THE STELE OF THE DREAM.

THE Stèle du Songe was discovered together with those of Piankhi, Horsiatew, the Stèles de l'Intronisation and de l'Excommunication, at Napata, amongst the ruins of the Temple of Amen-Ra, Lord of the seats of both worlds, residing in Dû-uâb, that is on the Sacred Hill, the present Gebel Barkal. It was first analysed by Mariette-Bey in the Revue Archéologique, 1865, Tome II, p. 161, and was then published and translated by G. Maspero in the same Review, 1868, Tome I, p. 329. The text is to be found in Mariette's Monuments Divers Tome I, pl. 7, 8.

The inscription is surmounted by a picture representing two scenes: in the first of which

"The King of Upper and Lower Countries, Lord of both worlds Rabaka, Son of the Sun, Lord of the diadems Nuat (Meï)Amoun, beloved by Amen, ever-living like unto Ra,"

accompanied by

"The Royal Sister, Queen of the land Qens (Nubia), Qelhatat,"

offers a great collar to his father

"Amen-Ra Lord of the seats of both worlds residing in Dû-uâb,"

who says:
"I give thee all life and power; I give thee the rising as a King of Upper and Lower Countries upon the seat of Hor of the living, like unto Ra for ever."

The Queen "shakes the sistrum and pours a libation."

In the second picture, the same king is represented "giving Ra to the father Amen, that he (the god) may do (for him, the King) the Du-ænkh."

Behind the king,

"The Royal Sister and Wife, Queen of Egypt, Gararai, shakes the sistrum and pours a libation"

"Amen-Ra, Lord of the seats of both worlds, residing in Thebes, saith: I give thee life and power all; I give thee all the lands, all the foreign countries, the barbarians collected under thy two sandals, for ever."

The king's name is difficult to ascertain owing to the form of one of the signs in it. After a careful inspection of the paper impression in the Louvre, I think that the uncertain sign is the syllable meri, mei, a little flattened as is usual in Ethiopian inscriptions. Some have sought to identify Nuat (Mei)amoun with the Urdamani of Assyrian texts, the stepson of Tahraqa. I hold him to have been a successor of Urdamani and to have conquered Egypt about the time of the Dodecarchy, somewhere between 664 and 654 B.C.

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1 The gods are often represented proffering to kings the sacred Tvw, symbol of life, saying at the same time Dã-ni-nak ãnhk, "I give thee life." Hence the name of Dã-ankh for the ceremony and the idiom ar dã-ãnhk, "do the Dã-ankh, the giving of life."

2 Tirhakah of the XXVth dynasty, 2 Kings xix. 9.
STELE OF THE DREAM.

OBVERSE OF THE TABLET.

1 The good god, in the day of his appearing he is a
Tum for all the beings, the Two-horned one, the Regent
of the living men, the Prince who holds the whole earth,
the valiant with his sword on a battle-day, the one whose
face is terrible in the day of the (con-

2) ffict, Lord of strength like unto Mentu, most valiant
like unto an awful lion, gentle-hearted like unto Khent-
Hesert; good in his ship, after he reached the Uaz-uz,¹
.... He (went again)

3 to this land,² without fight, there being no one to stand
his onslaught, the King of Upper and Lower Countries
Rabaka, Son of the Sun, Nuat Mei(amon), beloved by
Amen of Napata. The year of his rise (to the dignity)
of King, (lo !)

4 His Majesty beheld a dream in the night, two snakes
one to his right, the other to his left, (and) when His
Majesty awoke he found them no more. He said :
"(Explain)

5 these things to me on the moment," and lo! they
explained it to him, saying: "Thou wilt have the
Southern lands, and seize the Northern, and the two
crowns will be put upon thy head, (for) there is given
unto thee, the earth in all its width and its breadth (and
there will not be)

6 another (can compete) with thee in power." His
Majesty having risen upon the seat of Hor this (very)

¹ Thoth.
² The Mediterranean sea.
³ The kingdom of Ethiopia in opposition to the kingdom of Egypt.

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year, when His Majesty went out of the spot which he was in, even like Hor goes out of his place of state, when he went out as (a King, he found)

7 thousands and thousands, coming after him, (and) said His Majesty: "Verily it was true what I dreamt! A boon it is for him who acts after god's heart, a plague for him who does not know it!" When His Majesty went to Napata, there was no one who withstood

8 his march. When His Majesty proceeded to the Temple of Amen of Napata residing in Dù-ṭab, His Majesty rejoiced in his heart after he saw the father Amen-Ra, Lord of the seats of both worlds, residing in Dù-ṭab, there were brought to him ānkhi-flowers of this god;

9 then His Majesty feasted Amen of (Napa)ta, (and) made to Him great offerings, and set before him . . . thirty-six oxen, twenty barrels of ēsk-beer, one hundred ostrich-feathers. When His Majesty sailed down to the Northern Land, he saw

10 (the god) whose name is more hidden than (all) the gods. When His Majesty reached Abu, then His Majesty crossed to Abu. When His Majesty reached the Temple of Khnum-Ra, Lord of Qebeh,

11 he feasted this god, made to him great offerings, gave cakes and beer to the gods of the cataracts, and honoured Hapi in his shrine. When His Majesty sailed down to the Theban (Temple) of Amen, when His Majesty

12 (sailed) into Thebes, and entered the Temple of

1 Lit. "one million and one hundred thousand men."

2 Xet ḫm حن-het-ew saṭ n khem-s, lit., "A thing it (viz., a dream) is of the man who acts after his (the god's) heart, a plague for the man who does not know (the meaning of) it."

3 Egypt.

4 Khnum.

5 Elephantine.

6 The cataract.

7 The Nile-god.
AMEN-RA, Lord of the seats of both worlds, the Priest Sent-ur came to His Majesty with the Hourly Priests of the Temple of AMEN-RA,

Lord of the seats of both worlds, and they brought him ankh-flower of (the god) whose name is hidden. His Majesty rejoiced in his heart, after he saw this temple, he feasted AMEN-RA, Lord of the seats of both worlds, making a great feast in the whole land. When

His Majesty sailed down to the Northern Land, the West and East rejoiced with great rejoicing, saying:
"Go on, in peace! Be thou in peace! Mayest thou vivify both worlds!"

(Thou) wilt repair the temples which go to ruin, set again their mystic statues upon their pedestals, make offerings to the gods and goddesses, funereal banquets for the dead;

"thou wilt put the Priest on his place again, to make what is prescribed for the worshipping of gods." Those who had been resolved to fight, became joyous (and peaceful). When His Majesty reached Mennonwer, and the sons of rebellion went out to fight with His Majesty, His Majesty made a great slaughter amongst them: there is no knowing the number of the dead. His Majesty took Mennonwer, entered the Temple of PTAH-RES-AND-EW, made great offerings to PTAH-SOKAR and SEKHET, the great goddess whom he loves. His Majesty, his heart was full of the great things which

1 A high sacerdotal title on the Theban clergy of Amen.
2 Memphis.
3 Mesu beden. The princes who ruled over the Delta and their subjects.
4 The god Ptah.
the father Amen of Napata had done (for him) and sent an order to

(prescribe) that a great hall should be built to him, 'since there was no one built in the time of the ancestors; His Majesty made it of stone covered with gold,

REVERSE OF THE TABLET.

1 Its panelling of cedar-wood
2 rubbed over with the perfumes of Pount, its doors overlaid with declrum, the
3 hinges being of lead. He built another court behind (the temple) for the milk
4 of the god and for his cattle which is multiplying by myriads, (thousands), hundreds and tens: there is no knowing the number of the young calves
5 with their mothers. After that His Majesty having sailed to fight with the Chiefs of the North,
6 they entered their walled towns, (so that there was no reaching) their retreats. His Majesty spent a great many days before them, but no one of them
7 went out to fight with His Majesty. His Majesty having sailed up again to the White Wall sat in his palace thinking in
8 his (heart), how to cause his soldiers to reach them (and His Majesty was about to) say (unto his people: "Go!") when one came to report to him, saying: "The great Chiefs are come to the spot

1 Lit., "there was no one found in the time of the ancestors."
2 The Yemen or the Cinnamomifera regio of ancient writers.
3 Hâit n per, "a hall for going out for his milk."
4 The Greek Leukon teichos (Λευκών τείχος), a name of Memphis.
where His Majesty is (to salute the King) our Lord.”
Said His Majesty: “Do they come to fight, (or) do
they come to serve me? (If the last), let them live
instantly!” They said

to His Majesty: “They come to serve the King our
Lord.” Said His Majesty: “Truly, my Lord this
venerable god, AMEN-RA, Lord of the seats of both
worlds, residing in Dū-ūab, the great god, who benefits
him who knows his name, watchful

over whom he loves, giving strength to him who obeys
him," for there is no injuring the man who follows his
resolutions, no driving back whom he leads, truly, what
he said unto me in the night,

I see it in the day!” Said His Majesty: “(Where
are they) now?” They said before His Majesty: “They
are outside standing before the gate” When His Majesty
went out

of his (palace, like unto this god) RA (when he is) on
the horizon, he found them stretched on their bellies,
smelling (the) earth to his face. Said His Majesty: “It
was true what he bade

me to do .... Lo, the event happens, the decree
of this venerable god is fulfilled. By my life, by the love
I have for RA, by my worshipping AMEN in his temple,
by my having been oarsman to this venerable god AMEN

of Napata, residing in Dū-ūab .... behold! He
said unto me ‘I will lead thy march on all roads. Thou
shalt not even have to say O! that I may get that!’”

...............

Then they answered to him saying

“Truly, this venerable god,

1 Lit., “who is over his water!”

2 A very much mutilated phrase.
17. He has (given) thee 

\[\ldots\]1 Never (fails) the word issued from out his mouth, O King, our Lord!" After the hereditary Prince of Pa-suhti, PAORUK, had risen to speak, he said: 

18. "Thou smitest whom thou likest to, thou causest to live whom thou likest to: \ldots\]" Then they answered him (all) at once saying: "Grant us all the breath of life; there is no living of the man who does not know him. Let us serve him, like people subjected to him, even as thou hast said, the first time, the day thou becamest a King!" The heart of His Majesty was rejoiced after he heard this speech, he gave them bread, beer, all kind of good things. A great many days after that \ldots\] they said: "Why do we remain here, O King, our Lord?" Said His Majesty, saying: "Why?" They said before His Majesty: "Let us go to our towns; let us order our men, that (we may bring) our tributes to (thy town)!" His Majesty sent them to their towns with life safe; the men of the South went down (the river), the men of the North sailed up to the spot where His Majesty was, with all kind of good things of the Southern Lands, and all the produces of the Northern Lands, to soften the heart of His Majesty being the King of Upper and Lower Countries RABAKA, Son of the Sun NUAT (MEIAMOUN, L. h. s.,2 rising upon the seat of Hor for ever.

1 Lacuna.

2 Lit., "they were in the number of living men."

3 L. h. s. is the usual abbreviation for the royal formula, Ankh, Us, Semb, "Life! health! strength!"
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