Archaeology

The discovery of material remains from the recent or the ancient past has always been a source of fascination, but the development of archaeology as an academic discipline which interpreted such finds is relatively recent. It was the work of Winckelmann at Pompeii in the 1760s which first revealed the potential of systematic excavation to scholars and the wider public. Pioneering figures of the nineteenth century such as Schliemann, Layard and Petrie transformed archaeology from a search for ancient artifacts, by means as crude as using gunpowder to break into a tomb, to a science which drew from a wide range of disciplines - ancient languages and literature, geology, chemistry, social history - to increase our understanding of human life and society in the remote past.

A History of Babylonia and Assyria

Robert W. Rogers (1864–1930), American professor of biblical exegesis, became fascinated by the Hebrew language as a boy, when trying to understand the Book of Job, and subsequently studied ancient languages and history in Leipzig and Oxford, where he became a friend of A.H. Sayce. In this two-volume 1901 work, he provides a history of the Mesopotamian civilisations, but begins with an extensive review of the archaeological and literary sources of information, beginning with the earliest accounts of Western travellers. Volume 2 deals with the history of Assyria, from its beginnings through its expansion (which included the conquest of Babylon), leading to a great empire, its relations with the tribes of Israel, and its decline. The final section covers the Chaldean empire. The work, with its detailed review of and reliance on original sources, is still valuable as an introduction to a long period of ancient Middle Eastern history.
Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.
This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.
A HISTORY OF
BABYLONIA AND ASSYRIA

BY
ROBERT WILLIAM ROGERS
PH.D. (LEIPZIG), D.D., LL.D., F.R.G.S., PROFESSOR IN DREW
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, MADISON, NEW JERSEY

SECOND EDITION

IN TWO VOLUMES
VOLUME II

LONDON: LUZAC & CO.
1901
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
CONTENTS.

BOOK III: THE HISTORY OF ASSYRIA.

CHAPTER I.

The settlers of Assyria came from Babylonia . . . 1
The earliest rulers called Ishakku . . . 2
Bel-Kapkapu prince of Asshur 1700 B. C. . . . 3
Bel-bani; Thutmosis III invades Asia . . . 4
Karaindash and Asshur-bel-nisheshu . . . 5
Puzur-Asshur, Asshur-nadin-akhe, and Asshur-uballit 6
Muballitat-Shuru’a marries king of Babylon . . . 7
A letter of Asshur-uballit to Amenophis IV. . . . 8
Bel-nirari and Pudi-ilu, about 1360 . . . . 9
Adad-nirari I, about 1345 B. C. . . . . 10
Contests with Kurigalzu II and Nazi-Maruttash . . 11
The great conquests of Shalmaneser I . . . . 12
The building of Calah; Tukulti-Ninib king 1290 . . 13
He conquers Babylon . . . . . . 14
His was the most brilliant reign up to this time . . 15
Assyrian progress checked by Babylonian rebellion 16
Assurnazirpal I, Asshur-narara, and Nabu-daian . 17
Bel-kudur-usur, Ninib-apal-esharra, Asshur-dan, and
Mutakkil-Nusku . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 18
Assur-rish-ishi, about 1140 B. C. . . . . 19
His successor Tiglathpileser I . . . . . . . . . . 20
iv

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER II.
Tiglath-pileser I and His Sons. Page

Tiglath-pileser I, the grand monarch of western Asia . 21
The Mushkê a menace to Assyria . . . . 22
Tiglath-pileser conquers them . . . . . 23
And establishes supremacy over Kummukh . . 24
Invasion of the lands of Shubari, Alzi, and Purukhumzî 25
Campaigns against Kharia and Qurkhi . . . 26
Invasion of the lands of Nairi . . . . . 27
Sini of Daiyaêni . . . . . 28
The king’s boasts of his conquests . . . . . 29
His building enterprises . . . . . 30
End of his reign . . . . . 31
Estimate of his success . . . . . 32
Asshur-bel-kala and Shamshi-Adad . . . . . 33, 34

CHAPTER III.
Increase of Assyrian Power over Babylonia.

The dynasty of the Sea Lands; Sibar-shikhru (1074–1057) . . . . . 35
Ea-mukin-zer to Silanim-shukamuna . . . . 36
The Kassite influence in this dynasty . . . . 37
Appearance of the Chaldeans; Nabu-uki-ne-abli . . . . 38
Developments in Syria and Palestine . . . . 39
Migrations of the Arameans . . . . . 40
Their settlements and progress in commerce . . . . 41
The Hebrew conquest of Palestine . . . . . 42
Assyria between 1050 and 950 B. C. . . . . 43
Tiglath-pileser II, Asshur-dan II, and Adad-nirari II . 44
Tukulti-Ninib II, 880–865 . . . . . 45

CHAPTER IV.
Reign of Assurnazirpal.

The beginning of the reign of Assurnazirpal . . . . 46
Historical material of his reign . . . . . 47
Conquests in the land of Nimme . . . . . 48
CONTENTS.

Invasion of Qurkhi of Betani .............................. 49
Aramean communities along the Euphrates ................ 50
The surrender of Bit-Khalupe ............................ 51
Revolt of Khula ........................................ 52
The rebuilding of Tushka ................................ 53
Uprising of Zab-Dadi (882) ............................... 54
The collection of tribute as a military necessity .......... 55
Its careful gathering ..................................... 56
The great westward campaign of 879 ....................... 57
Preparations to restore the temple in Sippar ............... 58
Further revolts among the Arameans ....................... 59
Asshurnazirpal founds new cities on the Euphrates ....... 60
Destruction of Kap-rabi .................................. 61
The success attained in compelling tribute paying ....... 62
Character of the Assyrian army ............................ 63
The Hittite city of Carchemish entered .................... 64
The state of Patin; Lubarna .............................. 65
Invasion of the far west .................................. 66
The west sends presents to the Assyrian conqueror ....... 67
Asshurnazirpal on Mount Amanus ........................ 68
The final campaigns of his reign ......................... 69
Character of Assyrian building ............................ 70
Canal building; end of reign .............................. 71

CHAPTER V.

SHALMANESER II TO ASSHUR-NIRARI II.

Inscriptions of Shalmaneser II ............................. 72
His long series of campaigns under personal command ..... 73
Rebellion in Bit-Adini .................................... 74
A union for defense in the west ........................... 75
Shalmaneser's account of his western campaign ............ 76, 77
The course of the campaign to Qarqar .................... 78
The battle of Qarqar ..................................... 79
Second invasion of the west in 849 ......................... 80
The invasion in 846 and again in 842 ..................... 81
Jehu pays tribute to Shalmaneser ......................... 82
The comparative failure of these western invasions ....... 83
vi CONTENTS.

Campaigns into Urartu (Chaldia) . . . . 84
The defeat of Aramê of Chaldia . . . . 85
Chaldia invaded again in 833 and 829 . . . 86
Campaigns in Namri . . . . . . . . . . 87
Conquests in Khubuskia . . . . . . . . 88
Interference in Babylonia . . . . . . . . 89
Assyrian protectorate over Babylonia . . . 90
Rebellion at the close of Shalmaneser’s reign . . 91
Shamshi-Adad becomes king . . . . . . . 92
Successful campaign in Nairi . . . . . . . 93
Campaigns west, north, and south . . . . . 94
War with Babylonia . . . . . . . . . . 95
Adad-nirari III king . . . . . . . . . . 96
Campaigning as far as the Caspian Sea . . . 97
Attempts to assimilate Babylonia with Assyria . . 98
Survey of his reign . . . . . . . . . . 99
Shalmaneser III king . . . . . . . . . 100
Asshur-dan III king . . . . . . . . . 101
Rebellions ; the eclipse of 763 . . . . . . 103
Reign of Asshur-nirari III, peaceful decadence . . 103

CHAPTER VI.

THE REIGNS OF TIGLATHPILESER III AND SHALMA-
NESER IV.

Change wrought by rebellion of 746 . . . . 104
Character and training of Tiglathpileser III . 105
His humble origin . . . . . . . . . . 106
Destruction of his inscriptions by Esarhaddon . 107
His first campaign directed against Babylonia . 108
Continuous victories in Babylonia . . . . . 109
New administration of Babylonia . . . . . 110
Babylonia completely subjected to Assyria . . 111
Victories east of Assyria . . . . . . . . 112
Great difficulties in Urartu . . . . . . . . 113
Sarduris II king of Chaldia, and his conquests . 114
Conquered by Tiglathpileser III . . . . . . 115
Effect of this Assyrian success . . . . . . 116
CONTENTS.

Reduction of Arpad ............................................... 117
Attempts to win back Nairi ........................................ 118
Azariah of Judah begins a new confederation ................. 119
Menahem of Samaria surrenders to Tiglathpilsezer .......... 120
Conquest of Syria .................................................. 121
Aramæan communities rebel and are conquered by their governors .................................................. 122
Renewed attack upon Chaldia ...................................... 123
Western campaign in 734 .......................................... 124
Gaza taken ..................................................................... 125
Invasion of hill country of Palestine ......................... 126
Opportunity for new western alliance ......................... 127
Perplexities of Ahaz .................................................. 128
Conquest of part of Samaria ......................................... 129
Rezin defeated; Arabia invaded .................................... 130
Damascus taken in 732 .............................................. 131
Reign of Nabonassar in Babylonia .............................. 132
Invasion of Babylonia in 731 ....................................... 133
Ukinzer retires to Sapia ............................................. 134
Sapia taken and Ukinzer deposed ................................. 135
Tiglathpilsezer III proclaimed king of Babylon in 728 136
End of his reign ......................................................... 137
Estimate of his ability and character ......................... 138
Shalmaneser IV becomes king ..................................... 139
Changes in Palestine during the previous reign ............ 140, 141
The situation in Egypt ................................................ 142
Hope in Israel for Egyptian alliance ............................. 143
Hoshea refuses tribute in 725 ...................................... 144
Shalmaneser invades Samaria ..................................... 145
Siege of the city; end of his reign ............................... 146, 147

CHAPTER VII.

THE REIGN OF SARGON II.

Sargon II, king and usurper ....................................... 148
His great problems ................................................... 149
The fall of Samaria in 722 .......................................... 150
Colonization in Samaria ............................................ 151
CONTENTS.

Merodach-baladan takes Babylonia . . . . . 152
Sargon makes unsuccessful campaign against him . 153
Rebellion in the west in Hamath . . . . . 154
Gaza and Samaria join in it . . . . . . . . 155
Victory over confederates at Raphia . . . . 156
Rebellions in the north . . . . . . . . . 157
Carchemish becomes an Assyrian province . . . 158
Attack on Urartu in 716 . . . . . . . . . 159
Rusas of Chaldaia the chief object of the campaign . 160
Which is only partially successful . . . . . 161
Invasion of western Media . . . . . . . . 162
Increasing success over Rusas . . . . . . . 163
Expedition into Arabia . . . . . . . . . 164
Campaign against Rusas begun again . . . . 165
Argiatis II king of Chaldaia . . . . . . . . 166
Small undertakings in Media and in Tabal . . . 167
Destruction of Melid . . . . . . . . . . . 168
Conquest of Ashdod, Gath, and Ashdudimmu . . 169
Survey of the first part of the reign . . . . . 170
Merodach-baladan and his difficulties in Babylonia 171, 172
Sargon looked to by Babylonians as a deliverer . . 173
Sargon invades Babylonia . . . . . . . . . 174
And is proclaimed shakkanak on New Year's Day, 709, 175
Campaign against Merodach-baladan . . . . 176
Babylonia pacified; the governor of Que attacks the Mushkê . . . . . . . . . . . 177
Success against the Mushkê; Urartu revives . . 178
Sargon's last campaign . . . . . . . . . 179
Building operations . . . . . . . . . 180
Survey of his reign . . . . . . . . . 181, 182

CHAPTER VIII.
The Reign of Sennacherib.
Beginning of his reign; authorities . . . . 183
The situation in Babylonia . . . . . . . . 184
His determination to set aside Babylonian pride . 185
CONTENTS.

The Babylonian people refuse to acknowledge him as legitimate king .... 186
Marduk-zakir-shumu and Merodach-baladan .... 187
Embassy to Hezekiah .... 188
Sennacherib’s invasion of Babylonia .... 189
Campaign against Ellipi .... 190
The great invasion of the west in 701 .... 191
The political situation in Judah .... 192
The Ethiopian dynasty in Egypt .... 193
A rebellion against Assyria begins in Ekron .... 194
Sennacherib attacks the Phœnician cities .... 195
Most of Syria submits .... 196
The fall of Ashkelon, Beth-Dagon, and Joppa .... 197
Battle with the Egyptians at Altaku .... 198
The fortified cities of Judah taken .... 199
The humiliation of Hezekiah .... 200
Negotiations between the Assyrians and the Jews .... 201
The advance of Tirhaqa .... 202
Destruction of Sennacherib’s army .... 203
His failure to capture Jerusalem .... 204
Disturbances begin again in Babylonia .... 205
Death of Merodach-baladan .... 206
Further troubles in Babylonia .... 207
Elamites invade Babylonia .... 208
Mushezib-Marduk king of Babylon in 692 .... 209
The battle of Khalulé .... 210
Destruction of Babylon in 689 .... 211, 212
The folly and the sadness of this act .... 213
Arabia invaded again .... 214
Estimate of Sennacherib’s reign .... 215

CHAPTER IX.

The Reign of Esarhaddon.

Beginning of his reign; authorities .... 216
Proclaimed shakkanak of Babylon .... 217
Difficulty of learning the order of events in his reign;
determines to rebuild Babylon .... 218
CONTENTS.

Castrigation of the Chaldeans . . . . . . 219
Punishment of Bit-Dakkuri . . . . . . 220
Reduces the Gambuli to subjection . . . . 221
Invasion of the west . . . . . . . . . . 222
A new confederation opposes him . . . . 223
Sidon destroyed . . . . . . . . . . 224
The booty of the city . . . . . . . . 225
Tyre also attacked and besieged . . . . 226
But the city could not be taken . . . . 227
The campaign extended into Palestine . . . 228
The first invasion of Egypt in 673 . . . . 229
Memphis plundered and destroyed . . . . 230
Reorganization of the country . . . . . 231
Meluhhhka and Arabi punished . . . . . 232
A king and queen in Arabi as joint rulers . . . 233
Indo-European migrations . . . . . . 234
Esharaddon’s victory over Ishpakai . . . . 235
The Indo-Europeans invade Media . . . . 236
Expedition to help Median princes unsuccessful . . . 237
The nomadic immigrants overspread the country east of Assyria . . . . . . 238
The Scythians . . . . . . . . . . 239
The great danger to Assyria of this migration . . . 240
A rebellion in Assyria; campaign in Egypt . . . 241
Esharaddon provides by will for the succession . . . 242
Esharaddon dies in 668 . . . . . . . . 243
The great success of his reign . . . . . 244, 245

CHAPTER X.

THE REIGN OF ASSHURBANAPAL.

Asshurbanapal; authorities for his reign . . . 246
His inscriptions beautifully written . . . . 247
Difficulty of ascertaining the order of events . . . 248
Narrative of Esharaddon’s third expedition to Egypt 249
Asshurbanapal occupies Memphis . . . . . 250
Ferocity of Asshurbanapal in Egypt . . . . . 251
Tanut-Amon (Tandamani) seizes Thebes . . . . 252
CONTENTS.

But is conquered by the Assyrians 253
Impossibility of holding Egypt 254
Campaign against Tyre 255
Gyges of Lydia and his dealings with Asshurbanapal 256
Invasion of the land of Man 257
The sons of Gagi; Elam 258
Asshurbanapal shows favor to certain Elamites 259
Insurrection among the Gambuli 260
Shamash-shum-ukin's rule in Babylon 261
His ambition for independence 262
Starts numerous rebellions against Assyria 263
Plots revealed to Asshurbanapal 264
Asshurbanapal laments his brother's unfaithfulness 265
And receives a favorable omen for himself 266
Elamite support withdrawn from the Babylonians 267
Asshurbanapal’s terrible punishment of the Babylonians 268
Also punishes Elam 269
For the assistance given to Nabu-bel-shume 270
Dur-Undasi taken; Ummana-alash escapes 271
Immense plunder secured 272
Elam yields to superior force 273
The folly of this destruction of Elam 274
Punishment of Arabians 275
New alliances against the Assyrians 276
Peaceful relations with Urartu 277
Building operations 278
The collection of the great library 279
The glory and the failure of his reign 280, 281, 282

CHAPTER XI.

THE FALL OF ASSYRIA.

Asshur-etil-ili-ukinni king of Assyria 283
His poor building work; meager knowledge of his reign 284
Sin-shum-lischir; Sin-shar-ishkun 285
Authorities for the events of his reign 286
CONTENTS.

He invades Babylonia .............................................. 287
The Manda .......................................................... 288
Advance of the Manda against Nineveh ....................... 289
The plunder of Nineveh as a reward for its enemies ......... 290
The siege of Nineveh by the Manda ....................... 291
The city taken and plundered ................................ 292
The complete destruction of the city ......................... 293
The division of its territory .................................. 294, 295

BOOK IV: THE HISTORY OF THE CHALDEAN EMPIRE.

CHAPTER I.

The Reign of Nabopolassar.

Asshurbanapal and Kandalanu the same person .............. 297
The beginning of a new revolt in Babylonia .............. 298
The Assyrians still hold part of Babylonia in the reign
of Sin-shar-ishkun ............................................. 299
The Chaldean supremacy over the Babylonians ............ 300
The origin and first appearance of the Chaldeans .......... 301
Their first experiences in government ...................... 302
Attempts to win Babylon ...................................... 303
Different Chaldean communities ............................. 304
Death of Asshurbanapal offers a new opportunity ........ 305
Nabopolassar's kingdom was Chaldean ....................... 306
Abydenus's account of Nabopolassar ......................... 307
Inscriptions of Nabopolassar .................................. 308
Canal digging; Egypt under Necho II ....................... 309
Necho's expedition against Assyria ......................... 310
Battle of Megiddo; death of Josiah ......................... 311
Necho master of Palestine .................................... 312
Battle of Carchemish .......................................... 313
Survey of Nabopolassar's reign ............................... 314, 315
CONTENTS.

CHAPTER II.

THE REIGN OF NEBUCHADREZZAR.

Nebuchadrezzar becomes king 604 B.C. . . . . . . 316
Jehoiakim of Judah and Jeremiah . . . . . . . 317
The first siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadrezzar . . . 318
The city taken; seven thousand people deported . . . 319
Hophra, king of Egypt, incites Syria to rebellion . . . 320
The rebellion begun in Edom, Moab, and other places 321
Embassy from these people asks Judah to join . . . . 322
The matter much discussed in Judah . . . . . . . 323
Judah rebels; Jerusalem besieged again . . . . . . . 324
Determination and confidence in the city; warnings . . 325
Jeremiah counsels submission . . . . . . . . . . 326
Egyptian allies driven back homeward . . . . . . . 327
Siege begun anew . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 328
The city taken . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 329
Zedekiah punished . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 330
Jerusalem plundered . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 331
The city destroyed; population deported . . . . . . . 332
Gedaliah governor; Jews emigrate to Egypt . . . . 333
The Chaldean policy and its success . . . . . . . . 334
The Jews survive their captivity . . . . . . . . . . 335
The punishment of Tyre begun . . . . . . . . . . 336
Chaldeans not seamen; siege of Tyre . . . . . . . . 337
Capitulation of the city . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 338
Nebuchadrezzar invades Egypt in 567 . . . . . . . 339
And secures heavy booty . . . . . . . . . . . . . 340
His campaigns comparatively few . . . . . . . . . . 341
Literature of his building operations . . . . . . . . . 342
Rebuilding of the walls of Babylon . . . . . . . . . 343
Construction of outer wall and moat . . . . . . . . . 344
The city rendered impregnable . . . . . . . . . . 345
New streets and massive gateways . . . . . . . . . . 346
Temple reconstructions . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 347
Repairing of canals . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 348
Temples of Borsippa repaired . . . . . . . . . . . 349
CONTENTS.

And the walls reconstructed 350
Death of Nebuchadrezzar; his madness 351
His record as a builder, a patron of letters and warrior 352
His piety 353

CHAPTER III.

THE LAST YEARS OF THE CHALDEAN EMPIRE.

Evil-merodach delivers Jehoiachin from prison 354
He is assassinated 355
Nergal-shar-usur follows the example of Nebuchad-
rezzar 356
His work on canals and palaces 357
The brief reign of Labashi-Marduk 358
Nabonidus made king, and begins building operations 359
His peculiar interest in the foundation stones of build-
ings 360
His archaeological and historical researches 361
He pays little attention to statecraft 362
But makes his son, Belshazzar, regent 363
Nabonidus rebuilds the temple of the sun at Sippar 364
Restoration of the temple E-balbar 365
Rebuilding of the temple of Sin in Harran 366, 367
Neglect of the duties of kingship 368
The growth of the power of the Medes 369
Cyrus king of Anshan 370
Cyrus conquers Astyages 371
And then overwhelms Croesus 372
Asia Minor a part of the Persian empire 373
Nabonidus makes no preparations for defense 374
Cyrus invades Babylonia 375, 376
Nabonidus makes provision for his gods 377
Sippar taken; Babylon entered 378
Babylon receives Cyrus with acclaim 379
Babylon a Semitic center of civilization 380
Its final end 381
CONTENTS.
xv

APPENDIX.

A.  
LITERATURE.  

Excavations and Decipherment . . . . . 383  
Histories of Babylonia and Assyria . . . 384  
General Histories . . . . . . . . . 385, 386  
Bibliography . . . . . . . . . . 387  

B.  
THE DESTRUCTION OF SENNAHERIB'S ARMY.  
The Egyptian tradition as reported by Herodotus 387, 388  

C.  
THE DEFENSES OF BABYLON.  
Herodotus's account of the defenses of Babylon . 388–391  
Nebuchadrezzar's account . . . . . 392–395  

