

religious problems. His personal honor and transparent truthfulness were never challenged.

Dr. Trumbull, like most of us Americans, enjoyed using a rather tropical and Oriental rhetoric. This is the national *koina*. But errors of rhetoric are not to be confounded with errors of observation or untruthful statements. Even sub-tropical rhetoric can hardly be counted more culpable than a frigid rhetoric which is reticent of appreciation of pioneer work.

Undoubtedly Mr. Lawrence's crisp words were not written with the intention of thus undervaluing the work of Dr. Trumbull. The writer perfectly understands this. The unfortunate impression given to some on this side of the Atlantic is probably to be explained from the fact that Mr. Lawrence viewed this ancient site merely as a scientific observer, while Dr. Trumbull and others have viewed and reported it from the preacher's standpoint, and with the exuberant enthusiasm of those who supposed themselves to "stand where Moses stood." While congratulations are due to the authors for the splendid work done in this volume, may we not hope for the revision of these objectionable statements in the second edition?

NOTES AND QUERIES.

The Eastern Frontier of Egypt.—Through the kindness of Dr. Alan H. Gardiner the Library of the Fund has obtained a copy of an instructive pamphlet by C. Kùthmann, of Hanover, on the Eastern Frontier of Egypt.¹ The subject is discussed with all necessary thoroughness, and the following brief account will be especially interesting to our readers in view of the present situation.²

¹ *Die Ostgrenze Ägyptens: Inaugural-dissertation zur erlangung der Doktorwürde genehmigt von der philosophischen Fakultät der Friederich-Wilhelms-Universität zu Berlin*, von C. Kùthmann, Hanover. (W. Drugulin, Leipzig, 1911.) Presented to the Library by Dr. Gardiner (see *Q.S.*, Jan., p. 9).

² For general information, readers may be referred to the articles on "The Exodus" and "Goshen," by Prof. W. Max Müller, in the *Encyclopaedia Biblica*, col 1437 sqq., 1758 sq.

The point at issue is whether the gulf of Suez once extended considerably to the north of the present Suez, as far as to the present lake of Timsah. Too much stress has been laid upon the Greek and Roman sources, and not enough upon the Egyptian evidence. We start with Naville's excavations at Tell el-Maskhuta, west of Isma'ilia, on the wady Tūmilāt. This is the Greek Heroopolis, the biblical Pithom, the native name of which was also Zeku. Here arises the question of the site of Klyisma which is mentioned on a Roman milestone (of A.D. 306-7) as being apparently nine miles east of Heroopolis. Klyisma is the Clesma mentioned by the Abbess Aetheria (c. A.D. 533-540) and by Petrus Diaconus, and the site may be identified with the modern Tell Kolzum, some few hundred paces north of the modern Suez. The conclusion is important because it supports the alternative interpretation (of Mommsen) that the milestone was the ninth on the road from Heroopolis to Klyisma.

Next comes the problem of the extension of the gulf of Suez in classical times. For example, according to Strabo, it was at Heroopolis that the "Arabia Gulf" began, a notion which (as W. M. Müller points out) "seems to be based upon the artificial connections through which this harbour became accessible." Herr Kūthmann shows that the hypothesis has too many difficulties in the way.

The third section of the pamphlet goes back to the old Egyptian evidence, and urges that even in the Pharaonic age the gulf could not have reached very much farther to the north. If it had, it is inexplicable why the Egyptians of the Middle Kingdom did not continue the canal over the short stretch between the modern Ras el-Wady and the lake of Timsah in order to reach the open sea.¹

A further question arises concerning the site of Zaru, a fortress frequently mentioned in texts of the New Kingdom. Formerly located on the isthmus of Kantara, it has been suggested that it should rather be looked for at the modern Isma'ilia. Zaru is identified with Sile, mentioned in the *Itinerarium Antonini Augusti*,

¹ Cf. W. M. Müller, *Ency. Bib.*, col. 1439, § 15, *à propos* of the theories based "upon the view that the ancient condition of the isthmus of Suez was very different from the present." "There is no doubt among geologists that the Red Sea once extended not only to the Crocodile Lake (Timsah), but even to the Balāh Lake, so that the Red Sea and the Mediterranean were completely connected. There is no evidence, however, that this state of matters continued down to historic times."

and the distances given point pretty clearly to Kantara. Herr Kütthmann then proceeds to the Egyptian data which also indicate the same locality. He observes that the key to Egypt is *not* the Wādy Tumulāt—well known as the place chosen by Lord Roberts in the campaign against Arabi Pasha (1882); on the contrary, it is “the bridge Kantara,” which is still the route taken by the caravans from and into Palestine and Syria. It is true that the Horus myth seems to prove that Zaru lay at Isma‘īlia on the Timsah Lake, but a careful consideration of all the data leads to the conviction that the evidence of the myth is not strong enough to overthrow the older view.

S. A. C.
