

SOME EARLY PALESTINIAN MARTYRS
BEFORE THE ORTHODOX GREEK PATRIARCHATE
WAS CREATED IN A.D. 451.

By ARCHDEACON DOWLING.

TIBERIUS: Emperor.

Jerusalem.

A.D. 33. St. Stephen: Deacon and Proto-martyr.

NERO: Emperor.

Jerusalem.

c. A.D. 62. St. James: First Bishop of Jerusalem.

TRAJAN: Emperor.

c. A.D. 107. St. Symeon: Second Bishop of Jerusalem.

DECIUS: Emperor.

A.D. 251. Alexander, Bishop of Jerusalem, Confessor [but not Martyr] was cast into prison at Caesarea, where he expired. Wordsworth's *Church History*, Vol. I, however, states that Alexander "suffered Martyrdom."

VALERIANUS I: Emperor.

Caesarea.

c. A.D. 254. Alexander, Malchus, and Priscus, of Palestine.

GALLIENUS: Emperor.

Caesarea.

[Six of these Martyrs at Caesarea (marked *) are described in the author's *Sketches of Caesarea (Palestinae)*, Ch. VIII, S.P.C.K., 1912.]

	Martyr.	Occupation.	Birth-place.
A.D. 262.			
	*Marinus	Military Officer.	

DIOCLETHIAN : Emperor.

Caesarea.

First year of the Persecution—

Martyr.	Occupation.	Birth-place.
Alphaeus	Reader and Exorcist	Eleutheropolis.
*Procopius	Military Officer	Ælia.
Zacchaeus	Deacon	Gadara.

Second year of the Persecution—

Alexander	Bishop	Egypt.
Alexander	Priest	Gaza.
Dionysius		Tripolis (Phoenicia).
Paesis		Egypt.
Romulus	Sub-deacon	Diospolis.
Theckla ¹		? Phrygia.
Timolaus ¹		Pontus.

Third year of the Persecution—

*Apphianus		Pagae-Lycia.
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Fourth year of the Persecution—

*Agapius ¹		Gaza.
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Fifth year of the Persecution—

Auxentius	Presbyter.	
Domninus.		
*St. Theodosia	Virgin	Tyre.

Sixth year of the Persecution—

Antoninus	Presbyter.	
Asclepius	Bishop (<i>heretical</i>).	
Eunathas	Virgin	Scythopolis.
Germanus.		
Hatha		Gaza.
Paulus		Gaza.
Petres Ascetes		Amea.
St. Thea	Virgin	Gaza.
Valentina		Caesarea.
Zebina		Eleutheropolis.

¹ The Syriac Version, on page 8, implies that Agapius, Theckla and Timolaus were put to death in Gaza.

Martyr.	Occupation.	Birth-place.
Seventh year of the Persecution—		
Eubulus		Batanaea.
Hadrianus		Batanaea.
Julianus		Cappadocia.
*Pamphilus	Presbyter	Berytus.
Paulus	Bishop	Jamnia.
Peter (surnamed Absalom)		Eleutheropolis.
Porphyrius	Slave	? Egypt.
Seleucus	Soldier Confessor	Cappadocia.
Valens	Deacon	Ælia.
Eighth year of the Persecution—		
Theodulus	Slave.	

MAXIMIANUS I: Emperor.

Ascalon.

Sixth year of the Persecution—

Ares		Egypt.
Elias		Egypt.
Primus		Egypt.

Copper Mines of Phœne-Trachonitis.

Seventh Year of the Persecution—

Elias		Egypt.
Nilus	Bishop	Egypt.
Patermytheus	Presbyter	Egypt.
Peleus	Bishop	Egypt.

Eighth year of the Persecution—

John	Student of Holy Writ	Egypt.
Silvanus ¹	Bishop of Gaza	Gaza.

¹ Dr. Meyer, *History of the City of Gaza*, p. 60, New York, 1907, states that "the first Christian Martyr of Gaza whose name is known is the Bishop Sylvanus, who met his death in 285." Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*, Book VIII, Ch. 13, however, remarks that Silvanus "was beheaded with thirty-nine others at the copper-mines of Phæne." Early Christians of Gaza were not infrequently martyred at head-quarters in Caesarea (Palestinae).

JULIANUS III: Emperor.

Gaza.

Martyr.	Occupation.	Birth-place.
A.D. 360-363.		
Eusebius	} Brothers	Gaza.
Nestobus		
Zeno		
Nestor	Confessor.	

NOTE.—This List of Martyrs is extracted mostly from (1) Eusebius's *Ecclesiastical History*, Books VII and VIII, London, Henry G. Bohn, 1851; (2) *History of the Martyrs of Palestine*, by Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea, "discovered in a very antient Syriac Manuscript," translated by Dr. William Cureton, London, Williams and Norgate, 1861.

PI-HAHĪRŌTH, "THE MOUTH OF THE CANALS."

By GREY HUBERT SKIPWITH.

A SIMPLE observation enables me to furnish the true meaning and etymology of חִירָת. The word is not Egyptian: it is the Assyrian or Babylonian *hīrāti*, a derivative of *harū*, or *hīrū*, "to dig," which occurs in a text printed by Mr. King,¹ *hīratika nē mullī*, = "Fill thy trenches with water." It need excite no surprise that the author of the Priestly Code should employ a Babylonian term for a feature, characteristic of Egypt and Chaldea, but little known in the mountain-land of Israel.

According to W. Max Müller, Nekau, or Nekō II (the Pharaoh-Necho of 2 Kings xxiii, 29), who succeeded Psammetik in 609, completed the canal through Goshen to the Red Sea, partly on the track of the canal which Rameses II had led from the Nile only to the Bitter Lakes.² After the Persian Conquest, Darius I (521-486) repaired the canal.³ The Priestly Code cannot be far removed in date from this epoch. Its narrative continues:—

¹ *Seven Tablets of Creation*, Vol. I, p. 152 *ad finem*.

² *Ency. Bib.*, art. "Egypt," § 68. But according to Breasted, *History of Egypt* (1909), pp. 188, 276, the connection with the Red Sea was already established in the Middle Kingdom, and the canal was employed by the expedition of Queen Hatshepsut, XVIIIth dynasty.

³ The learned author rejects the assertion of Herodotus that the project of Necho was abandoned.