

## THE INSCRIPTIONS OF TELLOH

TRANSLATED BY ARTHUR AMIAUD

*(Continued from Vol. I)*

FOR an account of these interesting inscriptions, which go back to the early dawn of Babylonian history, and are written in the non-Semitic language of primitive Chaldæa, the reader is referred to the first volume of the new series of the *Records of the Past*, pp. 42 *sqq.*

## THE INSCRIPTIONS OF TELLOH (*Continued*)

### INSCRIPTIONS OF UR-BAU

#### No. 2.—ON THE STONE OF A THRESHOLD<sup>1</sup>

1. FOR the god EN-KI,
2. his king,
3. Ur-Bau,
4. the patesi
5. of SHIRPURLA,
6. the offspring begotten
7. by the god Nin-âgal,
8. his temple
9. has constructed.

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#### No 3.—ON LARGE BRICKS<sup>2</sup>

1. For the god NIN-GIRSU,
2. the powerful warrior
3. of the god ELLILLA,
4. Ur-bau
5. the patesi
6. of SHIRPURLA
7. his temple
8. has constructed.

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#### No. 4.—ON A SMALL ROUND OBJECT OF WHITE STONE

1. For the goddess BAU
2. the daughter of ANNA,

<sup>1</sup> *Découvertes en Chaldée par E. de Sarzec*, pl. 27, No. 2.

<sup>2</sup> *Découvertes*, pl. 37, Nos. 1, 2.

3. for the life
4. of Ur-bau
5. the patesi
6. of SHIRPURLA,
7. Ur-Ellilla has brought this *da* ;
8. and for the life of the wife of his son
9. he has consecrated it.

## VII. INSCRIPTIONS OF GUDEA

NO. 1.—INSCRIPTION ON STATUE A OF THE LOUVRE<sup>1</sup>

Cartouche engraved on the right shoulder.

1. Gudea,
2. the patesi
3. of SHIRPURLA,
4. who the temple E-NINNŪ
5. of the god NIN-GIRSU
6. has constructed.

## COLUMN I

1. For the goddess NIN-GHARSAG,
2. the goddess who protects the city,
3. the mother of its inhabitants,
4. for his lady,
5. Gudea
6. the patesi
7. of SHIRPURLA
8. her temple of the city GIRSU-KI
9. has constructed.

## COLUMN II

1. Her sacred *altar* (?)
2. he has made.
3. The holy throne of her divinity
4. he has made.
5. In her sanctuary he has placed them.
6. From the mountains of the land of MÂGAN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Découvertes*, pl. 20. The inscription has been translated by M. Ledrain : *Communications à l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres*, Sept. 14th, 1883.

<sup>2</sup> The Sinaitic Peninsula.

## COLUMN III

1. a rare stone he has caused to be brought ;
2. for her statue
3. he has caused it to be cut.
4. "O goddess who fixes the destinies of heaven  
and earth,
5. NIN-TU
6. mother of the gods,
7. of Gudea

## COLUMN IV

1. the builder of the temple
2. prolong the life !"
3. by this name he has named it (*i.e.* the statue),
4. and in the temple he has placed it.

No. 2.—INSCRIPTION ON STATUE B OF THE LOUVRE<sup>1</sup>

## COLUMN I

1. In the temple of the god NIN-GIRSU,
2. his king,
3. the statue of Gudea,
4. the patesi
5. of SHIRPURLA,
6. who the temple E-NINNÛ
7. has constructed :
8. 1 *qa* of fermented liquor,
9. 1 *qa* of food,
10. half a *qa* of . . . ,
11. half a *qa* of . . . ,
12. such are the offerings which it institutes.
13. As for the patesi
14. who shall revoke them,
15. who the orders of the god NIN-GIRSU
16. shall transgress,
17. let the offerings instituted by him
18. in the temple of the god NIN-GIRSU

<sup>1</sup> The first column has been translated by Dr. Oppert : *Communications à l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres*, March 1882.

19. be revoked!
20. Let the commands of his mouth be annulled!

## COLUMN II

1. To the god NIN-GIRSU,
2. the powerful warrior
3. of the god ELLILLA,
4. Gudea,
5. the *architect* (?),
6. the patesi
7. of SHIRPURLA,
8. the shepherd chosen by the unchangeable will
9. of the god NIN-GIRSU,
10. regarded with a favourable eye
11. by the goddess NINÁ,
12. dowered with power
13. by the god NIN-DARA,
14. covered with renown
15. by the goddess BAU,
16. the offspring
17. of the goddess GUTUMDUG,
18. dowered with sovereignty and the sceptre  
supreme
19. by the god GAL-ALIM,

## COLUMN III

1. proclaimed afar among living creatures
2. by the god DUN-SHAGA,
3. whose primacy has been firmly founded
4. by the god NIN-GISH-ZIDA
5. his god.
6. After that the god NIN-GIRSU
7. had turned towards his city a favourable gaze
8. (and) Gudea
9. had chosen as the faithful shepherd of the  
country
10. (and) among the *divisions* (?) of men
11. had established his power,

12. then he purified the city and cleansed it.
13. He has laid the foundations (of a temple)
14. and deposited the foundation-cylinder.
15. The adorers of the demons (?),<sup>1</sup>

## COLUMN IV

1. the evokers of spirits (?),
2. the necromancers (?),
3. the prophetesses of divine decrees (?),
4. he has banished from the city.
5. Whoever has not departed obediently,
6. has been expelled perforce by the warriors.
7. The temple of the god NIN-GIRSU
8. in all respects
9. in a pure place he has constructed.
10. No tomb has been destroyed (?),
11. no sepulchral urn has been broken (?),
12. no son has ill-treated his mother.
13. The ministers,
14. the judges,
15. the doctors,
16. the chiefs,
17. during the execution of this work
18. have worn garments of . . . (?).
19. During all the time (of its construction)

## COLUMN V

1. in the cemetery of the city no ditch has been excavated (?),
2. no corpse has been interred (?).
3. The *Kalû*<sup>2</sup> has performed his funeral music or uttered his lamentations ;
4. the female mourner has not caused her lamentations to be heard.
5. On the territory
6. of SHIRPURLA

<sup>1</sup> I give the translation of the lines which follow, as far as col. v. l. 4, inclusively, only with the greatest reserve.

<sup>2</sup> The *kalû* were a class of priests.

7. a man at variance (with his neighbour)
8. to the place of oath<sup>1</sup>
9. has taken no one ;
10. a brigand
11. has entered the house of no one.
12. For the god NIN-GIRSU
13. his king
14. (Gudea) has made the dedicatory inscriptions (?);
15. his temple E-NINNÛ which illuminates the darkness (?),
16. he has constructed
17. and reinstated.
18. In the interior (of this temple) his favourite  
*gigunû*
19. of cedar-wood
20. he has constructed for him.
21. After that the temple of the god NIN-GIRSU
22. he has had constructed,
23. the god NIN-GIRSU,
24. the king beloved by him,
25. from the Sea of the Highlands (ELAM)<sup>2</sup>
26. to the lower Sea
27. has forcefully opened (the ways) for him.
28. In Amanum,<sup>3</sup> the mountain of cedars,
29. [joists] of cedar,
30. whose [length] was 70 spans,
31. [and joists] of cedar
32. whose [length was] 50 spans,
33. [and joists] of box (?)<sup>4</sup>
34. whose length was 25 spans,
35. he has caused to be cut ;
36. from this mountain he has caused them to be brought.

<sup>1</sup> That is, a court of justice.

<sup>2</sup> That is, the Persian gulf.

<sup>3</sup> Evidently Amanus in northern Syria.

<sup>4</sup> The Assyrian *urharinnu*. For its explanation see an article by the Rev. C. J. Ball, *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, xi. p.



37. The . . . . .
38. he has made.
39. The . . . . .
40. he has made.
41. The . . . . .
42. he has made.
43. The . . . . .
44. he has made.
45. As for the cedars
46. (some) to form great gates
47. he has employed ;
48. with brilliant ornaments he has enriched  
them (?),
49. and in the temple E-NINNÛ
50. he has placed them.
51. (Others) in his sanctuary E-magh-ki-a-sig-dê-da
52. he has used as beams.
53. Near the city of URSU,
54. in the mountains of IB-LA <sup>1</sup>
55. joists of *zabanum* trees,
56. of great *sha-ku* <sup>2</sup> trees,
57. of *tulubum* trees, and of *gin* trees,
58. he has caused to be cut ;

## COLUMN VI

1. in the temple of E-NINNÛ
2. he has caused them to be used as beams.
3. From SHAMANUM
4. in the mountains of MENUA,
5. from SUSALLA (?) <sup>3</sup>
6. in the mountains of MARTU, <sup>4</sup>
7. *nagal* stones
8. he has caused to be brought ;
9. in slabs

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Hommel has proposed to read this name Dalla. I should prefer to read Tilla, explained by Urdhu in W. A. I., ii, 48, 13.

<sup>2</sup> It is the tree called *ashûhu* by the Assyrians.

<sup>3</sup> The reading is uncertain. Dr. Hommel reads Kasalla, comparing the Kazalla of W. A. I., iv. 34 31, 33.

<sup>4</sup> Phœnicia.

10. he has caused them to be cut ;
11. the Holy of Holies in the temple E-NINNŪ
12. he has constructed of them.
13. From TĪDANUM<sup>1</sup>
14. in the mountains of MARTU
15. *shirgal-ghabbia* stones
16. he has caused to be conveyed ;
17. in the form of *urpadda*
18. he has caused them to be cut ;
19. to (receive) the bars of the gates
20. in the temple he has arranged them.
21. From the country of KĀGAL-ADDA-KI<sup>2</sup>
22. in the mountains of KI-MASH<sup>3</sup>
23. I caused copper to be taken,
24. To make the *arm* (?) from which one escapes not
25. he has employed it.
26. From the country of MELUGHGHA<sup>4</sup>
27. *kala* trees<sup>5</sup> he has imported ;
28. he has caused to be made.<sup>6</sup>
29. From *Kilzanim*<sup>7</sup>
30. he has imported ;
31. to make the *arm* (?) . . .
32. he has employed it.
33. Gold-dust
34. from the mountains of GHAGHUM
35. he has imported ;
36. for the fabrication of the *arm* (?) . . .
37. he has utilised it.
38. Gold-dust

<sup>1</sup> Identified by Dr. Hommel, with much probability, with Tidnu or "the West" (Syria and Canaan); W. A. I., ii. 48, 12, etc.

<sup>2</sup> Or a "city of Abullât," or perhaps the city "Abullu-abishu," W. A. I., ii. 52, 55.

<sup>3</sup> Perhaps "the land of Mash" or Arabia Petraea, the Mash of Gen. x. 23. From Ki-mas was derived the Assyrian *kēmassi*, "copper" (W. A. I., ii. 18, 54; iv. 28, 13).

<sup>4</sup> In the vicinity of the Sinaitic Peninsula.

<sup>5</sup> The tree called *ushu* by the Assyrians.

<sup>6</sup> If this line is not due to an error, the engraver must have omitted something between lines 27 and 28.

<sup>7</sup> Perhaps Kilzanim is the name of a country. In this case, the engraver must have made some omission here.

39. from the mountains of MELUGHGA
40. he has imported
41. to make the E-MARTU <sup>1</sup>
42. he has employed it.
43. *Lid-ri* (?)
44. he has imported.
45. From the country of GUBIN
46. the land of the *ghaluku* trees,<sup>2</sup>
47. *ghaluku* wood
48. he has imported ;
49. to make *pillars* (?)
50. he has employed it.
51. From the country of MADGA
52. in the mountains of the river GURRUDA
53. *bitumen* (?)
54. he has imported ;
55. the platform of the temple E-NINNÛ
56. he has constructed.
57. *Im-gha-um*
58. he has imported.
59. From the mountains of BARSIP
60. *nalua* stones
61. in large boats
62. he has caused to be brought ;
63. the foundation of the temple E-NINNÛ he has en-  
circled with them.
64. By arms, the city of ANSHAN in the country of ELAM
65. he has conquered ;
66. its spoils
67. to the god NIN-GIRSU
68. in the temple E-NINNÛ
69. he has consecrated.
70. Gudea,
71. the patesi
72. of SHIRPURLA,
73. after that the temple E-NINNÛ

<sup>1</sup> [“ Temple of the West,”—*Ed.*] <sup>1</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The tree called *huluppu* in Assyrian. [The Sumerian name may be read *ghalup*, of which *huluppu* would be an Assyrian modification. - *Ed.*]

74. to the god NIN-GIRSU  
 75. he had constructed,  
 76. has built an edifice :  
 77. a *pillared* (?) temple

## COLUMN VII

1. no patesi  
 2. for the god NIN-GIRSU  
 3. had constructed ;  
 4. he has constructed it for him.  
 5. He has written there his name ;  
 6. he has made dedicatory inscriptions (?).  
 7. The orders of the mouth  
 8. of the god NIN-GIRSU  
 9. he has faithfully executed.  
 10. From the mountains of the country of MÂGAN<sup>1</sup>  
 11. a hard stone he has imported.  
 12. For his statue  
 13. he has caused it to be cut.  
 14. "O my king,  
 15. whose temple  
 16. I have built,  
 17. may life be my recompense !"  
 18. By this name he has named (the statue),  
 19. and in the temple E-NINNÛ  
 20. he has erected it.  
 21. Gudea  
 22. unto the statue  
 23. has given command :  
 24. "To the statue of my king  
 25. speak !"  
 26. After that the temple E-NINNÛ,  
 27. his favourite temple  
 28. I had constructed,  
 29. I have remitted penalties, I have given presents.  
 30. During seven days obeisance has not been exacted.  
 31. The female slave has been made the equal of her  
 mistress ;

<sup>1</sup> [The Sinaitic Peninsula and Midian.]

32. the male slave
33. has been made the equal of his master ;
34. in my city the chief of his subject
35. has been made the equal.
36. All that is evil from this temple
37. I have removed.
38. Over the commands
39. of the goddess NINÁ
40. and the god NIN-GIRSU
41. I have carefully watched.
42. A *fault* (?) the rich man has not committed ;
43. all that he has desired (?) the strong man has not done.
44. The house where there was no son,
45. it is its daughter, who new offerings (?)
46. has consecrated ;
47. for the statue of the god
48. before the mouth she has placed them.
49. Of this statue,
50. neither in silver nor in alabaster
51. nor in copper nor in tin
52. nor in bronze
53. let any one undertake the execution !
54. Let it be of hard stone !
55. Let a sacristy be established,
56. and of all that shall be brought there
57. let nothing be destroyed !
58. The statue which is before thee,
59. O god NIN-GIRSU,
60. the statue
61. of Gudea,

## COLUMN VIII

1. the patesi
2. of SHIRPURLA,
3. who the temple E-NINNŪ
4. of the god NIN-GIRSU
5. has constructed,
6. whosoever from the temple E-NINNŪ
7. shall remove

8. (or) its inscription
9. shall efface ;
10. whosoever shall break it ;
11. on the fortunate day of the commencement of  
the year,
12. whoever in the place of my god,
13. his god—
14. and it is NIN-GIRSU
15. who is my king—
16. in the country shall invoke ;
17. (whoever) my judgments
18. shall transgress,
19. my gifts
20. shall revoke ;
21. (whoever) in the recitation of my prayers
22. shall suppress my name
23. and insert his own ;
24. (whoever) of the Holy of Holies of the god NIN-  
GIRSU, my king,
25. shall abandon the *service* (?)
26. and shall not keep it (ever) before his eyes ;—
27. from the most distant days,
28. of all men of noble race,
29. of the patesis
30. of SHIRPURLA
31. who the temple E-NINNÛ
32. of the god NIN-GIRSU
33. my king
34. have constructed,
35. and who have made dedicatory inscriptions (?),
36. the words of their mouth
37. let no one change
38. nor transgress their judgments !
39. Of Gudea,
40. the patesi
41. of SHIRPURLA,
42. whoever shall change his words
43. or transgress his judgments,
44. may the god ANNA,

45. may the god ELLILLA,
46. may the goddess NIN-GHARSAG
47. may the god EN-KI, whose word is unchangeable,
48. may the god EN-ZU, whose name none pronounces,
49. may the god NIN-GIRSU
50. the king of weapons,
51. may the goddess NINÂ
52. the mistress of interpretations,
53. may the god NIN-DARA
54. the royal warrior,
55. may the mother of SHIRPURLA
56. the august goddess GATUMDUG,
57. may the goddess BAU
58. the lady the elder daughter of ANNA,
59. may the goddess NINNI
60. the lady of battles,
61. may the god BABBAR
62. the king of abundance (?),
63. may the god PASAG
64. the master workman of men,
65. may the god GAL-ALIMA,
66. may the god DUN-SHAGANA,
67. may the goddess NIN-MARKI

## COLUMN IX

1. the eldest daughter of the goddess NINÂ,
2. may the goddess DUZI-ABZU
3. the mistress of KINUNIR-KI,
4. may my god NIN-GISHZIDA,
5. change his destiny!
6. Like an ox,
7. may he be slain in the midst of his prosperity!
8. Like a wild bull
9. may he be felled in the plenitude of his strength!
10. As for his throne, may those even whom he has reduced to captivity
11. overthrow it in the dust!
12. To efface its traces (?),
13. even of its memory (?),

# END OF SAMPLE TEXT



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