

## THE PESHITTA VERSION OF 2 KINGS.

(A CONTINUATION.<sup>1</sup>)

FOR this continuation of an examination of the Peshitta text of 2 Kings I have used some additional authorities, so that the full list now runs as follows :—

- A, The Codex Ambrosianus, published in facsimile by Dr. Ceriani, Milan, 1876-1883. 6th or 7th century.  
 B, The Buchanan Bible, Camb. Univ. Library, Oo. i. 1, 2. Jacobite, 12th century.  
 N, Camb. Univ. Library, Add. 1964. Nestorian, 13th century.  
 O, British Museum, Add. 14440. Nestorian, probably earlier than 'N'.  
 X, British Museum, Add. 12138. Massoretic Nestorian<sup>2</sup>.  
 Z, British Museum, Add. 12178. Massoretic Jacobite<sup>2</sup>.  
 e, British Museum, Egerton 704. Jacobite, 17th century.  
 W, The text of the London Polyglot, 1657.  
 L, Lee's Syriac Old Testament of 1823.  
 U, The Urmi Bible of the American Missionaries of 1852.  
 bH, Barhebraeus (Jacobite, †1286), *Auṣar Razē* on Kings, edited by A. Morgenstern, Berlin, 1895.  
 Ish, Isho'-dād (Nestorian, fl. 850 A. D.), *Nuhārū* on Kings from British Museum, Or. 4524.  
 H1, Hebrew Massoretic text.                    ⚡, Syro-Hexaplar.

In *The Peshitta text of Chronicles* (Cambridge, 1897) I attempted to prove that Lee's text of *Chronicles* was derived ultimately from MS 'Syriaques 6' of the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. But no such thesis can be maintained with regard to the text of 2 *Kings*, for of this only an unpointed fragment is preserved in 'Syriaques 6'. Only the negative conclusion can be established that the text of the Editio Princeps was *not* derived from any of the MSS used for this Apparatus. It might be worth while, however, for some scholar to compare the text of 2 *Kings*

<sup>1</sup> See *J. T. S.* vol. vi pp. 220-232.

<sup>2</sup> The too learned persons who compiled the Massora are sometimes disposed to correct a reading of the Peshitta from an outside authority, and are so far untrustworthy.

given in 'Syriaques 7' of the Bibliothèque Nationale with the printed text, for an inscription in this MS asserts that it was used for the Paris Polyglot. 'Syriaques 7'<sup>1</sup> is a copy of a Florentine MS, 'Laurent. Orient. 58',<sup>2</sup> a ninth-century codex with a very interesting text in Chronicles and Psalms.<sup>3</sup>

As in Chronicles and Psalms so also in 2 Kings the text of Lee differs but little from that of the Polyglots. Instances of divergence are found in xviii 31 (ܡܠܚܐ *W* for ܡܠܚܐ); xxiii 19 (ܡܠܚܐ *W* for ܡܠܚܐ); 35 (mutilated in *W*). But on the whole Lee made very little use of his MSS for the improvement of the text of 2 Kings.

One main result stands out clearly from a study of the whole Apparatus. There are in existence *two* texts of the Peshitta version of 2 Kings. These two are not to be distinguished as *Nestorian* and *Jacobite*, but as the *Receptus* (represented by the two Polyglots and Lee) and the *Non-receptus* (represented by the Authorities collated for this Apparatus). The Urmi text, which stands between them, must be described as 'mixed'. The Receptus is distinguished from its rival mainly by a closer approximation to the Hebrew Massoretic text. This approximation shews itself in the order of words, in the omission of words not found in the Hebrew but almost necessary for the smooth reading of the version, and finally in many quite small details. The general impression which the character of the Receptus makes upon the student is that of a Revised Version, i. e. of a Version revised to bring it into closer agreement with the Original.<sup>4</sup>

## A TENTATIVE SELECT LIST OF READINGS.

### 2 KINGS.

- xiv 3. ܡܠܚܐ *L*  
           ܡܠܚܐ *U* = ABNO e HI  
 5. ܡܠܚܐ ܡܠܚܐ *LU* = ANOX  
       om. ܡܠܚܐ B e  
 14. ܡܠܚܐ ܡܠܚܐ? *LU* = ANO HI  
       ܡܠܚܐ ܡܠܚܐ? B e  
 19. ܡܠܚܐ *L* = A HI  
       ܡܠܚܐ *U* = BNO e

Cited as '1' in *The Peshitta text of Chronicles*.

<sup>2</sup> Cited as 'F' in *The Peshitta Psalter* (Cambridge, 1904).

<sup>3</sup> I single out these two books because I have collated them with some fullness.

<sup>4</sup> The following passages may be cited: xviii 12, 16, 17, 22; xix 6 (*bis*); xx 14, 19; xxi. 17; xxii 2, 5, 6, 10, 13, 14, 17; xxiii. 5, 8 (*ter*), 11, 13, 16, 32; xxiv. 4, 11 (*bis*), 13; xxv. 13, 16.

25.  $LU = ANOX$  bH  
om. BZ e
- xv 23.  $(sine\ add)\ L$   
add  $U = ABNO$  e HI
25.  $L = A^{vid}$  BNOX [  $U$   
 $e$  bH [  $Z$
- xvi 5.  $LU = AN$  e  
 $BO$
16.  $LU = ANO$   
 $B$  e
- xvii 5.  $LU = BNO$  e  
A HI
14.  $LU = ABN$  e  
O HI
19.  $L = e$   
 $U = ABNO$
28.  $LU = ABN$  e bH  
O HI
34.  $(r^{mo})\ (sine\ add)\ L$  [B e]  
add  $U = ANO$
38.  $L$   
 $U = ABNO$  e
- cvi 12.  $L$  HI  
 $U = [A]BNOX$  e  
 $L$  HI  
 $U = ABNOX$  e
15.  $L = A$  HI  
 $U = BNO$  e
16.  $L$  HI  
 $U = ABNO$  e bH  
 $L$   
 $U = ABNO$  e bH
17.  $L$  HI  
tr. verba  $U = ABNOXZ$  e bH  
 $L$  HI  
 $U = ABNO$   
 $L$   
 $U = ABNOX$  e

18.  $\text{L} = \text{BN e HI}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{AO}$
22.  $\text{L HI}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNOX e}$   
 $\text{LU HI}$   
 $\text{AB}^{\text{vid}}\text{NOX e}$
23.  $\text{L} = \text{A HI}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{BNO e}$
24.  $\text{L} = \text{B e}$  (sine add)  
 $\text{U} = \text{ANO HI}$   
 $\text{L [HI]}$   
 $\text{U} = [\text{A pr. } \text{BNO}] \text{ e}$   
 $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNO e}$
25.  $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNOX e}$   
 $\text{L HI}$  (sine add)  
 $\text{U} = \text{AB}^{\text{vid}}\text{NOX}$   
 $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNOX e}$
26.  $\text{L} = \text{A HI}$  (sine add)  
 $\text{U} = \text{BNO e}$   
 $\text{L} = \text{A}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{BNO e}$
27.  $\text{L}$  [ ]  
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNO e HI}$  om.  
 $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNO e}$   
 $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNOXZ e}$
28.  $\text{LU HI}$   
 $\text{om. ABNO e}$   
 $\text{L} = \text{A HI}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{BNO e}$   
 $\text{L} = \text{O}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABN e HI}$  pr.
30.  $\text{L}$   
 $\text{U} = \text{ABNO e}$
31.  $\text{LU} = \text{ABNO e Ish HIS}$   
 $\text{W}$

32.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L$   
 om.  $U = ABNO \ e \ HI$
33.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L$   
 post  $U = ABNO \ e$
- xix. 4.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$   
 $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L \ HI$   
 post  $U = ABN^{ras}O \ e$
5.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L \ HI$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$
6.  $LU \ HI$   
 $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} ABNO \ e$   
 $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} L \ HI$   
 post  $U = ABNO \ e$
8.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} LU = AO \ HI$   
 $BN \ e$
9.  $LU \ HI$   
 om.  $ABNO \ e$
11.  $L = O \ cur \ pr \ HI \quad \text{[} \text{ } \text{]} A$   
 $U = BNO \ cur \ alt \ e$
12.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} LU \ HI$   
 add  $ABNOZ \ e$
14.  $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} LU \ HI$   
 add  $ABNO \ e$
15.  $L$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$
16.  $L$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$
17.  $LU$   
 $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} [A]BNO \ e$
18.  $L$   
 $A[B]NO \ [e]$   
 $\text{[} \text{ } \text{]} U$   
 $L$   
 $U = A[B]NO \ [e]$
20.  $L$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$
21.  $L$   
 $U = ABNO \ e$

23.  $\text{دھھہ} \text{||} \text{دھھہ} L$   
 $\text{دھھہ} \text{||} \text{دھھہ} U = [A]BNOX e$
24.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} LU HI$   
 om.  $ABNOX^{vid} e$   
 $\text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
26.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
27.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
31.  $\text{نہ} L e$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNO$   
 $\text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNOXZ e bH HI$
32.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} [ \text{نہ} ] L$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
- xx. 4.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$  [sine praepositione HI]  
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
5.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L = A$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = BNO e$
7.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} LU = ANO$  [ $\text{نہ} e$ ]  
 $\text{نہ} B bH$
11.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} U = ABNO e bH$
13.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = ABNO e$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = ABNO e$
14.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L HI$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = A[B]NO [e]$
17.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 tr. verba  $U = ABNO e$
19.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L HI$   
 om.  $U = ABNO e$   
 $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} ( \text{post} \text{||} \text{نہ} ) L HI$   
 post  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} U = ABN$
- xxi. 3.  $\text{نہ} \text{||} \text{نہ} L$   
 om.  $U = ABNO e HI$

4.  $\text{ححصلاه} \text{؟} \text{مذنا} \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{ححصلا} \text{ (tantum) } U = \text{ABNO } e$   
 $\text{ححصلاه} \text{ } L$   
 om.  $U = \text{ABNO } e \text{ HI}$
7.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } [U] = \text{ABNOX } e \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L [U \text{ sine sey}]$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } ABNO[X] \text{ } e \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } (sine \text{ add}) \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 add  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{ABNOX } e$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e$
8.  $\text{همم} \text{ } (sine \text{ add}) \text{ } L = \text{A } \text{HI}$   
 add  $\text{همم} \text{ } U = \text{BNOXZ } e \text{ bH}$
13.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L = \text{AOZ}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{BN}^{ras} \text{ } e$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } L$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e$
15.  $\text{همم} \text{ } L = \text{A } \text{HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{BNO } e$
17.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L \text{ [HI]}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } [e \text{ sine sey}]$
- xxii. 2.  $\text{همم} \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e$
5.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } LU \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } ABNO \text{ } e$
6.  $\text{همم} \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 pr.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{ABNOX } e$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 om.  $U = \text{ABNO } e$
7.  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } L$   
 add  $U = \text{ABNO}^{cur \text{ alt} X} \text{ } e$
9.  $\text{همم} \text{ } [نكصلا] \text{ } L$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } L = \text{A } \text{HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{BNO } e$
10.  $\text{همم} \text{ } (sine \text{ add}) \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 add  $\text{همم} \text{ } \text{نكصلا} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e$
13.  $\text{همم} \text{ } [نكصلا] \text{ } L \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{همم} \text{ } U = \text{ABNO } e$





- $\text{]؛م؛] (rmo) LU = HI$   
 $\text{؛م؛]؛ ABNO e}$
17.  $\text{م؛] L}$   
 $\text{م؛] U = [A]B[N]O e bH}$
18.  $\text{م؛]؛م؛]؛ (sine add) L HI}$   
 $\text{add م؛]؛م؛]؛ م؛]؛ U = [A]BNO e bH^{comma}}$   
 $\text{؛] L HI}$   
 $\text{؛] U = ABNO e}$
20.  $\text{م؛]؛م؛] LU}$   
 $\text{م؛]؛م؛] ABNO e}$
24.  $\text{م؛]؛م؛]؛ L}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ U = [A]BNO e}$
29.  $\text{م؛]؛م؛] L}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛] U = ABNO e}$
32.  $\text{م؛]؛م؛]؛؛م؛]؛ L HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ U = ABNO e}$
34.  $\text{؛]؛ L}$   
 $\text{؛]؛ U = ABNO e}$
- xxiv. 3.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ (sine add) L [HI]}$   
 $\text{add م؛]؛ U = ABNO e}$
4.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ L U HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ ABNO e}$
7.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ [؛م؛]؛ L}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ U = ABNO e HI}$
11.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ L U HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ ABNO e}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ L U = HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ ABNO e}$
13.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ L HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ U = ABNOX e}$
14.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ L [HI]}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ U = ABNO e}$
- xxv. 1.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛؛ L}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛؛ U = ABNO e HI}$
13.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛؛ L HI}$   
 $\text{pr. م؛]؛ U = [A]BNO e}$
15.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ L U HI}$   
 $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛؛ ABNO e}$  [pr.  $\text{؛]؛م؛]؛ A}$

16.  $\text{om. } U = \text{ABNO } e \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{קדאנא } U = \text{ABNO } e$   
 $\text{pr. } U = \text{ABNO } e$
17.  $L \text{ HI}$   
 $\text{pr. } U = \text{ABNO } e$
19.  $L$   
 $U = \text{ABNO } e$   
 $L = e$   
 $U = \text{ABNO } \text{HI} [\text{et } A]$
28.  $LU = B e$   
 $ANOX [\text{HI}]$
- 28 (29).  $L$   
 $U = \text{ABNOX } e$

It remains to be added that these collations are offered only as provisional. In the great majority of cases I have not found time to verify the readings given by a second examination of the MSS. But the interest attaching to some of the readings not found in *Lee* justifies, it is hoped, their publication in the *JOURNAL*; see (for example) xviii 24, 25; xix 24, 31; xx 4; xxi 7; xxii 2, 13, 14; xxiii 4, 8, 18, 29; xxiv 7; xxv 28.

W. EMERY BARNES.

### EZRA'S RECENSION OF THE LAW.

ACCORDING to a tradition repeated several times in the Talmud, Ezra wrote the Law *אשורית*, or *בכתב אשירי*, 'in Assyrian writing'. The most explicit passage is in *Sanhedrin* fol. 21<sup>b</sup>:—'Mar Zutra, or according to others Mar 'Uqba, said, the Law was originally given to Israel in Hebrew writing and in the holy language. It was given to them again, in Ezra's time, in Assyrian writing and in the Aramaic language. Israel chose to retain the Assyrian writing and the holy language, leaving to the ignorant the Hebrew writing and the Aramaic language. Who are meant by "the ignorant"? Rab H̄isda said they are the Samaritans . . .'

Further on:—'Although the Law was not (actually) delivered through him (Ezra), the writing (of it) was changed by him.'

And again:—'Why was it called Assyrian? Because they brought it from Assyria.'