ANNALS OF THOTHMES III.

INSCRIPTION OF AMEN-EM-HEB.

TRANSLATED BY
S. BIRCH, LL.D.

THIS inscription was found on the walls of a tomb at Gournah. It was published and translated by Dr. G. Ebers, Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Alterthumskunde, 1873, S. 1–9 and S. 63, 64; and by M. Chabas, Mélanges Égyptologiques, 1873, Tom. II. p. 279–306; Académie des Inscriptions et des Belles Lettres. Comptes rendus, Paris, 1873, Tom. I. p. 155. This important tablet gives the date of the reign of Thothmes III, which was upwards of 53 years, as the king died on the 30th Phamenoth, in the 54th year of his reign, evidently having been a mere child when he ascended the throne.
The events recorded in it complete the account of those described in the Statistical Tablet, Amen-em-heb having been engaged in some of the campaigns mentioned in the Tablet, and having brought back portion of the spoil. This inscription, with that of Aahmes and the tomb of Rekmara, helps to complete the history of the reign of Thothmes III.
INSCRIPTION OF AMEN-EM-HEB.

1 I was the better part of the Ruler, Living and Well, the half of the heart of the King of Upper Egypt, the glory of the heart of the King of Lower Egypt, I followed my Lord at his footsteps in the land of the North and South as he wished, I was accompanying his feet, I (did not leave) him out of sight, his power and his valour were intrepid. I took spoil in that land of Kabu, I led thence Amu 3 persons, living captives. When His Majesty approached Naharaina I took 3 persons (as) my spoil thence, I set them before Thy Majesty as living captives. Again I took spoil at the expedition in the vicinity of the land of Uan on the West of Kharubu, I brought Amu living prisoners 13 persons, 70 live asses, 13 weapons of bronze and weapons inlaid with gold: I again took spoil in the expedition of the land of Karukamasha, I led thence . . . (persons) living captives, I transported them (on) the waters of Naharaina, they were in my hand (as slaves). (I set them) before my Lord. He rewarded me with a great reward, the amount (was) a chain (of gold). Again I saw the power of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt Ra-men-kheper, the Giver of Life, in the land of Sentaru he made . . . 8

1 *am* *uta suat*, some read, "may he live."
2 Unknown.
3 Asiatics.
4 Mesopotamia.
5 Uan, or Van.
6 The Chalibes or Aleppo.
7 Carchemish.
8 Lacunae.
9 Thothmes III.
10 Or Senqaru, Singara.
12 (they) were captured by me before the King; I brought a hand\(^1\) thence. He gave me gold\(^3\) for my reward, the amount (was) a gold chain
13 and 2 silver rings. Again I saw his valour I was among his followers capturing
14 Kadesh;\(^3\) I did not leave the place where he was, I led officers 2 persons, (living prisoners I placed them)
15 before the King the Lord of the two Worlds Thothmes ruler of the Thebaid, the Ever-living he gave me (gold) for (my) valour before all persons,
16 the amount (was) a gold chain, the buckle (in shape) of a lion, 3 collars, 2 flies, and 4 bracelets. I saw my Lord in . . . . . .\(^4\)
17 . . . . . . \(^4\) in all his forms in the confines of the land of (Ta . . . .\(^4\)
18 ha . . . . and again he gave me. I was raising . . . . . .\(^4\)
my . . . . . . \(^4\) (for).
19 I again saw his might in that land of Takhisa (I brought thence) the hand of a dead man
20 I spoiled it before the King, I brought three Amu as living prisoners, gave to me
21 my Lord gold for a reward, the amount was 2 gold collars, 4 bracelets, 2 flies,\(^5\) a lion (and) a slave.
22 Again I saw a second time a good work done by the Lord of the two countries in the land of Nibir\(^6\) he hunted 120 elephants on account of their tusks there; of (them was)
23 captured the largest one which was among them he rushed in front of His Majesty I cut his hand,\(^7\) he (fell) alive (in my power).

\(^1\) I.e. "slew a prisoner."
\(^2\) Or "a collar."
\(^3\) Kadesh, or Kadytis.
\(^4\) Lacunae.
\(^5\) Ap\(_2\), or "jewelled scarabaei."
\(^6\) Nineveh, or else India. The Assyrians had no elephants; at present none are nearer Mesopotamia than 1200 miles.
\(^7\) His trunk.
24 I went also in the water which is between the two rocks, my Lord rewarded me with gold.
25 He gave me . . . . dresses, three pairs. The King of Kateshu\(^{2}\) made a mare come forth
26 in front (against His Majesty). She ran in the midst of my troops, I followed after her
27 on foot having my weapon. I ripped up her belly, I cut off her tail, I gave
28 it to the King, praised be god for it. He gave me joy, it filled my belly with delight it united my limbs.
29 His Majesty ordered that all the valour of his troops should be exerted to open the new walls at Kateshu, I
30 broke them open, I led all the valiant. No other person went before me, I brought officers
31 two living prisoners. Again His Majesty ordered that I should be rewarded on account of it . . . .\(^{1}\) in all
32 good places, giving satisfaction to the heart of His Majesty that I had made this capture. I was Captain (of the . . . .\(^{1}\) boat)
33 I ordered the towing in . . . .\(^{1}\) at the head of his companions
34 in rowing (the boat) in the good festival of (Southern) Thebes to the place of . . . .\(^{1}\) mankind in joy.”\(^{3}\)
35 So the King ended his time of existence of many good years of victory (and) power, and was made
36 justified, commencing at the 1st year and ending at his 54th year in the 30th of the month Phamenoth of (the reign) of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt
37 RA-MEN-KHEPER,\(^{4}\) Justified, he ascended to heaven, and joined the Sun’s disk a divine follower, urgent in doing, it shone to him as the morning, he was

\(^{1}\) Lacune. \(^{2}\) Kadesh, or Kadytos.

\(^{3}\) Name of the palace or temple, probably of “Amen who unites mankind in joy;” a part of Thebes.

\(^{4}\) Thothmes III.
the disk of the Sun coming out of the heaven. The anointed King of Upper and Lower Egypt RA-AA-KHEPERU the Son of the Sun AMEN-HOTEP the Giver of Life was established on the throne of his father he rested in the royal residence, all invaders he thrust back, the Kau

of the land of Tert he bewed off the heads of their Chiefs, (He was) crowned as HORUS the son of ISIS, he took (possession of) that land. The inhabitants of the land of Kenem,6 every land bowed to his spirits,6 their tribute was on their backs

(have gave) them the breath of life. His Majesty saw me for I led him in his boat (on the river)

(Shaa) ta-em-ua7 was its name. I (was rowing it with) my hands in the good festival of Southern ApT also I arranged ...

I went also into the harem of the palace, I was allowed to stand in the presence of the King of Upper and Lower Egypt RA-AA-KHEPERU. It was an honour. I was bowing myself forthwith before His Majesty. He said to me, I know about thee. It has been told me all thou hast done

following my father. Given to thee for an honour that thou hast commanded the troops. Likewise it was said, you watch over the valiant troops of the King. (The officer Mahu performed all) his words.


The word may mean vineyards. Bath, "will" or "mind."

M. Chabas reads "crowned in the boat of Ma." It is perhaps "crowned with Truth."

A part of Thebes.

Or, "Being a true (faithful) officer doing all his words."
The Complete Text can be found on our CD: *Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature* which can be purchased on our *Website*: [www.Brainfly.net](http://www.Brainfly.net)

or

by sending $64.95 in check or money order to:

**Brainfly Inc.**

5100 Garfield Ave. #46

Sacramento  CA  95841-3839

**TEACHER’S DISCOUNT:**

If you are a **TEACHER** you can take advantage of our teacher’s discount. Click on **Teachers Discount** on our website (www.Brainfly.net) or **Send us $55.95** and we will send you a full copy of *Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature* AND our **5000 Classics CD** (*a collection of over 5000 classic works of literature in electronic format (.txt)*) plus our **Wholesale price list**.

If you have any suggestions such as books you would like to see added to the collection or if you would like our wholesale prices list please send us an email to:

**webcomments@brainfly.net**