

RECORD OF A HUNTING EXPEDITION  
OF TIGLATH-PILESER I.<sup>1</sup>

(CIRC. B.C. 1120-1100.)

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TRANSLATED BY  
REV. W. HOUGHTON, M.A., F.L.S.

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THE inscription consists of about 39 lines, the lower portion of which is broken, and some of the lines more or less effaced; it is published in *Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia*, Vol. I., pl. 28: the left hand column is the hunting record, the right hand column gives some account of the repairs of the city of Assur. It has been supposed by some that the king of the broken obelisk was Assur-natsir-pal, circ. B.C. 883-858, who was, we know, very fond of hunting; I agree, however, with those who would refer this inscription to a much earlier Assyrian monarch, viz., Tiglath-Pileser I.; there are certain expressions in this hunting record that are almost identical with expressions which occur in the long inscription of this monarch; see the translation

<sup>1</sup> From a broken obelisk found at Kouyunjik (Nineveh), originally belonging to Kileh Shergat (Assur), now in the British Museum.

by Sir H. Rawlinson in *Records of the Past*, Vol. V., p. 5-26. In the long inscription Tiglath-Pileser I. himself records his own adventures; in the Broken Obelisk Inscription the hunting achievements are related by some scribe who may have formed one of the party; in both inscriptions reference is made to the king having killed wild bulls (*rimî*) near the city Arazik in the land of the Hittites; Ninip and Nergal in both inscriptions are the special guardian deities of the monarch. In the king's own inscription he speaks of driving off the young wild goats, etc., like the young of tame-goats. In the Obelisk we read: "their young ones (wild goats') like the young of sheep he counted." Perhaps the inscription on the Broken Obelisk may have been intended to form a kind of supplement, by distinctly enumerating the various wild animals either killed or captured alive. Some of these names remain at present unknown, and I have not attempted to translate them. Those who would wish to see the matter more fully treated can refer to my papers on "The Mammalia of the Assyrian Sculptures," in the *Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, Vol. V., parts 1 and 2.

## RECORD OF A HUNTING EXPEDITION.

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- 1 NINIP and NERGAL, who love bravery, over the wild  
 beasts of the field  
 2 have conferred on him power ; in ships of Arvad  
 3 he sailed, a grampus in the Great Sea <sup>1</sup> he slew ;  
 4 fierce and large wild bulls in the city of Araziki,  
 5 which is opposite the land of the Hittites, and at the  
 foot of Lebanon he killed ;  
 6 the young wild bulls he captured alive ;  
 7 the property of them he collected ; the (adult) wild bulls  
 with his bow  
 8 he killed, the (young) wild bulls which he captured  
 alive  
 9 he brought to his city of Assur ; 120 lions, with his  
 heart,  
 10 valiant in brave attack, on his open chariot,  
 11 on foot, with a club he slew ; lions (too)  
 12 with his spear he killed. The thick forests  
 13 had invited him to hunt their game ; on days  
 14 of varying storms and heat, in the days of the rising of  
 15 the star Cacsidi, which is like bronze, he had hunted in  
 the country of Ebikh,  
 16 the countries of Urase, Azamiri, Ancurna, Pizitta,  
 17 Pi . . . <sup>2</sup> iz, Casiyari, provinces of the land of Assyria  
 and Khana,  
 18 the borders of the land of Lulime, and the provinces of  
 the lands of Nairi ;  
 19 wild goats, deer, spotted-stags,  
 20 ibexes in herds he took ;

<sup>1</sup> Mediterranean.<sup>2</sup> Lacuna.

- 21 the property of them he collected and brought forth ;  
 their young ones
- 22 like the young of sheep he counted ; leopards,  
 23 tigers, jackals, two powerful bears,  
 24 *mal-zir-khwi* he slew ; wild asses and  
 25 gazelles, hyenas and *simkurri*  
 26 he killed ; (large) antelopes, wild cattle, and *teseni*, the  
 huntsmen whom
- 27 he sent had taken ; the wild cattle he collected, and  
 brought together
- 28 the property of them ; the men of his country he caused  
 to feed ;
- 29 a great black crocodile, scaly beast of the river, and  
 animals of the
- 30 Great Sea, the King of Egypt caused to be brought ; the  
 men of his country he caused to feed.
- 31 As to the rest of the numerous animals and winged  
 birds of heaven,
- 32 which among the beasts of the field were (also) the spoil  
 of his hands, their names, together with animals
- 33 of the land for multitude, were not written ; their  
 number with those (former) numbers was not written.<sup>1</sup>
- 34 He (then) left the countries, the acquisition of his hand ;  
 roads strange
- 35 . . . .<sup>2</sup> the good (places) in his chariot, and the difficult  
 on his feet,
- 36 he had marched over . . . .<sup>2</sup> their destruction he had  
 effected
- 37 . . . .<sup>2</sup> these . . . .<sup>2</sup> not penetrating countries
- 38 . . . .<sup>2</sup> from the city Duban of . . . .<sup>2</sup> Accadi . . . .<sup>2</sup>
- 39 country of the West.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *I.e.*, " he killed more animals than he kept account of."

<sup>2</sup> Lacunæ.

<sup>3</sup> Palestine.

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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