Griffith, Francis Llewellyn The inscriptions of siut ${ }^{\prime}$ and Der Rifeh

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## THE INSCRIPTIONS

OF

## SIƯT AND DÉR RÎFEH．

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## F．L．GRIFFITH，

OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM，LATE STUDENT OF THE EGXPT EXPLORATION FUND．

LONDON：
TRÜBNER AND CO．，LUDGATE HILL．
1889.
harrison and bons,
PRINTERS IN ORDINAET TO HEL MAJESTY, et. martin's lane, bondon.
TO THE TWO FRIENDS, WHOSE GENEROSITY ENABLED ME TO ENJOY
THE PRIVILEGES OF A STUDENT OF THE EGYPT EXPLORATION FUND, I DEDICATE THIS VOLUME OF INSCRIPTIONS.

If a small portion of the sums of money that, in the name of scientific research, have been spent in Egypt on treasure-lunting for antiquities, on uncovering monuments and exposing them to destruction, on unwatched excavations from which the limestone sculptures have gone straight to the kiln or the village stone-mason-if a small portion of this had been utilised in securing systematically throughout the country accurate and exhaustive copies of the inscriptions above ground and in danger, the most important part of all the evidence of her past that Egypt has handed down to our day would have been gathered intact, instead of mutilated beyond recovery.

If the remainder of those sums had been devoted to watching, and taking proper measures to preserve, the monuments of Egypt, the present century would not have been destined above all other periods to the maledictions of posterity on account of the searching and unrelenting damage of every kind done to these records, that had weathered so many centuries with hardly an injury, and that should have delighted mankind for so many ages to come.

Each year a vast amount of damage is done, but there is still much that can be saved. The resources of Egyptology are considerable for good as well as for evil, and there are perhaps signs to encourage those who cannot but take a gloomy view of the present state of things. Meanwhile my heartiest wish is that the present publication along with a hundred others equally imperfect will soon be superseded.

## INTRODUCTION.

Considering their accessibility and importance, the tomb inscriptions of Siût have been strangely neglected, and I have every reason to believe that the present publication will supply a much felt want. My endeavour has been, in the first place, to obtain accuracy in the readings and complcteness; sccondly, to give a faithful transcript of my own copy; thirdly, to add to it materials for future correction and restoration. The task has entailed more labour than may be realised by the reader, who I hope will none the less pardon the rudeness of my drawings.

The discovery of a mass of fresh material since the Plates were drawn, and consequent delays which gave me further opportunities for revision, have resulted in burdening the texts with more notes than are convenient. But until a fresh comparison with the original can be undcrtaken, I shall refuse to alter my own copies or to omit annotations that may still lead to the true reading: and I believe that no Egyptologist will quarrel with this decision.

Gladly would I have placed at the head of this little memoir the names of the two friends to whom I owe so much, but that privilege was refused me. Let me however here repeat my thanks, in the one case to a connoisseur of art who, exercising a wisc philanthropy, has given a start and encouragement to many enterprises; in the other case to a dear relative to whom I am bound by acts of particular kindness.

I must also thank those who have assisted me in matters more closely connceted with the present work, namely : in England, the Committee of the Egypt Exploration Fund, and especially Miss Amelia B. Edwards, Mr. R. S. Poole, and Mr. Grueber; also Mr. Le Page Renouf, Professor Hayter Lewis, and the Rev. W. J. Loftie; in Egypt, Mr. Petrie, Count Riamo d' Hulst, Dr. Grant-Bey, and M. Ed. Naville: whilst I must draw special attention to the fact that Professor Maspero of Paris and Professor Erman of Berlin have not only contributcd directly to the contents of the Plates, but have also subjected those numbered from I to XIX to a close revision. Their cordial interest in the work has, I need hardly say, been the grcatest possible encouragement to me.

## SIÛT.

In two visits, December 31, 1886-January 1, 1887, without ladders, and May 21-29, 1887, with clumsy native ladders, I copied and revised the inscriptions from Dêr Rifeh to Siût, with the exception of Tombs I and II at the latter place. It is clear that the Siût hill was once rich in memorials of the Middle Kingdom, but I could discover inscriptions in only five tombs, the same that have long been known to Egyptian travellers. Two of these, I and II, may be attributed to the XIIth dynasty, the other three to the IXth or Xth. In England I added to these copies ull the texts published by Lepsius, Brugsch (Recueil), Maricttc, De Rougé, Maspero, and Erman, together with all their variations or suggestions, besides taking numerous notes from the "Deseription de l'Égypte"; moreover, Mr. Renouf lent me some good copies that lie had made. I also obtained permission from the Committce of the Egypt Exploration Fund to be absent for a fortnight from the excavations of the following season.

In 1888, from the 16th January to the 5th Feloruary, I was engaged at Siûț, and having alrcady much exceeded the time agreed upon, was quite unable to proceed to Rifch. The Committee of the Exploration Fund was however well satisfied with what had been done, and furthermore, contrary to my cxpectation, paid all the expenses of travelling and stay at Siût.

When preparing my note-books in England, in the casc of important inscriptions I assigned four vertical or horizontal lines to each line of the original, and so had plenty of space for annotation. But the abundance of false rcadings and other circumstances made it necessary, after the first collation with the original, to make a fair copy, into which were introduced many improvements resulting from subsequent collations. I was anxious to obtain the original reading of obscure and mutilated passages, which unfortunatcly abound, and this was only to be done by long-continued and repeated examination of the parallel texts in the tombs. Some long and handy
ladders borrowed from Mr. Petrie enabled me to closely examine the lofty walls, and catch the merest shadows of signs by holding a candle at every possible angle. For the sake of clearness, all the effaced signs were inserted in red ink amongst the black ink of my fair copy. One more such revision after a thorough study of the texts should complete the recovery of the inscriptions. Unfortunately my hieroglyphic vocabulary was then exceedingly limited, and even such a common word as $\sum_{1}$ was a total stranger to me: I had therefore to depend almost entirely on eyesight for the restorations, which however are in general fully confirmed.

Since my return from Egypt I have collected s^me new material. In Paris indeed (where I unhappily lost a note-book containing two inscriptions) the MSS. of Nestor de l'Hôte furnished scarcely any matcrial for this memoir. From Berlin, however, Professor Erman, most kindly forwarded for my use his collation of the MS. copies of Brugsch and Dümichen, supplying several signs and groups that have become illegible on the original. Above all, in London, last October, after the Plates had been drawn, I had the good fortune to find some copies by Arundale (1834?) in the Hay MSS. of the British Museum. Made evidently with the help of a good ladder; they might long ago have solved many difficulties. Lastly, since commencing to work seriously on the philology of the inseriptions, I have found many passages quoted in Brugsch's dictionary: but very few of these are accurate, though Herr Brugsch's copy is, I think, the most careful of any that I have yet seen, except perhaps Arundale's, which still abounds in little faults. The truth is that high ladders, with an infiuite expenditure of time, trouble, and patience, and candles in corresponding quantity, arc necessary for making good transcripts in such places.

The Plates of Siût are drawn from the fair copy. For the revision of I-XIX I was exceedingly fortunate in obtaining help from MM. Maspero and

Erman. Many of the emendations of these great seholars appear in the notes upon the Plates, while the queries of Professor Erman have besides unearthed several faults that I had eommitted in recopying, and that I was able quietly to eorreet without impairing the genuineness of the text. Where I found elear corroboration of a queried sign in Arundale's eopies, or a proof of some kind in my own, the word sic is inserted on the Plate; where I still feel a doubt the suggestion has been plaeed in a note.

I am not quite satisfied with the numbering of the lines. To eombine logie with eonvenience is not easy, and I have simply followed the numbers in my note-book, proeeeding in eaeh tomb from the interior to the façade.

All signs not in existenee in January, 1887, are treated as restorations. Where no authority is stated for a restored sign it is eonjeetural. For the meaning of abbreviations ete., vide Plate XX.

In the following notes I use the word band in the sense of the Frenel registre when deseribing seenes superposed on the same wall; and in eonneetion with doorways, the word framing denotes the lintel and jambs (whieh of eourse are cut in the solid roek), and thickness of wall is the part in whieh seulptures are seen to right and left in passing through the door.

## XIItr DYNASTY.

Tombs I and II. The first is elaborate; the seheme of the second seems not to have been eompletely earried out.

## Tomb I.

(See Pl. I-X, anả Plan, Pl. III.)
The seulptures are raised about 6 feet above the floor, over a plain band or dado.

Shrine.-Seulpture only, no painting. At top Baek (west) wall two bands-
(1) upper, l. 1-4, MS. Dümiehen.
(2) a. South half defaeed, probably similar to north, or else statue in the round?
b. North half, H. seated $\rightarrow$, in front 3 female relations standing holding lotus flowers $\leftarrow$, , 1. 5-12, MSS. Brugsch and Dümiehen (eontinued smaller in 5 th band, north wall);
also (3) below the 6 feet level, $a$, eentre defaeed lower part of statue?, $b$, on south a false door, 1. 13-15, mueh defaeed.

South wall, Pl. I and II, 5 bands of equal height, the upper seene eomprising 4.
(1)-(4) at west end H. seated ; above him titles, 1. 20-25, Mariette, Mon. Div. 68b, MSS. Brugseh aud Dümiehen; in front, table of offerings, 1. 65 : (1) (2) names of offerings in two rows, ]. 26-64: (3) priests performing services, l. 66-71: (4) priests, ete., bringing offerings, 1. 72-73.
(5) family headed by two sons, 1. 74-76, offering (to the defaeed figure or statue on baek wall).
North wall, Pl. II and III, similar to south but reversed.
(1)-(4) H. before table $\rightarrow$, reeeiving offerings, l. 85-133 (1. 80-85 = Mariette, Mon. Div., $68 a$, MS. Dümiehen).
(5) family offering, l. 134 (eontinued 1. 5-12 on the baek wall).
East wall (and entranee) now blasted away, Pì. II, seenes 1-8, now destroyed, are from Deser. Ant. IV, Pl. 45. In the text they are said to have filled the spaees between the doorway and the side walls. Probably there were five bands, as on the side walls. but perhaps only four: no space over the doorway?. I lave assigned the eight seenes in the Description to the north and south aeeording to direetion of figures. A portion of seene 4 remains at the top of the wall on the north.

Walls of ehamber surrounding shrine and passage formerly with paint on plaster?

Great mall-Ceiling painted on plaster with basket and seroll-work, eorniee painted $\square \square$ and \& blne on greenish-blaek: line of titles (blue) down the ecntre from south to north, defaeed.

West wall, traees of painted seenes at south end.
Central doorway, inscriptions ineised and painted green; destroyed except l. 150-155, whieh are very much damaged; l. $155 a$ insert ${ }_{2}^{2}$ (eopy): at end of l. 154 I have omitted $ๆ_{1}$ (restored).

South doorway, inseription incised and painted green, framing l. 160-163; thiekness of wall on south, 1. 170-174, eopy lost, from MS. Dümichen, correeted by notes and reeolleetion. Top of 1.173 very doubtful, the rest almost eertain. Thiekness of wall north, illegible.

North doorway ineised only, framing 1. 180-185.
South wall, defaeed or blank.
North wall, traees of painted seenes.

East wall, south side of door, Pl. IV-V, scene painted in colours on plaster, inseription incised and painted, $1.210-249$. A portion of the wall palimpsest, the early text from left to right : inscription much damaged and reading still uncertain in some places. Arundale's completc copy shows the wall in almost the same state as now. I have improved my copy of the figure from it: he indicates the unbroken corner of the wall on the left of the scene, thus there are no lines missing. His drawing of the figure explains my finding that the outline of it had been marked with a lead pencil.
210,211 v. Pl. XXI.
223a. Not in Arundalc: it should therefore bc omitted.

## 241a. $\chi^{n t}$ màtu-f E.

b. $m h \dot{a} b$ E. but Arundale as text.

North side of door, Pl. VI-VIII, incised and painted green. MSS. Arundale, Brugsch and Dümichen (MS. Mariette partly collated by Prof. Maspero without result). After subjecting the copy to every possible test, I have detected two errors, 1. $209 a$ and $324 a$. Perhaps also l. 29o sic? 』_ ? where the sign seems to have been imperfect. Some parts of the text are very indistinct, especially at the base, and a portion is palimpsest.
$262-4 \mathrm{v}$. Pl. XXI.
$270 a$. The restoration is almost certain.
$273 a, 282 a$, insert $\Longleftrightarrow$ (сору).
291a. a perhaps from the palimpsest.

320. Top, Maspero, Trans. Soc. Bibl. Arch., restores

325. In my own copy only: the restoration was suggested by l. 313 , and confirmed by the faint traces on the wall.
Entrance.-Incised, not painted.
Thickncss of wall on south, 1. 330-336. My copy lost. Copy in PI. IX worthless except for comparison with that in Pl. XX. The lower half of $1.330-1$ is destroyed. Arundale has two copies, (1) fol. 18 without laddcr, (2) fol. 68 evidently with ladder, and excellent; the inscription is thus complete except extreme base of $1.330-1$. The copy scems to be exact excepting two or threc very slight errors. The figure of II. (altcrations secn owing to the plaster
having fallon off) is the only example in the tomb with wig, board, and divided skirt.
Thickness of wall, north, 1. 337-342. My copy lost, and I have found no others.

Framing 1. 345-359. The upper lines are in bad condition. MSS. Brugsch, Dümichen, Nestor de l'Hôte.
$346 a$. Inserted only to show the width of the gap. 3ă1a. Cf. 1. 340.
Entrance passage.-Roof arched with star pattern painted blue on ycllow? or dark grecn? Cornice $\square \square$ of various colours.
South side. Traces of scenes painted on plaster; at outer end remains of inciscd inscription, 1. 370-3; probably others preceded them. Originally each line of same length as thosc on north side.

North side. Incised iuscription, 1. 380-418, Pl. IX-X, on a palimpsest wall; much altered and corrected by the mason, and damaged by incrustations, etc. Hoping to find other versions I did not revise minutely, it being the most difficult of all to copy. M. Maspero quotes parallel pyramid texts, 1. 388-404 = Unas 269-294 (Rec. de trav., III, p. 214 ff.), and Horhotep, 148-166 (Mem. Miss. Arch. Franc. Caire, II, p. 144 ff.).

## Tomb II.

Single chamber, formerly with pillars and sculptured entrance, now destroycd. Pl. X and XX.

West wall, two real doorways with traces of inscriptions (but no excavated passage beyond). Ou lintel of southern doorway inscription painted green, 1. 1-2.
East wall, traces of inscription.
Entrance. Thickness of wall, sonth, 1. 3-10 from Mariettc, etc.
north, 1. 11-18 from Rongć, etc.
$12 a, 13 a$. I have mis-copied Rougé, who rcads

Framing, 19-22, Pl. X and XX, from MSS. Nestor de l'Hôte, Arundale; photograph Petrie. The portions in the photograph arc dottcd, but all is somewhat obscure and uncertain. Hicroglyphs curiously crowded.
Façadc on south side of doorway, 1. 23 , visible on photograph. " north " ruined ancicntly.

## HERACLEOPOLITE. (Dyn. IX-X.)

Tombs III, IV, V from south to north on ono terrace, divided only by party walls. Large singlo chambers, divided transversely by pillars and archifrave. Façades now destroyed.

## томв 1 II.

No traces of decoration left, except on north wall, viz., west of architrave traces of paintcd plaster, and
East of pillars, l. 1-56, Pl. XI-XII, as follows: 1. 1, incised and painted blue, heading the inscription (it also remained as the heading after the substitution of 1. 41-56 for 1. 16-40), 1. 2-40 onc inscription in two sections, of which $1.2-15$ were incised and painted blue, but l. 16-40 being offensive were not completed. These latter remained half incised, half sketched, and plaster was laid over them. On the plaster was painted a figure of Tefâbà, and behind him a new inscription, l. 41-56. This plaster fell off fiom the upper part in anciont times, and the wall was again covered with whitewash by Copts?. I cleaned the carlier inscription with great care. There is no trace of the lower halves of 1. 16-40; the signs in the upper portions are incised, but roughly and not finishod; some have not yet been begun but are traceable in the sketching.
l. 15b. Insert mun.
$16 e$ should probably be a female; cf. Champollion, Not., II, p. 145 = L.D., Pl. 130.

Inscriptions in thickness of wall and framing of entrance, 1. 57-71. From the "Description de l'Égyte," identifice by the name of is

Tomb IV.
On a pillar remains of inscription, vide Pl. XIV.
Sonth wall, east of pillars, scene of soldiers with large shields, in two rows, unfinisled (perhaps for the same reason as the inscription III, 16-40).

North wall, east of pillars, inseription incised and painted blue, l. 1-40, Pl. XIII and XX : authoritics for the destroyed portion, Description and Armindalc. In Description, by confusion of 1.3 with 1.22 , the former has beon repcated, and the first two lines misplaced. Their truc position is almost certain.
L. 41-44, inscription beneath a comicc, from Description, but its provenance is quito uncertain.

Thickness of wall and framing of cutrance ( Pl . XIV, $1.45-87$ ), the latter identificd by name in 1.76 , and the former, 1. $45-60$, corresponds in sizc, etc., to the framing, and is associated with it in tho Description.

Tomb V.
Back wall, large false door in tho centre, inscription incised and painted green, l. 1-24 (MSS. Brugsch and Dümichen). Damaged since my visit in 1887.

South wall, in the inner half (i.e., belind destroyed architrave) fragment of long inscription iucised, 1. 25-40; less than half of the height remains. There werc at least 24 lincs.

Thickness of wall at entrance, 1. 41-48, from Description. The name is 14 and there is no other tomb to which these can be assigned.

Add notes 12a, G. 1887, ctc.; 12b, G. 1887; 14l, old copies, G. 1887 ; $15 a$, so M. . B, in R.

## DÊR RÎFEH.

In the wcsitcrn cliffs about nine miles south of Siût and scven miles from Shoṭb. The principal tombs are on one terrace, the northern tombs are occupied by the Copts.

I have had to depend entirely on my copies of 1887. Tombs I and VII werc copicd with special care, but the former was very difficult (a portion of Tomb VII checked with a photograph taken by Count Riamo d' Hulst).

## Tomi I (Middlc Kingdom).

Entrance-framing and thickness of wall, north side, inscription incised l. 1-6. Pl. XVI.

East wall, north of cutrance, 1. 7-20, incised and painted; much damaged.
North, west, and south walls, traces of scencs of offerings, soldicrs, figure of Ncfer Khnum, and false door (west wall). All these painted only.

## Tomb II (New Kingdom).

Great hall, west side, south of the door, scene with cartouches of Ramcses III A. An inscription of many short lines, painted black, terminates with B . In a lower band gods with C . Over the entrance D is tho bark of R$\overline{\mathrm{a}}$. The tomb was probably painted throughout.

Tomb III (New Kingdom).
Occupied by Copts. Small entrancc much defaced. Incised inscriptions in the thickness of the wall very fragmentary. Cornice-lintel.

Tomb IV (New Kingdom).
Occupied: very large and lofty, inscriptions incised. Pl. XVI, XVII, XVIII. Framing of entrance scenc and inscriptions, 1. 1-21.

Thickness of wall, south side, l. 22-29; north side, very fragmentary.

Entrance- passage, south side, 1. 30-47; nortli side, 1. 48-65.

Interior partly cxplored. The framing of an inner entrancc, much encumbered with mud walls, has a scene at the top, and $1.66-71$ at the sides.

The Coptic marble slab in Pl. XVII is over a doorway in the village leading to the church.
'Tonb V (New Kingdom).
Occupicd. Inscription incised: framing of entrance 1. 1-11; intcrior not seen.

The Coptic tablet in Pl. XVIII is fixed over the main gatcway of the Dêr on the inside.

> Tomb VI (New Kingdom).

Occupied, very large and lofty, inscription incised. Pl. XVIII.

Framing of entrance inscribcd; lintel illegible; south jamb mostly lidden by brick walls; north jamb destroyed. Interior partly cxplored, no inscriptions.

## Tomb VII (Middle Kingdom).

Entrance: two polygonal columns support the roof, terminating in eave with bcams. Entrance hall (used as church), north side, inscription incised and painted on plaster, much damaged, l. 1-55. Count R. d' Hulst and I scalcd off the Coptic plastcr. Onc or more inner chambers, but no other inscriptions found.

## DER DRONKEH.

In western cliffs two miles north from Dêr Rîfelı. Quarries, and Coptic epitaphs. Pl. XIX.

## ERRATA.

Pl. VI, 1. 266. The letter b should be attached to the last sign (S) ?)

Pl. VI, l. 282, top. anm should perhaps be entively omitted.

Pl. X, Tomb II, l. 4. For ${ }^{\text {b }}$ read .
Omit the words 20a read $\int$ G.
Pl. XI, l. 1. For na read no in.

1. 12. Near base read $\mathbb{A}$.
.- 1.14. read


Pl. NI, 1.17 a. E. prefers Q. Lut?

Pl. XII, in titlc. For front wall read façade.
$„ \quad$ 1.47. Omit a.
, 1. 58, 62,55. Read ${ }^{2} \underset{\sim}{\infty}$ (uithout $\times$ ). in note. For 64 read 63 .
Pl. XIII, 1. 27. Omit the letters a, b, c. " 1. 28, near the top. Omit the letter b.
Pl. XIV, 1. 75 a. \&舁?
PI. XV. For 28a read 26a.
" 39a " 37a.
Pl. XX (Platc 13). "For 28a read 28b.
Pl. XXI (Plate VIII). 304a is in Pl. VII.

- " (Plate IX). 354a. Omit the last pout of the note.

For corrections throughout, see Plate XX-XXI.

A Bibliography, etc., will appear in the Balylonian and Oriental Record, May, 1889, and following numbers.










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