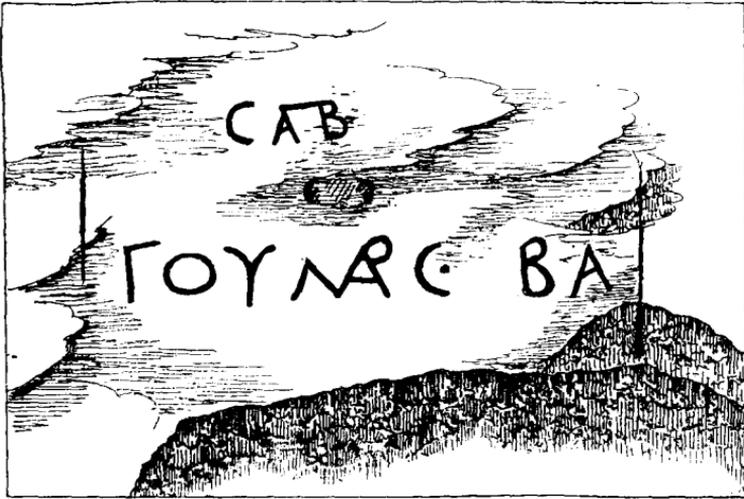


place, I am able to send a copy and photograph of a very curious inscription in Greek characters, engraved on a flat rock very near Khürbet



Inscription near Khürbet Hüsseh,

Hüsseh. This spot is, according to our exact measurements, 508 metres to the east of the Khürbet counted from the eastern city wall, situate in a rocky region a little south of the road leading from the Khürbet to Shefa 'Amr, 100 metres to the west of a small olive grove. The inscription is read facing the Khürbet. Each character of the first (upper) line has a height of $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches; they are very much defaced. The characters of the lower (second) line are $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 inches high and better preserved. Between the lines there is a space of 1 foot 4 inches. A sort of frame line seems to have bordered the inscription.

So far as I am aware we owe the original discovery of this inscription to Père Julien, of Beyrüt, to whom it was first shown by natives of Shefa 'Amr.

G. SCHUMACHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

SARONA, 1886.

THE numbers in column 1 of this table show the highest reading of the barometer in each month; the maximum for the year was 30.164 ins., in December. In the years 1880, 1881, and 1884 the maximum was in January, in 1882 in February, and in 1883 and 1885 in December, as in

this year; the mean of the preceding six years highest pressures was 30·214 ins. The highest reading in the seven years was 30·269 ins., in the year 1880.

In column 2, the lowest reading in each month is shown; the minimum for the year was 29·543 ins., in April. In the year 1883 the minimum was in January, in 1881 in February, in 1880, 1884, and 1885 in April, as in this year, and in 1882 in July; the mean of the six preceding lowest pressures was 29·512 ins. The lowest reading in the seven years was 29·482 ins., in the year 1885.

The range of barometric readings in the year was 0·627 inch; in 1880 the range of readings was 0·780 inch; in 1881, 0·711 inch; in 1882, 0·704 inch; in 1883, 0·579 inch; in 1884, 0·757 inch; and in 1885, 0·680 inch. The mean for the six preceding years was 0·702 inch.

The numbers in the 3rd column show the range of readings in each month; the smallest was 0·132 inch in August, this being the smallest range in any month in the seven years; in the year 1883 the smallest was in June; in 1882 in August as in this year, and in 1880, 1881, 1884, and 1885 in October. The largest monthly range was 0·531 inch in March; in the years 1883 and 1884 the largest was in January, in 1882 in February, in 1881 in March as in this year, in 1880 in April, and in 1885 in September. The largest range in any month in the seven years was 0·710 inch in the year 1885.

The numbers in the 4th column show the mean monthly pressure of the atmosphere; the greatest, 29·979 ins., was in December. In the years 1880, 1881, 1882, and 1884 the greatest was in January, in 1883 in February, and in 1885 in December, as in this year. The highest mean monthly reading in the seven years was 30·060 ins., in the year 1882. The smallest mean monthly reading was 29·677 ins., in July. In the years 1880, 1882, and 1883, the smallest was in July, as in this year, and in 1881, 1884, and 1885, in August. The lowest mean monthly reading in the seven years was 29·657 ins., in the year 1885.

The highest temperature of the air in each month is shown in column 5; the highest in the year was 112°, in June; the next in order was 96° in October, and 94° in September. The first day in the year the temperature reached 90° was on April 30th. In June there were six days when the temperature reached or exceeded 90°; the highest, 112°, took place on the 15th of June, in August on two days, in September on four days, and in October on three days; therefore the temperature reached or exceeded 90° on 16 days. In the preceding six years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885, the temperature reached or exceeded 90° on 36, 27, 8, 16, 14, and 24 days respectively. In the six preceding years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885, the highest temperatures were 103°, 106°, 93°, 106°, 100°, and 103° respectively.

The numbers in column 6 show the lowest temperature of the air in each month. The lowest in the year was 37° on both the 22nd and 23rd of December; the next in order was 39° on the 15th of March, and in no other month throughout the year was the temperature below 40°;

therefore the temperature was below 40° on three nights in the year. In the preceding six years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884 and 1885, the temperature was below 40° on 13, 2, 13, 2, 9, and 3 nights respectively. In the six preceding years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885, the lowest temperatures were 32° , 39° , 34° , 35° , 32° , and 38° respectively.

The yearly range of temperature was 75° , being larger than any in the six preceding years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885, in which the yearly ranges were 71° , 67° , 59° , 71° , 68° , and 65° respectively.

The range of temperature in each month is shown in column 7, and these numbers vary from 26° in August to 55° in June.

The mean of all the highest by day, of the lowest by night, and of the average daily ranges of temperature are shown in columns, 8, 9, and 10 respectively. Of the high day temperature, the lowest, $64^{\circ}\cdot7$, is in January. In the years 1884 and 1885 the lowest in each year was in January, as in this year; in 1881, 1882, and 1883, in February; and in 1880 in December. The highest, $87^{\circ}\cdot9$, is in August; in 1880 the highest was in May; in 1881, 1883, 1884, and 1885, in August, as in this year; and in 1882 in September.

Of the low night temperature, the coldest, $48^{\circ}\cdot1$, is in December; in the years 1880, 1882, and 1884, the coldest in each year was in January; in 1883 and 1885 in February; and 1881 in December, as in this year. The warmest, $69^{\circ}\cdot2$, is in August; in the year 1885 the warmest was in July; in the years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884, in August, as in this year. The average daily range of temperature is shown in column 10; the smallest, $15^{\circ}\cdot4$, is in January; in 1880, 1883, and 1885, the smallest was in January, as in this year; and in 1881, 1882, and 1884, in February; and the greatest, $23^{\circ}\cdot5$, in October.

In column 11, the mean temperature of each month is shown as found from observations of the maximum and minimum thermometers only. The month of the lowest temperature was January, $57^{\circ}\cdot0$. In the years 1880, 1884, and 1885, the lowest was in January, as in this year, in 1881 and 1882 in February, and in 1883 in December. That of the highest was August, $78^{\circ}\cdot6$, and in the six preceding years the highest was in August as in this year. The mean temperature for the year was $66^{\circ}\cdot8$, and of the six preceding years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885 were $66^{\circ}\cdot4$, $66^{\circ}\cdot7$, $65^{\circ}\cdot5$, $65^{\circ}\cdot7$, $65^{\circ}\cdot7$, and $65^{\circ}\cdot9$ respectively.

The numbers in columns 12 and 13 are the monthly means of a dry and wet-bulb thermometer taken daily at 9 a.m. In column 14 the monthly temperature of the dew point, or that temperature at which dew would have been deposited is shown; the elastic force of vapour is shown in column 15. In column 16 the water present in a cubic foot of air is shown; in December it was as small as $2\frac{3}{4}$ grains, and in August as large as $7\frac{1}{2}$ grains. In column 17 the additional weight required for saturation is shown. The numbers in column 18 show the degree of humidity, saturation being considered 100; the smallest number indicating the driest month, is 53 in December, and the largest, 77, was in January;

the weight of a cubic foot of air under its pressure, temperature, and humidity at 9 a.m. is shown in column 19.

The most prevalent wind in January was S., and the least prevalent were W. and S.W. ; in February the most prevalent was S., and the least was N.W. ; in March the most prevalent was S., and the least was N. ; in April the most prevalent was N.W., and the least were E., N.E. and S.E. ; in May the most prevalent were W. and S.W., and the least were E. and S.E. ; in June the most prevalent was W., and the least were E. and S.E. ; in July and August the most prevalent were W. and S.W., and the least prevalent were N., E., and compounds of E. ; in September the most prevalent was S.W., and the least were E. and S.E. ; in October the most prevalent were S. and S.W., and the least were E. and compounds of E ; and in November and December the most prevalent was S., and the least prevalent winds were N.E. and compounds of E. The most prevalent wind for the year was S.W., which occurred on 69 times during the year, of which 13 were in August, and 12 in both July and September, and the least prevalent wind was E., which occurred on only 5 times during the year, of which 2 were in both January and February, and 1 in March.

The numbers in column 29 show the mean amount of cloud at 9 a.m. ; the month with the smallest is June, and the largest January. Of the cumulus, or fine weather cloud, there were 71 instances in the year, of these 14 were in October, 10 in September, and 9 in January, and only 2 in February. Of the nimbus, or rain cloud, there were 48 instances, of these 10 were in February, 8 in December, and 7 in January, and only 2 from June to October. Of the cirrus, there were 56 instances. Of the cirro-cumulus, 50 instances. Of the stratus, 12 instances, and of the cirro-stratus, 9 instances ; and 119 instances of cloudless skies, of which 20 were in June, 14 in December, and 12 in both July and October.

The largest fall of rain for the month in the year was 5·00 ins. in December, of which 1·65 inch fell on the 11th, 1·14 inch on the 15th, and 0·85 inch on the 14th. The next largest fall for the month was in January, 4·47 ins., of which 1·28 inch fell on the 26th, 0·79 inch on the 16th, and 0·75 inch on the 14th. No rain fell from May 11th till the 30th of October, making a period of 171 consecutive days without rain. In 1880 there were 168 consecutive days without rain ; in 1881, 189 consecutive days ; in 1882 there were two periods of 76 and 70 consecutive days without rain ; in 1883, 167 consecutive days ; in 1884, 118 consecutive days ; and in 1885, 115 consecutive days without rain. The fall of rain for the year was 20·09 ins., being 8·59 ins., 2·00 ins., and 9·97 ins. less than in 1880, 1882, and 1883 respectively, and 2·60 ins., 1·36 inch, and 0·03 inch more than in 1881, 1884, and 1885 respectively. The number of days on which rain fell was 66. In the six preceding years, viz., 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885, rain fell on 66, 48, 62, 71, 65 and 63 days respectively.

JAMES GLAISHER.