

KARIAN, ARAMAIC, AND GREEK GRAFFITI
FROM HESHÂN.

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I was engaged in the spring of 1907 in examining the sandstone rocks on the west bank of the Nile, between the Shatt es-Seba' Rigâla and Heshân, and there came across the Karian inscription discovered by M. LÉGRAIN in the Gebel Abu-Ghorâb, of which he was able to take only an imperfect copy. Here I give it in full. (Plate No. 1.) It reads: *h-ṣ-th-u-p wu-a-v-a-v-ü (?) -s-a-[s]*. With Hethup we may compare hæthup-ôn (SAYCE, I, 7) and hēpugh. The next word is a (geographical) adjective in *-(n)sos*, like Ssægh-sn-sos (SAYCE, I, 1) and Σρά-νσος (cf. also Lëreüdö-nsa), which make it probable that Θ, which I have transcribed ü (?), is really a nasalised vowel. The first *a* of the adjective might possibly be also transcribed *ṣ*.

No. 2. "I Alpigonos (?) Krateros am come (here)." The name Alpigonos is strange, and I would therefore correct it to Antigonos.

No. 3. "The act of adoration of Apollonios [Gy]mnos." The graffito, like the Aramaic and other Greek ones, is on the upper surface of a rock on the top of the cliff.

No. 4. "Khnun-nathan," *i.e.* "the god Khnum has given." After writing his name the owner of it has amused himself by scribbling *m* in two different forms, to the confusion of the modern palæographer.

No. 5. "Shem-Hor," a name like Samuel, &c.

Nos. 6, 7. "Arz(?)d(?)a." Since the Greek name Arkeinis is written immediately above No. 6, and apparently by the same hand, it is probable that we are intended to read the Aramaic characters A-r-kh-n-a. At first I thought that the second and third letters together formed the single letter *m*, but further examination showed that this was not the case.

No. 8. "Shar."

1 ~~Σ~~ΟΜ ~~Φ~~ ~~Α~~ ~~Β~~ ~~Γ~~ ~~Δ~~ ~~Υ~~ ~~Ι~~ ~~Κ~~ ~~Λ~~ ~~Χ~~

2 ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΟΣ
ΚΡΑΤΕΡΟΣ ΚΚΩ

3 ΤΟ ΠΡΟΣΚΥΝΗΜΑ
† ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΙΟΥ
[ΓΥ] ΜΝΟΥ

4 Σ Λ } η Σ Η η η

5 Υ Η Υ ‖

6 † Υ Η † †

7 ΑΡΚΕΙΝΙC

8 / 9 \ /

9 Ϝ ϝ Ϝ ϝ

No. 9. We seem to have here an inscription in an unknown script. On a boulder of sandstone adjoining that on which the Karian graffito is inscribed, is an outline sketch by a first class Egyptian artist (probably of the age of the Twelfth Dynasty) of two elephants, followed by a gazelle, with a young gazelle on either side of it, and a great hippopotamus finishing up the procession. The drawing is equal to the very best on the Egyptian monuments, and reminded me of Japanese work. It would be worth while to take a tin-foil impression of the scene.