RECORDS OF THE PAST
RECORDS OF THE PAST

BEING ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

OF THE

ANCIENT MONUMENTS OF EGYPT AND

WESTERN ASIA

NEW SERIES

EDITED BY A. H. SAYCE
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VOL. II

Multae terricolis linguae, coelestibus una

LONDON
SAMUEL BAGSTER AND SONS, LIMITED
15 PATERNOSTER ROW

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PREFACE

The present volume of *Records of the Past* possesses a melancholy interest. It contains the last literary monument of one of the most valued of my fellow-workers, M. Arthur Amiaud, who died suddenly just after completing the final pages of his translations of the inscriptions of Tel-loh. No other Assyrian scholar had so thoroughly mastered the secrets of the non-Semitic language of ancient Chaldaea, and the knowledge which has perished with him is for science an irreparable loss. The hand that traced the interpretation of the mysterious records of primeval Shinar was not permitted to revise it in proof.

It will be seen that I have been able to redeem my promise of editing the latest and most authoritative translations of the early Egyptian texts, and I am fortunate in having secured the help of Professor Maspero, the most eminent of living Egyptologists, for the work. I hope next year to be able to redeem my other promise of bringing out two volumes during the same year.

I must take this opportunity of correcting a misreading which I have allowed to appear in two
passages of the last volume of the *Records*. The name of the Hittite prince mentioned by the Vannic king Menuas is not Sada-hadas, as it is given on pages 97 and 165, but Sada-halis, as it is correctly transcribed in the transliteration and translation of the inscription itself (pp. 165, 166).

In the translations doubtful words and expressions are followed by a note of interrogation, the preceding word being put into italics where necessary. The names of individuals are distinguished from those of deities or localities by being printed in Roman type, whereas the names of deities and localities are in capitals.

A. H. SAYCE.

*Queen's College, Oxford,*
*July 1889.*
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Equivalents of the Hebrew Letters in the Transliteration of Assyrian Names Mentioned in these Volumes.

א  א,  ל
ב  ב
ג  ג
ד  ד
ה  ה
ו, ו  ו, ו
ז  ז
ח  ח
ט  ט
יו, י  י, י
כ  כ
ל  ל

N.B.—Those Assyriologists who transcribe ב by ש use ש for ב.
The Assyrian  א  represents a diphthong as well as י.

In the Introductions and Notes W. A. I. denotes The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia in five volumes published by the Trustees of the British Museum.
The Complete Text can be found on our CD: Primary Literary Sources For Ancient Literature which can be purchased on our Website:
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