

Petrie's Inscription of Menoptah.

Referring to your notice of
this interesting and important
discovery ^{of Prof. Flinders Petrie} in your June
Number, ^{and to the article in the contemporary} I beg to offer a
few suggestions as to its
import and value in
~~reference~~ ^{relation} to ~~the~~ Biblical History.
and in your ~~own~~ ^{own} explanation ^{suggested by the} ~~discovery~~ ^{discovery} to begin, I cannot believe
that Menoptah was the
^{Pharaoh} ~~hero~~ of the Exodus. He was
one of the Pharaohs of the
oppression but the exodus
itself ^{apparently} took place in the
short reign of his successor
Siptah the last King
of the Nineteenth Dynasty
and the immediate pre-

detail, and with the usual
Grandiloquence of Egyptian
~~These~~ ^{These} bulletins, The part relating
to Palestine and to Israel
is evidently altogether subordinate
and supplementary and regarded
as a mere sequel of the greater
war. It imports apparently
that certain Canaanite dependencies
of Egypt took advantage of
the Syrian invasion either
to assert their independence
or to inaugurate revolutionary
disturbances which had to be
quelled on the expense of the
Syrians. The reference to Israel
is even less definite and ^{may}
well have applied to the
people then resident in Syria
and its Eastern extension toward
the head of the Red Sea

During the Lyban war of then
was exultant among the Canaanite
tribes this must have been
felt even more strongly by the
Israelites on the Eastern frontier
who must ^{have} ~~have~~ watched the
Conflict with some hopes
of deliverance from their bondage
and may perhaps have been
tempted to meet acts of
Rebellion or treacherable plots.
At the close of the war ^{and after suppression of the Canaanite tribes} there
must be punished ^{by} the execution of some of their
head men, and by the razing
of some of their villages a settle-
ments supposed to be most dis-
affected, and not improbably
by the revival or re-enactment
of some of the old Edicts of Rameses
II respecting the destruction of their
wall children, as well as by
the measure of the forced labour

demanded of them, which would
be rendered the ^{available} ~~un~~ ^{payment} ~~which~~
in account of the necessity
of repairing the damages to
Egyptian towns and temple
endowments caused by the
Syrian invasion.

Though the great war of
Memphah against the Syrians
is not directly mentioned in
the ~~Pentateuch~~ ^{Bible} there are traces
of its effects to be recognized
One somewhat mysterious reference
to Unamnebet of the Spharmates
~~in Isaiah~~ may belong to this
time, Unamnebet was no doubt
the ruling tribe ^{of Israel} in the ^{age} ~~time~~
of immediate succeeding Joseph,
and may have had some
military organization for defense
against the Eastern nomads

Statement in Exodus V that the Gadites
were scattered over all the land
of Egypt to collect straw for their lords
In the earlier portion of Numbers^{II}, they
appear chiefly to have been
employed ^{chiefly} about Ramesses and
Pithom in two principal cities
but the later work of Meren-
ptah ~~might~~ ^{would} disperse them
more widely, and this might
continue until the time of the
Return of Moses.

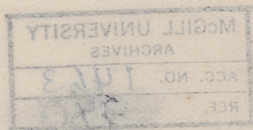
We may thus read Merenptah's
Statement as referring to mercenary
whellon among the Hebrew population
in the Eastern part of Lower Egypt
Consequent on the Libyan invasion
and to its suppression and punishment
when that invasion was repelled
and we may further ^{regard} ~~consider~~
this ^{rather} ~~as~~ disappointment and aggravation
of ~~disappointment~~ ^{misrule} as the immediate
cause of that bitter cry of the
oppressed which entered into the

[illegible]

deeper of the time of anarchy
and confusion recorded
by Rameses III in the
"Harris Papyrus". A few
years following Merneptah's death
were occupied by Seti II and
a usurper and the short
and ignominious reign of Siptah
the next King, who seems
to have left ^{was} no issue, probably
terminated ^{abruptly} in the Red
Sea; ^{with him in any case} and the Great Nineteenth
dynasty, whose Kings knew not
either Imhotep or Imhotep, ceased
from the earth.

To turn to the new
Memphite text — It is evident
that it relates chiefly to the
great war against the Ishmael
invaders which is treated in great

of the Lord of hosts as it will
always do in such cases
and ^{which} is assigned as the immediate
Cause of the divine interference
in their behalf. When the tyrant
has filled up the measure of his
iniquity, and the oppressed are
induced to turn from human ^{devices} ~~devices~~
to supplicate the help of God
is the time when ~~the~~ ~~strongman~~
of the almighty ^{army} interposes, manifest
in the hosts of the world. ~~Such a~~
Crisis is justly ending approaching
at the present time, and throughout
Christianity may thus be a lesson to us
lest in any way we should be
neglecting or injuring the lands oppressed
a persecuted people.



of the Lord of hosts on a hill
 although he is not
 and is wrapped in the mantle
 of the church universal
 in their behalf. When the trumpet
 has blown up the measure of our
 iniquity, and the oppressed are
 delivered to their former oppressors
 the help of God
 is the time when
 of the strength, victory, and
 in the courts of the world, but
 even in just enduring oppression
 as the present time, and especially
 in the present time we are to be
 left on our way we should be
 rejoicing in the triumph of
 a permanent peace

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