIth Dynasty. Her festival took place on the 28th day of Paophi and the 30th of Athyr.

by means of divine food, you will transmit your dignities
65 to your children according as you shall say :
Proscynèma to KHNUM, SATI, ANOUKE, and to the divine
cycle of Elephantine . . .¹

¹ Lacuna.



END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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