

RECORDS OF THE PAST.

VOL. VII.

ASSYRIAN TEXTS.

N O T E .

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

ASSYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN MONUMENTS.

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VOL. VII.

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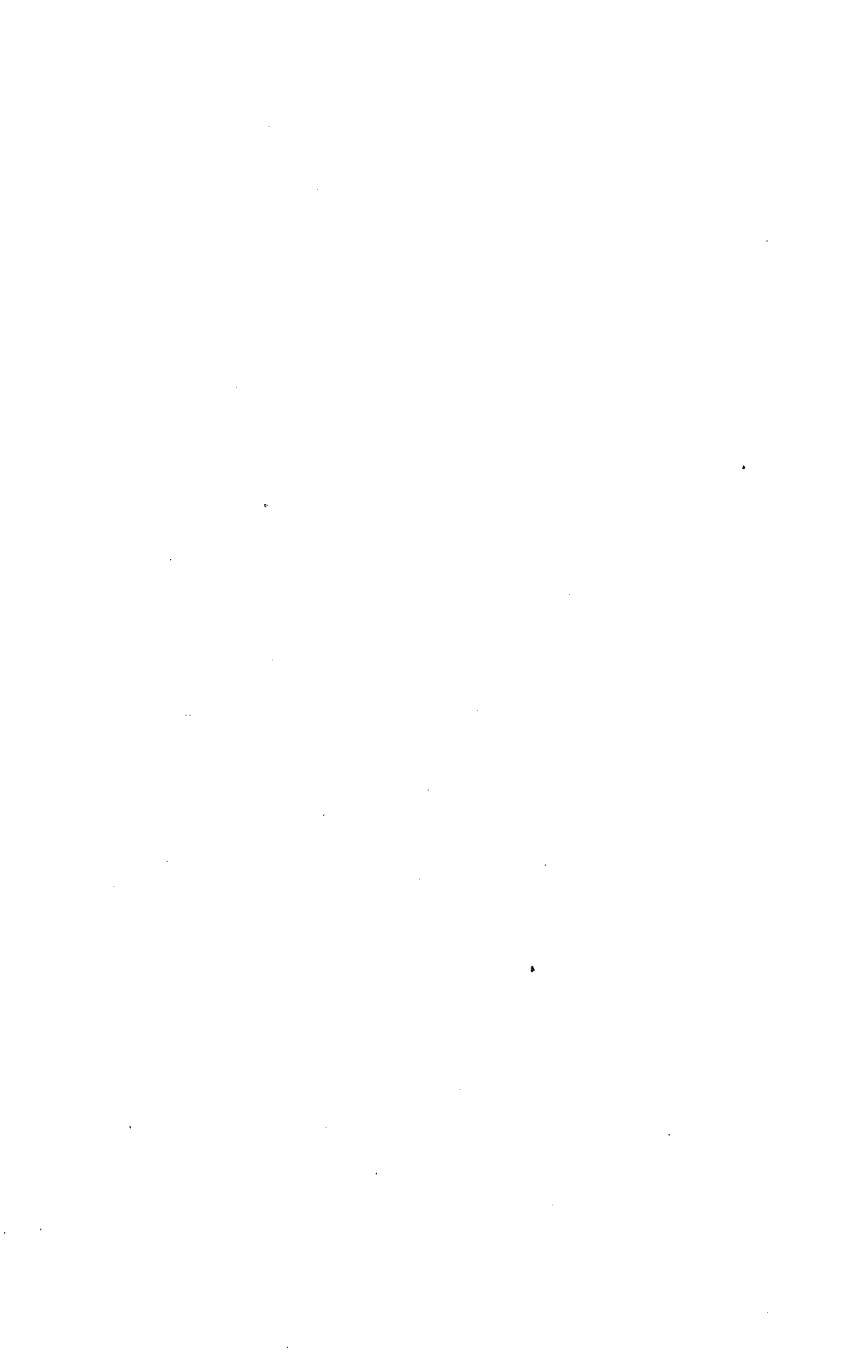


Multæ terricolis linguæ, cœlestibus una.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
PREFACE	i
Inscription of Agu-kak-rimi	1
By W. ST. CHAD BOSCAWEN.	
Standard Inscription of Ashur-akh-bal	9
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Monolith of Ashur-akh-Bal	15
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Annals of Sargon	21
By DR. JULIUS OPPERT.	
Bull Inscription of Sennacherib	57
By REV. J. M. RODWELL, M.A.	
A Prayer and a Vision	65
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Senkereh Inscription of Nebuchadnezzar	69
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Birs-Nimrud Inscription of Nebuchadnezzar	73
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Susian Texts	79
By DR. JULIUS OPPERT.	
Median Version of the Behistun Inscription	85
By DR. JULIUS OPPERT.	
Three Assyrian Deeds	111
By DR. JULIUS OPPERT.	
Ancient Babylonian Moral and Political Precepts	117
By REV. A. H. SAYCE, M.A.	
The Revolt in Heaven	123
By H. FOX TALBOT, F.R.S., etc.	
Legend of the Tower of Babel	129
By W. ST. CHAD BOSCAWEN.	

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Eleventh Tablet of the Izdubar Legends By the late GEORGE SMITH.	133
Accadian Penitential Psalm By Rev. A. H. SAYCE, M.A.	151
Babylonian Saints' Calendar By Rev. A. H. SAYCE, M.A.	157
Lists of Further Texts, Assyrian and Egyptian ... Selected by the late GEORGE SMITH, and P. LE PAGE RENOUF, F.R.S.L.	171

P R E F A C E.



THE Seventh Volume of the "RECORDS OF THE PAST" contains a selection of translations of Cuneiform inscriptions of various kinds, chiefly mythological and historical. The attraction of this new branch of study, and the publication for general use of the records, have given a new impetus to the research; and it will be seen that new students have entered upon the paths, and others are rapidly training under the public lectures given by the Society of Biblical Archæology. On the other hand, Assyriology has to deplore the loss of the late Mr. George Smith, whose translations had contributed so greatly to the study of the Cuneiform by an unrivalled knowledge of the monumental inscriptions. Although the actual excavations have been suspended, and it might be anticipated that the study might therefore be arrested by the want of a fresh supply of original documents, it

must be borne in mind that a great mass of material already obtained still remains untranslated, the interpreters having principally directed their attention to historical and mythological texts, while numerous reports, letters, and miscellaneous documents still remain untouched. Besides which sporadic excavations, which continue to be carried on in the country, have recently discovered several thousand inscribed tablets, several of which are on their way to Europe, and will, no doubt, prove contributions to Babylonian literature, a branch of Cuneiform of which less remains than the more prolific Assyrian. Although the main outlines of Assyrian history have been made out, the annals of Babylonia from contemporary sources have still to be made out.

S. BIRCH.

September, 1876.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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