

FRAGMENT
OF
THE FIRST SALLIER PAPYRUS.
RELATING TO THE HYKSOS PERIOD.

TRANSLATED BY
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THIS very defective fragment, which consisted when complete of two pages and three lines, refers to that obscure period when foreign invaders, commonly called Hyksos, or shepherds, held dominion in Egypt, entrusting the government of the Southern region to a subordinate native viceroy. Apapi, the Hyksos king here mentioned, Apophis in the Greek form, is apparently the last of his dynasty. The struggle of which this fragment indicates the commencement, resulted eventually in the re-establishment of Egyptian independence and supremacy. The native prince, Sekenen-Ra, or Tiaaken, was the predecessor of Ahmes (Amosis), who is generally reckoned the 1st king of the XVIIIth dynasty.

The interest of the subject has attracted the attention of several eminent scholars to this relic of early history. It was first recognised by De Rougé, translated in part by Brugsch, *Z. S. f. d. D. Morg. Ges.*, 9,200, in 1855, and again later in his *Histoire de l'Égypte*, 1859, p. 78; more fully by Mr. Goodwin, *Cam. Ess.* 1858, p. 243. More recently it has been treated by Dr. Birch, in Bunsen's *Égypt*, Vol. V., p. 730, 1867; Chabas, *Les Pasteurs en Égypte*, 1868, p. 16; and Ebers, *Ægypten u. d. Bücher Moses*, 1868, p. 204.

The style of the fragment is in general simple and easy; the difficulties that remain even after the labours of these admirable pioneers in vanquishing obstructions are mainly due to its dilapidated condition. At the end of line 3, p. 3, it breaks off in the middle of a sentence, and line 4 commences with a different subject. The present translation appeared in the *Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archæology*, Vol. IV., p. 263.

FIRST SALLIER PAPYRUS.

PAGE 1.

- 1 It came to pass that the land of Egypt was held by the impure ; there was no sovran master on the day when this came to pass. Then King SEKENEN-RA was Ruler in the Southern region, the impure in the district of Amu,
- 2 their Chief King APAPI in the city Avaris ; the whole land did homage to him with their handiwork, paying tribute alike from all good produce of Tameri. King APAPI
- 3 took to himself SUTECH for Lord, refusing to serve any other god in the whole land he built for him a temple of goodly and enduring workmanship ; King APAPI (appointed)
- 4 festivals, days for making sacrifice to SUTECH (with all rites), that are performed in the temple of RA HARMACHIS
- 5 . . . APAPI King SEKENEN-RA many days after this . . .

[Three or four lines lost.]

PAGE 2.

- 1 with him . . . not assent (to serve) any of the gods in the whole land except AMEN RA, King of gods many days after this
- 2 King APAPI sent to the Ruler of the South a notice, according as his scribes knowing in affairs said.

- 3 Now when the Messenger of King APAPI (came to) the Ruler of the South, he was conducted before the Ruler of the South.
- 4 He said to the Messenger of King APAPI, "Who sent thee to the Southern region? For what art thou come to the roads?" The Messenger said to him
- 5 "King APAPI sent me to thee to say . . . touching the well for cattle which is . . . the city; verily, no
- 6 sleep came to me day or night." . . . the Ruler of the South (was amazed). It came to pass he knew not how
- 7 to reply to the Messenger of King APAPI. (At length) he said, "Has not thy royal Master¹
- 8¹ which he sent²
- 9¹ cakes of bread
- 10¹ all that thou hast said I find . . .¹
- 11¹ (the Messenger of) King APAPI rose to depart to where

PAGE 3.

- 1 his royal Master was. Then the Ruler of the South bade summon his mighty Chiefs, likewise his Captains and expert guides; he
- 2 repeated to them the tale entire of the words which King APAPI sent to him concerning them. They were all silent at once, in great dismay
- 3 they knew not how to answer him good or ill. King APAPI sent to . . .¹

¹ Lacunæ.

² Of lines 8, 9 and 10 hardly anything can be made; they seem to contain the words given in the translation, but their connection of course is obscure.

END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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