EXTRACT
FROM THE
TABLET OF NEFER-HOTEP.

TRANSLATED BY
PAUL PIERRET.

CONTAINING
The Egyptian account of a scene of investiture with the
Chain of honour. 1

IN the year III of His Holiness, King HORUS, 2
  behold, His Holiness appeared like unto the Sun,
in his palace (of the placid-life, 3)
after having there consecrated loaves to his father AMEN,
as he left the (Chamber of gold 3) cries of joy
and acclamations circulated all over the world;
and their clamour reached even to Heaven.
The Divine Father of AMEN, 4 NEFER-HOTEP,
was called to receive recompenses
coming from the King of millions of years,
and which consisted of all sorts of things,
in silver, gold, perfumed garments, bread, beverages,
meat, cakes, in virtue of this order of my Lord AMEN:
"Let them give my favours before witnesses to the
Kher-heb. 5"

15 Repose-of-the-heart-of-Amen, NEFER-HOTEP,"

1 Comp. Gen. xii. 41, 42. This text has been published by J. Dümichen
Hist. Inscrif. ii., 40 e, and partly by H. Brugsch, Monum., pl. 37.
2 King of the XVIIIth dynasty. 3 Epithet names of the Royal Palace.
4 Sacerdotal title. 5 Idem.
who says (replies): "Numerous are the things
which the god, who is the King of gods,
giveth to him who knoweth him,
he doth recompense him who serveth him
and he protecteth him who doth follow him, (him)
of whom the Sun is the body;
and whom the solar-disk doth for ever accompany."

Underneath this legend Nefer-hotep is represented receiving
the chain of gold, which is, however, not mentioned in the text.
This leads me to believe that the representation of the investiture
of the chain has not always the precise meaning attributed to it,
but had oftentimes no other object than to picture to the eye the
totality of the favours by which exceptional services were re-
warded.

The xii, pl. of Dümichen, Hist. Ins. (and part) also represents an
investiture of the Chain which is not mentioned in the text which accom-
panies it.
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