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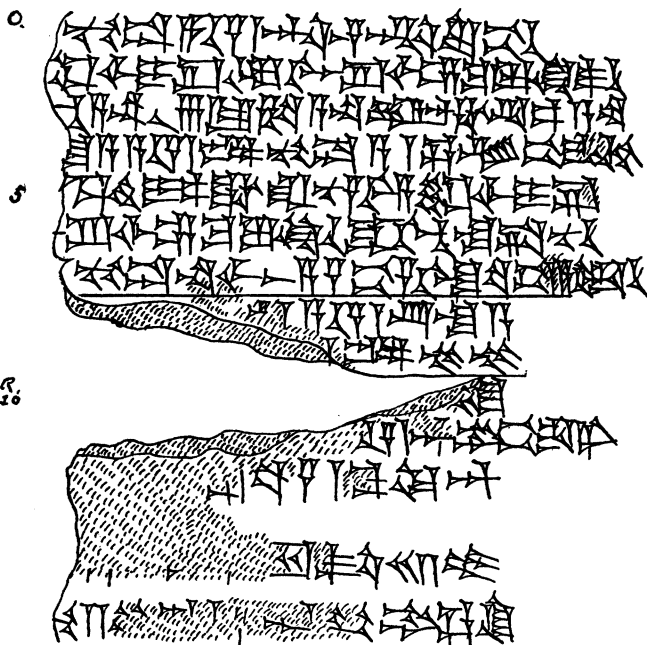
some slight value, however, when taken in connection with the few other indications. The date proposed by Vincent, the age of Herod the Great, seems to me extremely improbable; the evidence points to a much later day. The spelling *בנימין* is distinctly late; the relative pronoun is *ך*, not *ך* (contrast the *Megillath Taanith*); the noun *מקמה*, 'valuable possession,' is a later Rabbinical word, not even occurring in Onkelos, but frequent in Talmud and Midrash, and noticeably common in Pales-
 tinian Syriac (the Judean dialect of about the fifth century A. D.) The abbreviation *בן*, for *בר נש*, points in the same direc-
 tion; and finally, the characters of the inscription correspond as closely to those of the fifth century A. D., and the end of the fourth century, as to those of any other time, judging from the scanty material in Chwolson's *Corpus* and elsewhere. All things considered, the fifth century seems to me the most prob-
 able date.

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An Assyrian tablet found in Bombay

The Assyrian clay tablet here presented was discovered in the storeroom of a house in Girgaum, one of the wards of the city



of Bombay. Through my friend, Dr. Robert Zimmerman, S.J., Professor of Indic Philology in St. Xavier's College, Bombay, it came into my hands. I recently had the opportunity to announce the discovery before the Oriental Club of New York, and at Dr. J. B. Nies's suggestion the tablet was placed in Dr. C. E. Keiser's hands for decipherment. His reading follows. Dr. Keiser notes that of the two women sold by -zêr-ukîn one was his slave and the other his daughter; the *sihi* and *paqirannu* officers who are always mentioned in these slave contracts apparently gave over the document guaranteeing ownership. I may add that it is not known how the relic reached India.

Transliteration.

OBERSE

1. . . . -zêr-ukîn apil-šu ša ^{md}Šamaš-êtir ina hu-ud lîb-bi-šu
 [A]-šar-ši-i-bîti ù ^fIna-bîti-pân-kalam-ma-lu-mur-aš-šu
 . . . -šu a-na 16 šiqlu kaspu a-na šimi ha-ri-iš a-na
 . . -la(?) -a apil-šu ša ^{md}Nabû-zêr-ukîn apil ^mE-gi-bi id-din
 5. [bu-ut] si-hi-i pa-qir-ra-nu ša ^fA-šar-ši-i-bîti
 [ù ^fIn]a-bîti-pân-kalam-ma-lu-mur-šu mârtu-šu la-ta-nu-šu
 . . . -zêr-ukîn na-ši ina a-ša-bi ša ^fKu-ut-ta-a aššati-šu
 apil-šu ša ^mŠil-la-a
 ^{md}Nabû-nâdin-šum

REVERSE

10. -tu
 [apil]-šu ša ^{md}Lugal-marad-da-ni
 ut ša ^mBa-di-ilu
 ^{arhu}Šabâtu ûmu 22^{kan}
 14. šattu 2^{kan} ^{md}Nabû-kudurri-ušur šar Bâbili^{ki}.

Translation.

. . . -zêr-ukîn, son of Shamash-êtir, in the joy of his heart [i. e. of his own free will] Asharshi-bîti and Ina-bîti-pân-kalam-ma-lumurashshu his . . . for 16 shekels of silver, for a fixed price, to . . lâ, son of Nabû-zêr-ukîn, son of Egibi, gave (i. e. sold). (The document of) the *sihi* (and) *paqirannu* officers, which (was taken out over) Asharshi-bîti (and) Ina-bîti-pân-lumurshu his daughter (and) his slave, . . . -zêr-ukîn bears. In the presence of Kûttâ his wife. (Witnesses), son of Šillâ; Nabû-nâdin-šum; -tu;, son of Lugal-marad-

dani; of Badi-ilu. month Shebet, day 22,
year 2 of Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

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PERSONALIA

There has appeared in the *Bryn Mawr Alumnae Quarterly* for November, 1919, an "Appreciation" of Professor GEORGE A. BARTON. It consists of papers by Miss L. P. Smith, of Wellesley College, Prof. A. L. Wheeler, of Bryn Mawr College, and Prof. Morris Jastrow, Jr., of the University of Pennsylvania. It is accompanied with a Selected Bibliography of Dr. Barton's Publications, pp. 13-17.

Dr. TRUMAN MICHELSON, ethnologist in the Bureau of American Ethnology, and professor of ethnology in George Washington University, has been elected a corresponding member of the Société des Américanistes de Paris.

Père ANASTASE-MARIE DE ST. ELIE, the Carmelite lexicographer of Baghdâd, has written to an American correspondent of his experiences since the beginning of the war. On Nov. 23, 1914, he was exiled by the Turkish government to Caesarea (Cappadocia), and allowed to return only in July, 1916. Prior to the fall of Baghdâd in March, 1917, the retreating Turks set fire to the Carmelite monastery and completely destroyed its two valuable libraries of oriental and occidental books respectively. Père Anastase thus saw obliterated the work of 45 years of his life in preparing an etymological dictionary of the Arabic language, which was nearing completion. The monthly magazine, *Lughat al-'Arab*, of which he was the editor, has not appeared since, and will not be published again until the price of paper and printing is reduced. Orientalists who desire to send reprints or duplicate books for the reconstitution of the library of the Order, may address them to the Bibliothèque, Mission des Carmes, Baghdâd, Mesopotamia.