

JULIANUS III: Emperor.

Gaza.

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

“And Jahveh¹ spake unto Mosheh, saying: Speak unto the sons of Israel that they turn back and encamp before the mouth of the canals between Migdol and the sea, before Ba'al Zāphōn; opposite it shall ye encamp by the sea; then Pharaoh will say of the sons of Israel: They are gone astray in the land, the wilderness hath closed in upon them² and they overtook them encamping by the sea, by the mouth of the canals, before Ba'al Zāphōn. . . .³ And they journeyed from before the canals, and passed through the midst of the sea into the wilderness.”⁴

The situation thus described is quite plain. The sons of Israel, turned back by the Egyptian posts which guarded the entrance of the land of Rameses, now march southward with the Egyptian desert on their right, and on their left the line of lakes and the canals, to the point where the latter enter the Gulf of Suez. It was here that the Israelites escaped and their pursuers were overwhelmed in the returning tide.

REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Notes on the Hebrew Text and the Topography of the Books of Samuel, with an Introduction on Hebrew Palaeography and the Ancient Versions. By the Rev. S. R. Driver, D.D., M.B.A., etc., 2nd ed., revised and enlarged. (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1913, 12s. net.)

THE first edition of this book was published in 1890, and was at once welcomed as an admirable introduction to the deeper study of the Hebrew Text of the Old Testament. There must be many who, like the present reviewer, had, for examination or other more joyful purposes, to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the volume, and they will agree that “Driver’s Samuel” was a revelation and a liberal education. It did not merely give them a grounding in the text of the Books of Samuel, it inculcated strict methodical principles of accurate translation, and of sober textual criticism, and gave them

¹ I do not understand Dr. Gray’s objection to this form (*Q.S.*, July, 1912, p. 157). It should of course be pronounced Yahwē, with an audible “h” and an English (not a German) “w.”

² Exodus xiv, 1, 2.

³ Exodus xiv, 9 (omitting an intrusive clause). Cf. Addis and McNeile.

⁴ Numbers xxxiii, 8.