HIEROGLYPHIC TEXTS

FROM

EGYPTIAN STELAE, &c.,

IN THE

BRITISH MUSEUM.

PART IV.

(50 Plates.)

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The present part of "Hieroglyphic Texts from Egyptian Stelae, etc., in the British Museum," contains copies of Stelae, chiefly of a funerary character, belonging to the Middle Kingdom, most of which are exhibited in the Northern Egyptian Gallery.

Among the texts here published the following are of special interest:—No. 136 (Plate I), No. 48 (Plate IV), Nos. 158–160 (Plate VIII), No. 165 (Plate IX). No. 171 (Plate XV), Nos. 278 and 330 (Plate XXIII). No. 342 (Plate XXVIII) and No. 341 (Plate XXIX) are monumental inscriptions set up by kings. No. 40959 (Plate L) is an inscription of a private person, taken from a votive figure which stood in the temple of Menthu-ḥetep at Dér al-Bahari. The texts on Plates I XXIX are dated in the reigns of various kings who reigned from the XIth to the XVIIth dynasty. Among these may be noted an inscription of Amenemḥat III, from the Labyrinth at Ḫawārah, with an unusual form of his Horus-name (Plate XV), and the text from the stele of a prince who flourished in the reign of Sekhem-ka-Rā (Plate XXII). Other important texts are those mentioning the rare royal names Sebekemsaf, Sekhenuaḥkhāurā, Nefersekhemkhāurā, Apuatemsa, Penthen, Ḫāā, and an otherwise unknown king, . . . . . . . kau and queen Merešer (Plate XXIII). With the exception of three texts all the above are here published for the first time.

The descriptions and copies of all the texts in this Part are the work of Mr. H. R. Hall, M.A., F.S.A., Assistant in the Department, who has also drawn Plates II, XV, XVII, and XXIX. The drawings on the other plates are by Mr. E. J. Lambert.

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

DEPARTMENT OF EGYPTIAN AND ASSYRIAN ANTIQUITIES,
BRITISH MUSEUM.
August 5th, 1913.
DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES.

The numbers of the objects which are not within brackets are the exhibition numbers, as given in the Guide to the Egyptian Galleries (Sculpture), London, 1909. Those which are within brackets are registration numbers.

PLATE I.

No. 136. Red granite monumental stele of King Senusert I, with a scene of the deities of the First Cataract, Khnumu and Satit, offering life to the royal hawk above the king's "Horus-name." Below is an inscription, much obliterated, containing titles and epithets of the monarch, as "giving life to mortals, causing increase, creating food," which are connected with the regulation of the Nile-flood. From Elephantine. Published: Budge, Guide to the Egyptian Galleries (Sculpture), p. 39. Harris Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 3 ft. 7 in., W. 2 ft. 1½ in. [963.]

PLATE II.

No. 48. Inscriptions on the sides of the throne of a seated statue of King Ne-user-Rā An (Vth dynasty), dedicated and set up by Senusert I in a temple. Published: Lepsius, Auswahl, Taf. ix. Bunsen Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 1 in. [870.]

No. 196. Yellow sandstone stele of the hereditary prince, priest of Maat, and commander of soldiers, Erta-Āntef-ṭātau, set up in the reign of Senusert I, whose royal titles are given in full. Right half.

PLATE III.


PLATE IV.

No. 139. Grey sandstone stele of the shipmaster Neferu, son of Mereret, with prayers to the deceased king Senusert I and the gods Horus, lord of Buhen, and Horus, lord of the Deserts. From Wādī Halfa. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 10 in., W. 1 ft. 1 in. [489.]

No. 149. Inscriptions on the lower part (A. on the lap; B. below) of a red sandstone seated figure of Hathor (?), dedicated by the shipmaster Seneferu, son of Mektu, in the reign of Amenemhat II. From Sarabit al-Khadîm, Sinai. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 1 in. [497.] Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1905.
PLATE V.

No. 152. Limestone stele of Minnefer, Governor of the Inner Court, dated in the 29th year of Amenemhat II. The deceased is shown receiving the gifts of his relatives and servants: behind his seat stands his mother Annu. The figures are painted red, black, and yellow. Anastasi Collection. XIth dynasty. H. 2 ft. 1 in., W. 1 ft. 9 in. [825a]

PLATE VI.

No. 148. Fragment of an inscribed limestone plinth, which has been converted in later times into a door-jamb. The inscription is dated in the 30th year of Amenemhat II. It contains funerary prayers for a person whose name does not appear in the portion preserved. Probably originally part of the door-jamb of a tomb. The signs are rather roughly cut. XIth dynasty, 14 in. by 13½ in. by 6 in. 

Presented by G. Willoughby Fraser, Esq., 1897. [1236a]

PLATE VII.

No. 155. Stele of the shipmaster Sebekhetep, made in the shape of a table of offerings. Above is the date: the 6th year of Senusert II. Below are figures of the deceased and his wife Kenet, receiving offerings. Soma Collection. XIth dynasty. H. 1 ft., W. 9 in. [257a]

PLATE VIII.

No. 298. Upper part of a red quartzite slab, with deeply cut inscription of Senusert II or III, referring to the “god, the spirits (sic) of Annu (On, Heliopolis): may he give life and power . . . . . . “(sc. to the king). Below is a figure of the deity of On offering life and power to the royal hawk. Found at the base of “Pompey’s Pillar” at Alexandria, having no doubt been transported thither from Heliopolis. XIth dynasty. L. 4 ft. 4 in., W. 1 ft. 9 in. [145a]

Presented by Earl Spencer, 1805.


Inscription on the lower part of the plinth of a similar statue. Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1905. [768a]

PLATE IX.

No. 165. Scene and Inscriptions on the sides of the throne of a red quartzite seated statue of Senusert III, showing the Xiles of Upper and Lower Egypt binding firmly the symbol of Union that supports the throne. Below, are the rebe-birds on the red sign, symbolizing “all mankind.” The small female figures at the sides of the throne are those of the king’s daughters. From Tell Nebeshah. Published: Griffith, Twix, ii, Pl. ix, 2a; p. 13. XIth dynasty, H. 3 ft. 5 in. [1059a]

Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1888.

As both sides are alike, except for one detail in the inscription, one only, the best preserved, is shown; the edge of the other side, which is more broken, being indicated by a dotted line.

PLATE X.

No. 169. Sandstone stele of Nubkaurā, a prince of Elephantinē, dated in the eighth year of Senusert III, and inscribed with the royal titles and the text of a decree issued to the Governor of the South, Amenē, with regard to the temples of Elephantinē and the South, after the king (?) had “overthrown Kush, the vile.” From Elephantinē. XIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 2½ in., W. 11 in. [832a]
PLATE XI.

No. 162. Red sandstone block, roughly fashioned in the shape of the lower part of a seated figure, and rudely inscribed with the titles of Senusert III, "beloved of Hathor, lady of Mafkt," and with the names of five deceased officials. From the Sarabit al-Khadim, Sinai. XI11th dynasty. H. 1 ft. 9 in. [692.]

Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1903.

PLATE XII.

No. 170. Upper part of a limestone stele, with cornice and torus, inscribed with prayers to Osiris-Khartamentiu, "lord of Abydos," and to Anubis, "lord of Abydos," that offerings may be given at the feasts of the Full Moon, the New Moon, Uak, of Thoth, of Seker, of Min, the Heat, etc., every day for the souls of the Warden of the Temple of Khnum Sebekhetep, of his father Senusert, son of Sat-Baster, and his mother Atau, daughter of Atau. Dated in the 13th year of Senusert III. In the upper register Sebekhetep and his father are seen seated before a table of offerings.

PLATE XIII.

Lower part of the same stele, with a scene of Sebekhetep seated in the same way with his mother. Below are the names of various relatives and retainers. The figures are painted. Published: Budge, Guide to the Egyptian Galleries (Sculture), p. 50. Anastasi Collection. XI11th dynasty. H. 1 ft. 4½ in., W. 1 ft. 1½ in. [831.]

PLATE XIV.

No. 181. Limestone stele of Ankef, the metal-worker, and his family, with an inscription adorning all those living on earth, "who pass by this eternal offering-stone," to pray for the souls of Ankef, his relatives, and their wives. Above is the prenomen of Amenemhat III between figures of Khartamentiu and Apatau. Found in Malta in 1823. XI11th dynasty. H. 1 ft. 6 in., W. 10½ in.

Presented by J. B. Collings, Esq., 1836.

It is in the highest degree unlikely that this stele was taken to Malta before the Roman period, and it may have been taken there in the sixteenth or seventeenth century. The king's name on it is given as that of a deity with those of the gods Khartamentiu and Apatau: evidently the cult of Amenemhat III was very popular soon after his death, as this stele cannot be much later than his time.

PLATE XV.

No. 171. Fine white limestone slab, with beautifully cut inscription in relief, giving the name and titles of Amenemhat III, with the special Horus-name Her-ah-Shetett, "He who is in Crocodiliopolis." The crocodile-god Sebek of Shetetti is said to give him life and stability. From the labyrinth, Hawarah (Fayyum). XI11th dynasty. L. 7 ft. 9 in., W. 2 ft. 11 in. [1072.]

PLATE XVI.

No. 176. Grey-green quartzite stele, roughly hewn, with an inscription, lightly battered in, containing prayers to Anubis, Khnemu, and Apatau for the judge of Nekhen, Sa-Menthu. Dated in the 9th year of Amenemhat III, whose prenomen is spelt in an unusual manner. Considerably obliterated, and difficult to read. From Semnah (Second Cataract). XI11th dynasty. H. 2 ft. 2 in., W. 1 ft. 3 in.

Presented by Somers Clarke, Esq., 1899. [1290.]

PLATE XVII.

No. 179. Red sandstone stele, with prayers to Hathor, lady of Mafkt ("the turquoise-land"), for the officials Sebekherheb and Kemen. Found in position with an offering-table of the same stone before it, within a circle of stones. From the Sarabit al-Khadim, in Sinai. Published: Petrie, Researches in Sinai, p. 66, Pl. 78-80; Budge, Guide to the Egyptian Galleries (Sculture), p. 54. XI11th dynasty. H. 2 ft. 7½ in.

Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1903.

This stele is of the unusual shape characteristic of the Middle Kingdom stele found in Sinai.
No. 102. Small red sand-stone obelisk, with rude inscriptions on three sides, commemorating the warriors Ūhemā, "[his] beloved [son?]" Āhenem, and Qenā. From the Sarābit al-Khādīm. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 8½ in.

Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1905.

The name Āhenem is probably Semitic.

Limestone fragment with lower part of the cartouches of Sekhem-Rā-shef-tau Sebekemsaf. Painted red and yellow. From Abydos. Published: Petrie, Abydos, ii, Pl. xxxii. L. 15½ in.

Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1903.

PLATE XVIII.

No. 280. White limestone stele, in the form of a flat cone, of the temple-scribe Sebekhetep, son of Sebeknekht, who held the same office. Inscriptions of the first narrow side, shewing Sebekhetep with his wife Auhetāb. Above are the cartouches of King Sekhem-Rā-shef-tau Sebekemsaf.

PLATE XIX.

Inscriptions of the first broad side of the same stele, praising Rā in the east of heaven. The phraseology of the hymn is remarkable, and contains expressions very difficult to translate. Below are Sebekhetep and his wife.

PLATE XX.

Inscriptions of the second narrow side of the same stele, with prayer to Anubis and the royal names, etc., as before.

PLATE XXI.


The inscriptions of this stele are peculiar, and contain many unusual epithets of the gods.

PLATE XXII.

No. 277. Limestone stele of the Hereditary Prince, Chief Scribe, and priest, Pauḫeruā. The Nile-god Hap is shown offering the vases signifying praise, and the symbols of life, stability, and strength to the royal hawk above the standard of King Sekhem-ka-Rā, whose name and titles are at the side. Fine work: the upper inscription is in relief, the lower (containing the name and titles of the deceased) is incised, and is blundered. From the ruins of Athribis, near Benha. Published: Brugsch, Thesaurus, 1453; Budge, Hist. Eg., iii, p. 87. XIIth dynasty. H. 3 ft. 10 in., W. 2 ft. 2 in.

PLATE XXIII.

No. 278. Portion of a limestone slab with inscription (biographical?) mentioning Khā-nefer-Rā (Sebekhetep III), the land of Wawat, etc. Roughly cut and much worn. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 3½ in., W. 1 ft. 6½ in.

No. 330. Upper portion of a limestone stele with figures of a king . . . . kau and his queen Merseker. The queen wears the vulture-headress, the king the crown of Upper Egypt only. XIIth-XVIth dynasty. H. 11½ in., W. 10 in.

PLATE XXIV.

No. 283. Upper portion of a limestone stele on which is a representation of a king offering to Osiris for two men, the official Nefer (2)-besa, deceased, and the amun-khet priest Ptah-sankh, deceased, who, in the inscription below, is said to praise Osiris, “lord of the hill” (sic). The stele is dated above, “in the first year, . . . . month, of the lord making things, Sekhem-uah-khā-Rā, Son of the Sun, Rāhpet, giving life, beloved of Osiris-Khentamentiu, great god, lord of Abydos.” The personal name, Rāhpet, is not enclosed in a cartouche. At the side are the figures of two relatives of the deceased. Roughly cut. Anastasi Collection. XIIith dynasty. H. 1 ft. 7 in., W. 1 ft. 3½ in. [833.]

The actual representation of the king offering to Osiris for the deceased is very rare. The ordinary formula does not occur on this stele.

PLATE XXV.

No. 284. Limestone stele showing the king Nefer-sekhem-khā-Rā Apuatemsaf standing before the god Apuat. The inscription between them is confused; the sentence “Praise be to Apuat, lord of Abydos, every day” becoming “Praise be to Apuat-Rā, lord of Abydos.” The cutting is of the same style as that of No. 283, and the figure of the king is treated in the same way. Harris Collection. XIIith dynasty. H. 1½ ft., W. 8 in. [569.]

Nos. 283 and 284 evidently belong to the same period, and the reigns of these two kings cannot have been separated by any long space of time. The confusion in the inscription is due to the fact that Apuat was actually identified with Rā at this period. H.T., iii, Pl. 46.

PLATE XXVI.

No. 282. Limestone stele of the prince Tehuti-āā, and the princess Hetep-neferu, with the names of King Sekhem-khu-tau-i-Rā Penthen. From Abydos. Published: Petrie, Abydos, ii, Pl. xxxi, pp. 32, 44. XIIith dynasty. H. 1 ft. 5 in., W. 1 ft. 10½ in. Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1903. [630.]

PLATE XXVII.

No. 279. Limestone stele commemorating Sa-Hathor, aārtu-officer of the prince’s table, his wife Sensenb, chief aākhet of the king, his father the judge of Nekhen Senusert-usa, his mother the lady Khensu, the royal scribe and overseer of the prison Ab-āā, and others of his family. Dated in the reign of King Ab-āā. Well cut. XIIith dynasty. H. 1 ft. 10½ in., W. 1 ft. 2½ in. [1348.]

PLATE XXVIII.

No. 342. Upper part of a painted limestone relief, on which was sculptured a figure of King Nub-kheper-Rā Antef, wearing the White Crown of Upper Egypt. The royal titles with a prayer to Osiris, roughly cut, and the figure of the protecting hawk are preserved, besides the upper part of the royal crown. From the Temple of Osiris, Abydos. XVIIith dynasty. L. 3 ft. 5 in., W. 1 ft. 5 in. Presented by the Egypt Exploration Fund, 1903. [631.]

PLATE XXIX.

No. 341. Limestone Pyramidion of King Antef-āā Seshes-Rā-up-maat, giving his titles and birth: the name of his mother is broken off. Damaged at top and bottom. Published: Sharpe, Inscriptions, i, Pl. 47b; Lepsius, Königsbuch, Taf. x, 154–155. Sams Collection. H. 9½ in., base 1 ft. 2 in. sq. [478.]
PLATE XXX.

No. 257. Painted limestone stele of Upai and Khati, and their family, most of whom of both sexes bear the names of Upai or Khati, some modified by the epithets above, "son," nekhebetu, "child," nethebet, "green," etc. The scenes and hieroglyphs are painted on the flat; the colours, especially the green and yellow, being very delicate. From Asyût: British Museum Excavations, 1907. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 6½ in., W. 1 ft. 2½ in. [528.]

PLATE XXXI.

No. 218. Limestone stele with prayers to Osiris for the official Khentikhatiemhêt, who is shewn invoking the god. The prayers contain several interesting mythological allusions. Roughly cut. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 3 in., W. 1 ft. [243.]

PLATE XXXII.

No. 195. Limestone stele of the royal kinswoman and priestess of Hathor, Pefes, who is shewn seated, receiving "many glorifying offerings" from the huer-leb and his assistant, and standing (twice) with "her beloved eldest daughter" Aritnes. Finely cut. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 3 ft. 8 in., W. 1 ft. 6 in. [532.]

PLATE XXXIII.

No. 194. Limestone stele of the Chief Commander of Soldiers Ameni, son of Qebu, who is represented with his wife Methu, priestess of Hathor, and his daughter; below is his son Khentikhati, followed by the huer-leb and three retainers bearing gifts. The first retainer is a woman. Prayers to Osiris Khentamentiu. Published: Sharpe, Inscriptions, i, 17. XIIth dynasty. H. 3 ft. 6 in., W. 2 ft. 4½ in. [162.]

PLATE XXXIV.

No. 210. Limestone stele of Herap, son of Aakas, who is shewn with his son Apänkh. Well cut. Same Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 7½ in., W. 1 ft. 4 in. [578.]

PLATE XXXV.

No. 187. Limestone stele of the hereditary chief and overseer of priests, Antef, and of his son, Sensebek, who bore the same titles. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 2 ft., W. 1 ft. 8 in. [577.]

PLATE XXXVI.

No. 255. Limestone stele of the hereditary prince Sebekätatu, real judge of Nekhen, controller of the royal kinsmen, and overseer of the House of the Six in Thei-taut. Below is represented the deceased with his family. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 2 ft. 2½ in., W. 1 ft. 7 in. [830.]

PLATE XXXVII.

No. 193. Limestone stele of the same Sebektatâu, who is shewn below with his wife Ai. The hieroglyphs are inlaid in blue. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 2 ft. 9 in., W. 1 ft. 7½ in. [566.]

PLATE XXXVIII.

No. 241. Limestone stele of the Warden of the house of Pharaoh, User, son of Meshti. The deceased is shewn with his family and his dog, Tebti by name. The figures are very deeply cut in cavo rilievo, in an unusual style. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 7½ in., W. 1 ft. [237.]
PLATE XXXIX.

No. 446. Limestone stele of Anuphetep and his family, which is shewn below the seated figures of the deceased and his wife. Some of the names are interesting. Roughly cut and crudely painted. Published: Budge, Guide to the Egyptian Galleries (Sculpture. H. xvi XIIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 10\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 1 ft. 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) in.

[200.]

PLATE XL.

No. 331. Limestone stele with prayers for the Scribe of the Great Prison, Hekeuki, and the Scribe of the Robes, Paentien. The family of the latter (?) is represented by six rows of kneeling figures. XIIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 6\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 1 ft.

[250.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 314. Limestone stele of Hetep-nebsu, Overseer of the Granary of Min, his wife Khemå, his son Neferhetep, and others. Roughly cut. XIIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 9 in.

Presented by the Royal Institution, 1870.

[930.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 334. Limestone stele of Ki, son of the lady Sebekhetep, with prayers and lists of relatives including his wife Sat-Aah, her daughter Sebekhetep, and others. Sams Collection. XIIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 11 in., W. 10 in.

[229.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 247. Limestone stele of Änkhu-Senusert, son of Hapi, with prayers to Osiris-Apuatu, lord of Abydos, and a list of relatives; partly in hieratic. XIIIth-XIIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 0\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 8 in.

[220.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 306. Painted limestone stele of "the venerated Menthu-em-maÅ (?) and his wife Rensånkhu." Rough work: only the names are given above the figures of the deceased. Sams Collection. XIIIth dynasty. H. 11 in., W. 8 in.

[206.]

No. 321. Limestone stele, with cornice and torus, of Sebek-tåta (or Sebek-åalu), "änkh-officer of the prince’s table." Sams Collection. XIIIth dynasty. H. 11 in., W. 7 in.

[234.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 333. Limestone stele with prayers to Osiris for Ptah-Sekri, set up by his brother Sebekhetep, Chief of the Southern Tens. Sams Collection. XIIIth dynasty. H. 8\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 5 in.

[245.]

No. 332. Painted limestone stele with prayers to Ptah-Sekar and Anubis for Senbu, "Great Doorkeeper of the . . . . . . of Osiris-Horus (sic)." XIIIth dynasty. H. 8\(\frac{1}{2}\) in., W. 6 in.

[246.]

PLATE XLI.

No. 256. Limestone stele of Senbresi and his wife Rensenb, who are shewn seated at an offering-table. Below are two sons, both named Sa-Ptah, one of them deceased. Sams Collection. XIIIth dynasty. H. 9 in., W. 5\(\frac{1}{2}\) in.

[261.]

No. 318. Limestone stele with prayers to Ptah-Sekar-Asar, lord of Änkhtau, and to Hathor, lady of Ânt, for the prince (\(\overline{\text{tau}}\) \(\overline{\text{kau}}\) \(\overline{\text{si}}\) \(\overline{\text{tau}}\)) Tau, deceased, son of the lady Athemenu, and for the lady Auenasütis, daughter of the lady Hau. Sams Collection. XIIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 4 in., W. 9 in.

[197.]
PLATE XLVII.

No. 291. Limestone stele of Ankhuf, "acting-scribe of the vizier"; set up by the official Menthu-user-seubef. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 6 in., W. 1 ft. [268.]

No. 292. Dark sandstone stele of Sebekhetep, son of Satpi, and others. Anastasi Collection. XIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. 3 in., W. 1 ft. 1 in. [597.]

PLATE XLVIII.

No. 447. Upper part of a limestone stele, with an inscription containing prayers and praise to Osiris-Khentamentiu, Apaatu, and other gods, for the chancellor and steward Amenemhat.

PLATE XLIX.

Lower part of the stele of Amenemhat. From Thebes. XIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 3 ft. 4 in., W. 3 ft. 1 in. [893.]

This stele was brought from Thebes by Captain R. Bruce, R.N., and presented to the Royal United Service Institution some time before 1838. It was purchased by the Trustees of the British Museum, in 1861, from Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson.

PLATE L.

Inscriptions on the lower part of a squatting male figure of calcareous limestone found in the XIth dynasty temple at Der el-Bahari. The contents of the inscriptions consist of prayers and adorations to Osiris (?), Ra, and Min-Amen (sic). The land of Punt is mentioned. Also the names of the various royal crowns are given, as worn by the god Min-Amen. The name of the deceased, for whom the figure was set up in the temple, has disappeared. Published: Naville and Hall, Deir el-Bahari, XIth Dynasty, iii, Pl. iv, 6. XIIth-XVIIth dynasty. H. 1 ft. [40959.]
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