

A BOHAIRIC FRAGMENT OF THE 'MARTYRDOM OF ST LUKE'

ALTHOUGH we possess the Arabic and Ethiopic versions of the apocryphal Acts of the Apostles, the Coptic texts from which they are derived are so rare that it seems worth while to publish a small fragment which is in the University Library, Cambridge, marked MS Add. 1886. 3. It corresponds to Mrs Lewis's *Mythological Acts of the Apostles* (English translation) p. 153, and Dr Wallis Budge's *Contendings of the Apostles* (English translation) p. 139.¹ It will be observed that, unlike the derived versions, the action takes place in the city of Proconnesus, and not at Rome. The fact that the fragment is numbered p. 788 makes it possible that the book once contained a large collection of such apocryphal Acts. It would be interesting to see whether the *Martyrdom*, of which Zoega, p. 114, mentions Tuki's copy, contains a passage similar to this.

The paragraph mark † is in red, and the capital letters, as well as ϣ and Ⲥ, are ornamented with red : there is also a red dot above the word ⲓⲛⲥ.

Recto

Δερουὼ ἵχε πμνϣ
 τηρϣ † Ⲥⲉⲛ ⲟⲩⲥⲣⲱⲟⲩ
 ἵⲟⲩⲱⲧ † ϣⲉ ⲟⲩⲁϣ ἵ-
 ϣⲏ† πε ἵχε παρρα
 ϣⲉ ⲓⲛⲥ † ⲟⲩⲟⲗ ϣⲉ ⲁϣⲱⲛϣ
 ἕθολⲥⲉⲛ πⲛⲉⲟⲙⲱⲟⲩ †
 Δⲥϣⲱⲛⲓ ρⲉ ἕⲧⲁⲧⲥⲉ φραⲛ
 ἵⲛⲥ † ἁⲓⲛⲉⲙⲉⲟ ἵⲛⲓⲟⲩ†
 ⲁⲩⲣⲉⲓ τηροⲩ † ἵχε πⲓ-
 ⲁⲱⲟⲛ † ⲁⲩⲥⲟⲙⲥⲉⲙ ἁ-
 φⲣⲏ† ἵραⲛⲉⲗⲁ †
 ἕⲧⲁⲧⲛⲁⲧ ρⲉ ἵχε πⲓⲟⲩⲏ† †
 ἕⲓⲧⲁⲕⲟ ἵⲛⲟⲩⲛⲟⲩ† †
 ⲁⲩϣⲱⲛⲧ ⲥⲉⲛ ⲟⲩⲗⲓⲏ
 ⲉϣⲟϣ ἁⲓⲙⲁϣⲱ †

ΨΠ

Verso

ὠ ⲛⲉⲙ πⲓⲙⲁⲩⲓἁ ἵⲧⲉ πα-
 ρⲱⲙⲓ ϣⲉ ⲓⲛⲥ †
 Πⲟⲩⲣⲟ ρⲉ ⲁⲩⲣⲟⲩⲱⲧ πε-
 ϣⲁϣ πⲱⲟⲩ † ϣⲉ ρⲱⲙⲓ πⲓ-
 ⲗⲉⲛ ⲉⲟⲛⲁⲣ† ἕⲓⲛⲁⲣⲁⲛ
 ⲥⲉⲛ ⲧⲁⲓϣⲱⲣⲁ † ⲁⲓⲥⲟⲟ-
 ⲗⲟⲩ † ϣⲱⲧⲉ ⲛⲟⲧⲁⲓ ϣⲉ
 ⲗⲟⲩⲕⲁⲥ † ⲁϣⲑⲱⲧ ἕθολ-
 ⲥⲉⲛ ⲛⲁϣⲓⲁ †
 Δⲩⲣⲟⲩⲱⲧ ἵχε πμνϣ
 ⲉⲧϣⲱⲓⲙⲟⲥ † ϣⲉ ϣⲏⲛⲛⲉ
 ⲓⲥ παρⲱⲙⲓ ἕⲧⲉⲙⲙⲁⲧ ϣ†-
 ⲥⲗⲱ ⲥⲉⲛ ⲧⲉⲛϣⲱⲣⲁ
 ⲥⲉⲛ παρρα † ϣⲉ ⲓⲛⲥ
 ⲟⲩⲟⲗ ⲓⲥ φⲁⲓ ϣϣⲏ ⲥⲉⲛ

¹ On the Coptic originals generally of the 'Acts of Luke', see Lipsius *Apokryphen Apostelgeschichten* (Brunswick, 1887) ii 2 p. 369.

² The ⲁ was added afterwards, above the π.

Recto

Ὁτορ ἀφωδ̄ ἡποτροῦωσ
 ἀτῶλλ ἐβολ̄ ἡσα πῆρωι
 ἡτε τοτάφε̄ ἔ ἀτῆε πῶ-
 οτ̄ δε̄ ῥα ποτρο ἡνρωπ
 ἐρρι ἐρωαν̄ ἔ ἀτωϋ ἐ-
 ἡολ̄ ἐτῶλλμοσ̄ ἔ κε

Verso

†πολις̄ ἔ προκοπνσιος̄ ἔ
 Запаннш̄ панип̄т̄ агап̄от̄
 деп̄ пнетш̄оп̄т̄ ἔ пот-
 ео̄ ἡρη̄† ἔ
 Агх̄оп̄т̄ де̄ л̄л̄л̄ш̄о̄ ἡ-
 же̄ потро̄ ἔ отор̄ аг̄δ̄р̄ах̄ [р̄еж̄]

All the multitude answered in one voice 'Of what sort is this name, Jesus, and did He rise from the dead?' And (δέ) when they spoke the name of Jesus before the gods, all the idols fell: they were shattered like pots. And (δέ) when the priests saw that their gods were destroyed, they were exceeding wroth in great madness, and they rent their garments, they plucked off the hair of their head: and (δέ) they went to Nero, king over Rome: they cried out, saying, 'O, what (reading πια) are the magic arts of this man, Jesus?' And (δέ) the king answered, he said unto them, 'Every man that believed on this name in this country (χώρα) have I slain, save one, Luke: he has escaped out of my hands.' The multitudes answered, saying, 'Lo and behold, that man teaches in our country (χώρα) in this name, Jesus: and behold he is here in the city (πόλις) of Proconnesus: many miracles has he done among the sick in divers manners.' And (δέ) the king was exceeding wroth and gnashed his teeth . . .

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