

# THE HISTORY

OF

ALEXANDER THE GREAT.





# جُعدبِهُ، دِنَالِجِصِدِهُم جُدَ فَبَلَبِقُهُم جُلْدَ، دِمَّجِدِهُتَبِهُ \*

## THE HISTORY

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# ALEXANDER THE GREAT,

BEING THE SYRIAC VERSION OF THE

PSEUDO-CALLISTHENES.

EDITED FROM FIVE MANUSCRIPTS,

WITH AN

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AND NOTES,

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### THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

# WILLIAM HENRY SMITH, M.P.,

BY HIS

DEEPLY OBLIGED AND GRATEFUL SERVANT

THE EDITOR AND TRANSLATOR.





The storie of Alisaundre is so comune
That every wyght that hath discrecioun
Hath herd somewhat or al of his fortune.

Chaucer, Canterbury Tales, Group B, ll. 3821—3823,
or, Monkes Tale, ll. 640—642.

Seigneurs qui vivez à present,
Qui desirez ouyr cronicques,
Lisez Alixandre le Grant,
Qui dit chouses moult magnificques.
En luy chouses diverses orrez
Pour vous oster merencolye;
Car ses dits sont beaulx, bien narrez
Par grans docteurs, je vous affye.
Ou romant les pourrez vous veoir:
Chacun d'eulx y fait son devoir.
BERGER DE XIVREY, Traditions Tératologiques, p. XLVIII.





### PREFACE.

O far back as the year 1881 the late Professor W. Wright suggested to me that I should prepare an edition of the Syriac version of the Pseudo-Callisthenes and an English translation of it. I undertook this work in the hope that it would be useful not only to students of Syriac who will be glad of a new and amusing text to read, but also to the large and increasing number of enquirers into the folk-lore and legends connected with Alexander the Great who have not found time to learn Syriac, and to whom, necessarily, the contents of this ancient version are unknown. It may be argued that sufficient of the fabulous history of Alexander is known to us from the Greek text of the work which is attributed to Callisthenes, and from the Latin translations of it made by Julius Valerius and Leo the Archpresbyter. I am inclined to think, however, that a perusal of the Syriac version will reveal much of interest to the reader, and as it appears to represent a Greek text older than any known to us, that it will be of considerable help in determining one of the earliest forms of the Alexander story.

The Syriac text is edited from five manuscripts, the oldest of which was written about one hundred and eighty years ago: it has been divided into chapters which follow the order of the Greek text of Pseudo-Callisthenes published by Müller. The variant readings of the MSS are printed at the foot of each page together with such emendations and corrections as it has



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Cambridge University Press 978-1-107-63117-5 - The History of Alexander the Great, Being the Syriac Version of the Pseudo-Callisthenes Ernest A. Wallis Budge Frontmatter More information

PREFACE.

been found possible to make. A few misprints have crept into the text and they are noted on pages 255, 256.

The English translation has been made as literal as possible, and only the most necessary notes have been added. Wherever I have been unable to translate a word the fact has been shown by dots.

The short Glossary which follows the English translation makes no pretence of being a complete dictionary to the book. In it, however, will be found such words as have been omitted in the Castle-Michaelis Lexicon and examples of words and forms which are given there without any references to places where they may be found; it is hoped that they will be useful to the beginner. In all cases the utmost brevity has been studied.

In the short introduction to this edition of the Syriac version of Pseudo-Callisthenes I have made a few remarks on some of the versions of the Alexander story based upon the careful works of Favre, Müller, Zacher, Berger de Xivrey, Spiegel and others. The Persian versions of the story I have not attempted to describe, for I have no knowledge of the language. Though late (A.D. 900—1300), they seem to me to be of considerable importance, for they in all probability represent Arabic originals which are no longer extant. Similarly I have not tried to discuss the story from the folk-lore point of view, for I possess neither the necessary knowledge nor the time.

The extracts from an unpublished Egyptian magical papyrus and the remarks on them have been inserted because they support the theory that the story of the magician Nectanebus being the father of Alexander the Great is one of Egyptian origin and composition. The chapter on Ethiopic versions of Pseudo-Callisthenes has been added, because, save for the short extract from the first chapter printed by the late



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Prof. Wright in his Catalogue of the Ethiopic MSS. in the British Museum, p. 294, no part of it has, to my knowledge at least, been described or printed. It represents an Arabic original and is therefore of importance; besides this any new matter which helps to throw light on the history of the translations and age and travels of a book which has had more readers than any other, the Bible alone excepted, will be welcome. Zacher's observation with reference to the Syriac version of the Alexander story applies equally to this.

My thanks are due to the German Oriental Society for the loan of the manuscript C, and to the American Oriental Society for their kindness in allowing me to have the manuscript B in my possession during the years in which this book was being prepared and was passing through the press. I am also much indebted to the Rev. Benjamin Labaree of Urmia, to Mr. Henry H. Lamb, British Vice-Consul at Scutari, and to Mr. Nimroud Rassam of Mosul, for the pains which they took in superintending the copying of manuscripts D and E, and for the numerous enquiries after ancient Syriac manuscripts of the Alexander story which they made at my request.

The Syndics of the Cambridge University Press have earned the gratitude of all Syriac scholars by their liberality in purchasing a fount of Nestorian Syriac type, which enabled the peculiar character and pointing of the Nestorian MSS. to be accurately reproduced; and my grateful thanks are due to Mr. C. J. Clay who has spared himself no trouble in the production of this, the first book printed in England in the Nestorian Syriac character.

Zacher, Pseudo-Callisthenes, p. 193.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Diese Fragen erscheinen wol bedeutsam genug, nicht nur für die Alexandersage an sich, sondern auch für die orientalische Literaturgeschichte überhaupt, dass wir von den Kennern der syrischen und arabischen Literatur eine eingehende Würdigung und Erörterung derselben hoffen dürfen.



xii PREFACE.

To the late Prof. William Wright I am most deeply indebted. He read through the whole of my copy of the Syriac text and the English translation before it went to press, and I had the great benefit of his unique experience and assistance in correcting the proof sheets of the whole of the Syriac text of the History of Alexander and of the English translation as far as page 128. Throughout the preparation of this and other works the ready helping hand, the judicious advice, and the warm sympathy of my master were never wanting.

The acquaintance which began in March 1877 ripened, during the five years in which I was his pupil, into a friendship which grew stronger each year after, and was only broken by his death on May 22nd, whereby the world lost one of its few great Semitic scholars\*, and I a true friend.

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

London, November, 1889.

\* "Der bedeutendste englische Semitist und ein wahrhaft guter Mensch." T. Nöldeke in *Deutsche Rundschau*, August, 1889, pp. 306—308. See also the excellent accounts of his life and works by Prof. R. L. Bensly in the *Academy*, June 1st, 1889, p. 378; by Dr. Neubauer in the *Athenaeum*, June 1st, 1889, p. 697; by M. J. de Goeje in the *Journal Asiatique*, 8 ième Série, t. xIII. pp. 522—529, and *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, vol. xxi. N. S., pt. iii. pp. 708—713.



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## INTRODUCTION.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SYRIAC MANUSCRIPTS CON-TAINING THE HISTORY OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

THE text of the Syriac version of Pseudo-Callisthenes printed in this volume is edited from a manuscript in the British Museum (Add. 25, 875), and the variant readings printed at the foot of each page are taken from four MSS., of which the first and second belong to the American Oriental Society and to the German Oriental Society respectively; the third and fourth are in my own possession. The British Museum MS. has been described by the late Prof. Wright in his Catalogue of the Syriac Manuscripts in the British Museum, London, 1872, Vol. iii. p. 1064, No. DeceexxII. It is of paper, about  $8\frac{7}{8}$  in. by  $6\frac{1}{8}$  in., and consists of 362 leaves. The quires, signed with letters, are 36 in number. Each page is divided into two columns of 28 This manuscript is written in a good Nestorian hand, with numerous vowel points, etc., and is dated A. Gr. 2020-211 = A.D. 1708-9. The History of Alexander the Great is the twelfth and last article in the MS., and its colophon runs as follows (Wright's Cat. p. 1069):-

عناب اعبعن المن حيات معمل وي المبعد بن المبعد المنافع المنافع

There are really two years >11 and 1211 given in the manuscript.



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وفعبعا مونوه اتدا حسم الله الله الله كالله الله فعبها المال الله في الله فعبها القا الله فعبها القا الله فعبها القا الله فعبها القا الله فعبها العبه والمعادم الله المعادم الله المعادم الله العبه والمعادم الله العبه العبه والمعادم الله العبه الع

"Here ends the history of the achievements and wars of Alexander the King of the Greeks, the son of Philip: [written] by the hands of the wretched priest Yaldâ and the priest Hômô¹, brothers, sons of the priest Daniel of Alkôsh², in the year two thousand and twenty-one of the blessed Greeks [A.D. 1709], on the third day of the month of the first Teshrî, on the fifth day of the week [Thursday]. Everlasting glory be to Him who makes times and seasons pass away; and may the com-

Alkôsh, القوش is a village of a few hundred houses situated about six hours ride to the north of Mosul, الموسل, along the road which passes Tell Kêf الموسل, Baṭnâyê or Tyṭnâyê, and Tell Uskuf تَلُ كَنِفَ, For a description of these villages see Sachau, Reise in Syrien und Mesopotamien, pp. 359—369; and Badger, The Nestorians and their Rituals, vol. i. p. 104, p. 174. In Alkôsh the grave of the prophet Nahum is shown, and on the sixth of Îyâr (May) many Jews make a pilgrimage to the synagogue which is supposed to mark the resting place of his body. Tell Kêf, Syr. كَالْكُولُولُ مِنْ المُعْلِيْنِ الْمُعْلِيْنِ (ed. Juynboll) vol. i. p. ٢٠٩ and Yâkût مَامِنُ الْمُعْلِيْنِ وَطُ. Wüstenfeld, vol. i. p. ٨٦٣.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hômô was a contemporary of the Catholic patriarch, Mâr Elîyâ, and the Metropolitan Mâr Îshô'yabh (A. Gr. 2024=A.D. 1712). See Hoffmann, Opuscula Nestoriana, pp. iii, iv.



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passion and mercy of God be upon the writers and the man who had this book written, the priest Joseph of Ḥôrdephnê¹." This manuscript is indicated by "A" in the following pages; those belonging to the American Oriental Society and the German Oriental Society by "B" and "C" respectively, and those in my own possession by "D" and "E".

B is a paper manuscript, about  $8\frac{3}{8}$  in. by  $6\frac{5}{8}$ , consisting of 185 leaves. The quires signed with letters are 18 in number. One column of 20 lines occupies each page. This manuscript is written in a good Nestorian hand with numerous vowel points, etc., and is dated A. Gr. 2155, = A.D. 1844. It was given to the American Oriental Society by the Rev. J. Perkins, D.D., who had it copied from a manuscript found among the Nestorian Christians. Some pages of text from this manuscript, with a translation in English, were printed by Dr. Perkins and Dr. Woolsey in the Transactions of the American Oriental Society, vol. IV. pp. 359—440. Speaking generally, B and C agree closely in respect of omissions, etc.; I think, therefore, that these manuscripts were copied from the same original. They have, occasionally, better readings than A. On the margin of some of the pages of B are explanations in the modern Fellaehî dialect of Urmia which I have given, as far as I was able, with the variant readings at the foot of the pages of printed text. It would be extremely interesting to have some particulars about the original manuscript or manuscripts from which these were copied, and with this object in view I wrote to my friend Dr. Benjamin Labaree of Urmia and asked him to make enquiries on this subject: he was, however, unable to trace the manuscript or manuscripts from which Dr. Perkins had caused his copies to Wherever report said that a copy of the History of be made. Alexander existed in Syriac he sent a messenger to make enquiries, but no satisfactory results followed these careful investigations.

The pointing of the proper names in this MS. usually

rians and their Rituals, vol. i. p. 254; Hoffmann, Auszüge aus Syrischen Akten Persischer Mürtyrer, p. 195, notes 1544, 5; Hoffmann, Opuscula Nestoriana, p. xxIII; and Sachau, Reise in Syrien und Mesopotamien, p. 364.

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agrees with that in A, and it also carefully marks marhetana and měhăggěyânâ. For example: مَانَا إِنْ اللهِ عَلَى اللهِ and měhăggěyânâ. p. 4. 1; كَا p. 4. 5; كَا p. 4. 7; أَسْبِطُ p. 5. 12; أَكُلِكُمْ إِنْ عِنْ £ 1. 15 . أَنْ الْمُتَاتِينَ أَ 1. 16 . وَمَنْ عِنْ £ 1. 16 وَنَنْ عِنْكُمْ أَ p. 10. 4; مكارة p. 10. 11; منتكار p. 10. 20; محصور p. 13. 4; مِينِ p. 14. 5; مَنْ p. 16. 3; الْكِنْ p. 16. 11; حِيدَاً p. 16. 12; إحتما p. 17. 4; مكك p. 17. 10; كنسكك p. 17. 10. 18; كَانِينَ p. 18. 20; كَالَفِينَ p. 19. 15; كَيْنِينَ p. 19. 20; كيداً p. 20. 4; كِينَ p. 21. 6; المسكا p. 23. 4; المنطقة بر المناب p. 27. 3; عباساً p. 27. 9; المناب p. 39. 9; رَافُو، p. 40. 11; مرفواً p. 44. 10; المحير p. 45. 3; معلواً p. 45. 13; كِأَكِأَ p. 46. 4; وَضِيعَا p. 51. 15; كَامُ عَالَكُمُ p. 52. 2; - تَضِيرُاهِ p. 56. 11; اللهُ p. 59. 18; جنب آهي p. 61. 12; လုတ်သုံး p. 65. 11; လုတ်ပြုထဲထား p. 69. 13; ပြင်းသည် p. 72. 10; كِرَاطِيْ ، 72. 13 ; مِنْكِيْدِم ، 73. 17 ; مِنْكِيْدِم ، 75. 16 ; ويَكْلُونِيْ p. 85. 7; كَا إِذَا p. 87. 2; كَا إِذَا أَنْ p. 87. 17; كَا الْحَادِةُ فَعُونُ فَا الْحَادِةُ وَالْحَادِةُ فَا p. 90. 1; ميكمكا p. 94. 3; وكياكا p. 97. 20; اَجَنِهُ p. 103. 10; الكيد ، 104. 7; بالكيد ، 104. 8; بالكيد ، 104. 7; ما الكيد ، 104. 8; بالكيد ، 104. 2; ما الكيد p. 115. 2; كَرْاْحِر p. 115. 2; مِنْكَرْصُ p. 113. 4; مِنْكَرْصُ p. 115. 2; كَرْاْحِر p. 119.



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5; مَنْكَ وَ p. 123. 16; عِمْنَانِيْ p. 129. 15; مُعْنَانِيْ وَالْمُعْنِيْنِ p. 131. 19; كاكميد p. 132. 2; كالمانية p. 134. 15; ميلاد) p. كَفُرَاهُم بِهِ 134.19; مِنْ مِنْ p. 137.10; مِنْ مُنْ p. 138.7; كِفُرَاهُم بِهِ p. 138. 7; Zajė p. 138. 9; Zai p. 140. 2; Zaje p. 141. 5; وَمَكِمِ p. 141. 12; جِعِصَارًا p. 148. 15; أَخِعُرًا p. 149. 17; ر الكوريك p. 155. 10; مكريك p. 162. 13; مكريك p. 164. 18; p. 165. 2; كِيْكِ p. 166. 18; كِيْنِي ذُكِيًّا p. 169. 10; وكرا p. 170. 15; كالم مغسكة p. 171. 1; حمكوم p. 179. 13; كمعون p. 181. 5; ما المحدود p. 183. 6; كمان p. 186. 10; p. 190. 10; مَا يُعَدِينُ p. 191. 3; مُكِيدًا p. 191. 5; كَانَا وَ الْكِانِ عِنْ 10 p. 200. 10 ; كَانَا إِنْ الْكِانِ عِنْ 14 p. 205. 14 ; တသည်း) p. 207. 15; ပြင်သည်မှာ p. 209. 6; ခြည်သမ် p. 209. 12; كي p. 221. 15; من p. 223. 6; من p. 223. 17; ويد بين p. 225. 4; مانيدك p. 226. 2; مانيدك p. 227. 9; اً كَا يَعْمَانُ p. 228. 3; مِنْمَانُ p. 228. 16; مِنْمَانُ p. 229. 12; بِهُمْكِي) p. 231. 6; مَنْكِيمِ p. 232. 14; وَكُفْكِي) p. 235. 11; သည္နှာ p. 239. 10; ဝဲတည်သမ်း p. 245. 11; သားပဲသည်နှာ p. 245. 12; عِدْلًا p. 246. 4; عِدْلِي p. 247. 13; عِنْلًا p. 248. 2; ما بالمام با 258. 7; جُنُورَ فِي p. 259. 19; مَكْمِيْنِ p. 262. 9; جُنُورِ p. 263. 13; b2



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#### INTRODUCTION.

ركين p. 264. 2; جين p. 264. 8; جينون p. 266. 12; مينون p. 266. 16; مينون p. 266. 18; مينون p. 269. 12; الاعالات p. 269. 14; مينون p. 271. 11; المينون p. 273. 3; حينوان p. 273. 18.

In this manuscript Aloro is usually written Aloro, with above; other words written with above are Alirio p. 11, note 8; from p. 33. 21; from p. 165. 5; from p. 227. 7; from p. 230. 2; and from p. 239. 12. In this manuscript words at the end of a line are frequently divided; Alexander's name is generally written in full, words, while in A it is most frequently contracted. The MS is paged from to the following is the colophon:—

عنبل دب صَح معوهد محد المدد حدم حدم حدم المدر المحدود المحدود المحدد ال



#### INTRODUCTION.

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وحجوب طودية ەھۆكەكچىن ئىجىجى ەيھخەڭھىلايىدا. جُكْدِيم حَنِكُ دِي وَحَدِدُ مِن مِن مِن مُحَدِيم مُوحُكُم مُ مُحدِيم حفيهد. دُحد دِجُدُم مُحره كُنتره حكيكم جُميطيم جُعدُهد. مجلمه كرد وصنا وندبه مهلاها. عدد يحدن عُمهُ كُبِعِدُ فَهُدُنْدُكِيمِ دِحكُمَ مِحِدُ حَكَمُعِدٍ. حودهيره تجريه وحجك ودعل. ويدنج ددّه عؤجه جؤجه درك جُدَحبهه وحوصل هيهدي فدبعلا. وكسهود دوجعه وجنعت مولكس عنصبم عُملة أحبى: وتنوحم دُمل كِتل. ەبەە بُذىبىد، فِرىد. مكِكلىد ۋەد مُخدى كِتدبك ھبهدُ كەكبهد سُمِد. تَهُذَ حَوِدُمِد ثُدِّيْهِ وَهُرَدَيْدَ (بعد به) مَكْبَرُكُ وَهُدُبِيرِ تؤمه دولا فسهر موهميًا. كعهدرة خطر صعبسًا. ٥٥٥ م كند بعدد المربط موجد ودود مع كبدد نصئد. وكس حكومُهُ: دِعبةِه هِ هِ لَاهدُ يُصهُدُه لِمُهدِّد. دحري ويه كحكرة من منه محمقه ككلوبته. 2محم ب



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دِسُهُمْ حَبُعَدَد. دِيْحُ حَدَ حَنَدَ عَمِيهُمَ حَدَ دُيْحُ. حَدَ تَكَذَّذُ. (عَمَا مِ) حَدَدهِ عِلْه مَلُهُم دِهِمَ مَدَد. دَعَمَ \*

هم دم وزوفي كه حضوم بمن دمهد ومد ومدير دىكممىددەم حكم خبدەئىد. بىعبد بدخىسم حيدهم دهمها يعكنهمنا به معم دهمد محدد يُنطِدَيدُهِ. دُدُهُولِ صنكيدل. مهند مخِلْقُيل محدَددي دِدُودِيدٌ دِيهِ لِمُؤتِّنهِ ﴿ دِيكِذُ لِي وَبِهُ ذَيهِ عَدِي. وكسديد تمهد حفيك عند ديود حبودكم محر فنقوس ڊڌوسل بُنحڌبِڪَل حدAڌل ڊڍوڌحب. ڀيهٽڊج چُڙف. مجمهُبِد بُكُدِيْ. بُوخبِتر عەت. ەھمەخ تۆھ. بەدە دې جُعِمَّكِي. οασλής οκέτρ. (sic) οασλής ξαλές. οασλής χρισι. مكر دسد أو محتبط محصه دحل موحد دسة مأسهم منسدد. ميك سوكر دهد ، بعد معيد. (بعدر به به يكه كهدر ودد ددودصد. فكسه جددهد فلأسه بعرصند. ودهه ودهد دسُت کی دید درگذشه در کرد کرد از (sic) می درگذشه درگذشه درگذشه درگذشه درگذشه درگذشه درگذشه درگذشته درگد درگد درگذشته درگذشته درگذشت درگذشته درگذشت درگد درگد درگذشته درگذشته حذه كند. عصه لعصفد إذكر. وأسعه كدوود عكم : وحَدَمْ الْكُوا فُولْنَتُونِ فَدِلْ كُونَ إِلَى بُكِدُ وَإِلَى جَدِيدٍ ﴿ عصم ب حدب دركه وهنهن عصه ردودودودودود حدمد كدل<del>م</del> حكمه «

"Here ends the history of the achievements and wars of Alexander the King of the Greeks, the son of Philip. To God the Father who has aided, and the everlasting Son who has assisted, and to the Holy Spirit the perfecter of all, be praise and honour and dominion and exaltation and lasting gratitude, now and ever, world without end.

"This book received conclusion and completion on the twelfth



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day of the blessed month of Tammôz, on the fourth day of the week (Wednesday), in the year two thousand one hundred and fifty-five of the Greeks (A.D. 1844). Glory be to Him who makes times pass away while He himself never passes away. Amen.

"It was written in the days of the admirable and energetic chief Shepherd, the wonderful and excellent director, pure and righteous and upright, the brilliant and illuminating star of the sky of the Church, rich and deeply versed in ecclesiastical doctrine, the wise sage and lawyer, thoroughly versed in the Holy Scriptures, and abundantly nurtured with their fruits, that is to say the understanding of them; the shepherd whose voice whistleth sweetly to his rational flock, and whose word driveth away the evening wolf like the smoke, Mâr Simeon the Catholic patriarch of the whole world. May his throne be established in justice and all righteousness, and may his arm be strong in victory which never . . . . . . , that he may bind and loose in the height and in the depth, to the glory of his flock which is redeemed by the blood of the side (of our Lord), and to the pride of his people, who perpetually breathe the winds of his teaching. Amen.

"[This book was written] also in the days of the chosen shepherd and excellent governor and distinguished ruler, Mâr Gabriel the pious Metropolitan, the guardian of the throne of Addai¹ and Mârî. May he be strong and mighty in the victory that is without equal and without like, to the glory of the nation of Christ, and the pride of the congregation of Jesus, redeemed by the blood which flowed from the right side, poured out by the spear thrust in by the band of soldiers, through which there is for all who receive it life and everlasting pleasure. Amen.

"[This book] was written in the blessed and happy village of Sîr<sup>2</sup> near Kala of the Sâhabe<sup>3</sup> (i.e. the residence of the gen-

- <sup>1</sup> See Assemânî, Bibliotheca Orientalis, t. iii, i. pp. 229, 611, and Badger, The Nestorians and their Rituals, vol. i. p. 136.
- or سيرا or سيرا. Dr. Perkins, der Senior der Urumia Mission, hat seinen bleibenden Aufenthalt in Seir, wo er auch das Seminar für die männliche Jugend leitet etc. See Sandreczki, Reise nach Mosul und durch Kurdistan, iii, p. 151.

عَنْ عَنْ وَاللَّهِ عَنْ اللَّهِ اللَّهِ عَنْ اللَّهِ عَنْ اللَّهِ عَنْ اللَّهِ عَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَنْ عَنْ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَا عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَّهُ عَلَّا عَلَّهُ عَا عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ عَلَّهُ



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tlemen), which is founded and ordered and built by the side of the most holy convent of Mâr Sargîs and Mâr Bâkûs¹; may our Lord Christ make it to flourish, and guard its indwellers from all secret and open injuries. Amen.

"The deacon Aslan<sup>2</sup>, the son of the deceased Muhattas<sup>3</sup>, the son of Aslan, the son of Kara<sup>4</sup>, the most wretched of all the wretched, the most feeble of all the feeble, and most sinful of all sinners, blackened, that is to say defiled and begrimed, these pages. Prythee pray on his behalf that peradventure he may obtain compassion from the Lord. Amen.

"The priest Perkins, by race an Englishman, that is to say from the country of America, the indefatigable and zealous preacher and teacher and guide of the confession of Nestorianism, took great pains and care to have a copy made of this book of the History of Alexander the Macedonian King, that he might read therein and profit thereby, and might benefit others. He has for a few years dwelt in a strange land in the country of Urmî<sup>5</sup>, with his American brethren in the spirit, Eṣtâkan Ṣâhab<sup>6</sup> [Mr. W. R. Stocking], Mr. Haldê [Mr. A. L. Holladay], the doctor [Dr. Grant], Mr. Brayth [Mr. E. Breath], the printer, Mr. Merik [Rev. J. L. Merrick], Mr. Estâdor [Lieut. Col. Stoddart], and Mr. Jûns [Mr. W. Jones]<sup>7</sup>. These American brethren

dence of the missionaries." Mr. Labaree says that the word  $\mu$  is used in modern Syriac for any dwelling surrounded by a high wall.

- $^1$  Mr. Labaree tells me that the church of Mâr Sergius and Mâr Bacchus is about one mile from the village of Sîr, سبر
- <sup>2</sup> Turk. ارسلان, "lion." He died about the year 1877 being a very old man.
  - محتّس ³
  - 4 Turk. أون or قرع " black," but generally used with some other name.
- <sup>5</sup> Urmî or Urmia is a district situated near the western shore of the lake of that name in Kurdistân, and is the seat of the large and flourishing Mission which was founded by Dr. Perkins and his companions, whose names are given above.
  - <sup>8</sup> In Urmî Ṣâhab is used after the name, as in Hindustân.
- <sup>7</sup> The names of the gentlemen inserted in my translation are obtained from a perusal of A Residence of eight years in Persia, by the Rev. Justin Perkins,



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forsook father and mother, brethren and sisters and kin, for the love of our Lord Jesus Christ. They came to this country of Urmia, they opened schools, they opened a printing office<sup>1</sup>, they sowed spiritual seed in the field of the hearts of every one who is in name a Christian; they forsook the earthly mammon and loved heavenly riches; and the Lord God will give them a recompense for their works, whether it be good or whether it be bad. Amen.

"Blessed be God, and His name be praised to all generations world without end."

The manuscript C is dated A. Gr. 2162 (= A.D. 1851) and belongs to the Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft. It is of paper and consists of 196 leaves paginated from to to a column of 18 lines occupies a page (page has only 15 lines and page has 19), and the leaves are  $8\frac{7}{8}$  in. by  $6\frac{5}{8}$ . Page has an illuminated heading, and through the pattern endorsed on squares, the following letters are written around the top and sides:

". . . the feeble one, the sinner deserving of perfect wrath."

o is used for o in writing the same word in different places; is confused with ÷; and the same proper name is often differently vowelled. This manuscript was presented to the German Oriental Society by the Rev. Justin Perkins in 1852. It will be

Andover, 1843. A very interesting life of Dr. Perkins was begun in יבחנון, p. 30, April, 1888.



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seen from the extracts given below that he mentions having made a translation of the History of Alexander the Great for the American Oriental Society. This may exist in the Society's Library, but I have never seen it. I only know of the translation of the extracts printed in the Transactions of the American Oriental Society, Vol. iv. pp. 359-440. A description of this manuscript was given in Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft, viii. ss. 835-837, by P. Zingerle. estimate of the relation of the Syriac text to those of the Greek and Latin is very good, and is as follows: "Soweit ich es mit dem Werke von Weismann verglichen habe, nämlich bis zum 13. Kapitel, welches die Geburt Alexander d. Gr. erzählt, ist diese syrische Alexandergeschichte nichts andres als eine Uebersetzung des Pseudo-Kallisthenes und zwar nach der Berarbeitung des Julius Valerius, soweit die von Weismann gelieferten Auszüge in 2 Bande S. 227 ff. schliessen lassen; denn der syr. Codex beginnt ebenfalls mit der Berühmtheit der Aegypter in der Weisheit und den Wahrsagerkünsten . . . . Die Abweichungen der syrischen Erzählung sind der Hauptsache nach (so weit ich sie verglichen) wenig bedeutend: hie und da ein verschiedener Name oder eine kleine Erweiterung, eine Abänderung von Nebenumständen."

The colophon is as follows:-

¹ Aus zwei Briefen des Miss. Hrn. Perkins in Urmia, von 23. Mai und 1 Juni 1850. "Ich habe seit einigen Monaten eine in syrischer Sprache abgefasste Geschichte Alexander's des Grossen in Händen, von welcher ich in meinen wenigen Mussestunden eine Uebersetzung für die American Oriental Society ausarbeite. Wir fanden die Handschrift bei den Nestorianern, der Inhalt ist ein Gemisch von spät-griechischen und muhammedanischen Erdichtungen." ZDMG Vol. 4, S. 519. Aus einem Briefe des Mission, J. Perkins an Prof. Fleischer. Orumia, d. 29. März 1851. — "Eine Abschrift der altsyrischen sogenannten Geschichte Alexanders mit meiner nun fertigen Uebersetzung schicke ich an die Amerikanische Morgenländische Gesellschaft. Eine andere Abschrift des Textes für Ihre Gesellschaft will ich den Exemplaren unserer Druckschriften beilegen, welche ich Ihnen statt der, wie es scheint, verloren gegangenen Sendung von J. 1849 zu schicken gedenke." ZDMG Vol. 5, S. 393.



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ودحر فك ورمريد مرهد وهفدر المدفع المنعلا لمعا

دهمود حدوث دد ددهم هوبدد مهدهد وددهد حككم وهبذه مهمكبعد. ععده درمة مودمعد. محمحه دِحتَص حدِمة صيحت محوكتة. حميد حموكات حدمية محدولة معمولهنا سمط ماهمة لمسلال وحكمد عوديد حديد صععد. وحددته مرحد موتده، محديه حيفيد. (sic) ذهم ديده على كند حليله، בסיתבות הבנחו. סמלמם לבורו נמצגו מעות מבלחו. حد عده مه کبعد فهدندم دحکه هدک באבוס בבלנס סבבל פכשל ב סגבל בשמבן : دِدْمِرَهُ حُودِهِ دِيْ صَمَالِكُمْ دِيْرَهُوْدُ وَمِيدَا حَدُوهِا وحدوها: كعرمون مددبه وحوصة مهدية كذبعا: ەكسەەد دەھەر دىخىتى بولگىرى جىھىيە ھىلىد. دھى ب وحدة معد دمير المواد المراجع المراجد المدام المراجع ال حذب (عده. p. عندبک حبیددیهٔ کبید سمید. حودهما نُدِّنا وحُددته مسك وعمعم عودو دولا كسفح ەدەمدا: كعودود ده محبشد. وكسمود عوسده ودبه حدهد دددد مع لحد مصبد: حلوصه، دِتبدِّه جر هركم، دههدههما. دحمو مهه لحكرة من من من من من المناه ا



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المحمية تتلذيلا تذبحلا محتدديلا صدا. وصيطا وحكدها وديا حل كنت حوجدا عدود عدوتي وحدا مُذكبه ودحدًا تُخهُما مدحدُ كُمْ حدّ حديدٍ. وسيد بُدُتية مع حد يحتب حقية ويتكند عميم به عسمه دیم دمحم سحکه مهذبهه کهدی وکی وقد مسکعد ەسكىد: تەدە دىي: تىخىدد ئۇغىڭ تىد ھىسد قوشۇھ: تىد هم حد فَدُهُ ٥٠ وحجُوحه مُون حد عجمه وَحدُو. حدْ تُتُونَا: دد هسا (علو p) هونهها. ددده عله دليون. دِحدد عمسه مع مدد محبي بهك دِم دمه دمكِم ره ره (sic) محمد منه در المعدد المعدد والمعدد (sic) معدد المعدد क्ट्री त्वमह्नात. सम्मा हिन्स त्वन व्यत्ना व्हन्त مسهدين محييا ممرهي ممدديويا دلاهدالا جيم الموذيب والمادة حرام والمدد حدام : والأسداد المود المددد سليك عشن يمد صوحدهم عنهدن ديهده عد يشعري αφρίε μετε. οαφρίε δεί. οσακ ένα: οαφρίε حذه: محصمبذ. حذبه: محصمبذ صمددد. محصمبذ لِهِ بِهِ مَصَمِّ مُحَدِّ مِنْ مَصَمِّ مُعَالِم اللهِ اللهِ المُحْلِم اللهُ ال اعددها عصله احز واحز والله واسة ١٨ والسدز حهد سوحز د صدنيعة معسل ١٨٥ كمدن ويد ديود عمر ومسه כלדה בו בנוגסים בצמן בבים בים צדום למשהנו ددديد. ودست كدوهدر عصير. صدير دكرور فدد كرون



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"Here ends the History of the achievements and wars of Alexander the King of the Greeks, the son of Philip. To God the Father who has aided, etc.

"This book received conclusion and completion on the ninth day of the blessed month of Tammûz, on the second day of the week (Monday), in the year two thousand one hundred and sixty-two of the Greeks, i.e. A.D. 1851." From here to the colophon is the same as in B.

From this point to Anol , the colophon is the same as in B; here however it continues: "The priest Aṣlan, the son of the deceased Muḥattas, the son of Aṣlan the son of Kārā, and the deacon Yāunān (Jonah) the son of Tamraz, the son of Bābônā, the son of the deceased Muḥattas, blackened, that is to say defiled and begrimed, these pages, etc." A somewhat longer list of names of the American brethren is given here, viz., Mr. Stocking, Mr. Holladay, Mr. Wright, M.D., Mr. Breath, Mr. Merrick, Lieut. Col. Stoddart, Mr. Jones, Mr. Kahran (Cochrane), Mr. Kavan (Coan).

D is a paper manuscript, about 14 in. by  $8\frac{1}{2}$ , consisting of 123 leaves paginated from 1 to -. The quires, signed with letters, are 12 in number. One column of 22 lines occupies each page. The manuscript is written in a fine, bold Nestorian hand with numerous vowel-points, etc., and I owe the possession of it to the kindness of the Rev. Benjamin Labaree, who spared no pains in supervising the making of this copy from one in the library of Dr. Shedd who was so kind as to allow it to be made from that in his possession. The scribe, Ôsha'nâ, tells us in the colophon that the copy from which he made it was full of variant readings and mistakes, and that he corrected these wherever he was able to do so. He gives, also, a copy of the colophon of D reads:—

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Sandreczki, Reise nach Mosul, iii. p. 142.



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ده فَهِيَهُ هِي بُيسَةً سوا وصد دونهو عَبو عليسا ده فعيد و درونها. والهُمُوسِون عنه المُهِوَيِو بُلكَةُون هوت عليق دُهون عرفي عبد عنه المساه وهوله عنه وح فعيد و دهنه عبد عبد عنه المنهورة فته فعدوس وهوليا و بكفته فته فعدوس وهوليا و بكفته دوسكانه و عدد عمده و بكفته وهولها و بكفته دوسكانه و عدد عمده و بكفته و بكفته و بكفته المنه مهدد المنه و بكفته و ب