

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

*Books of enduring scholarly value*

### 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 Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria

This publication released to a wider audience the work on Assyrian inscriptions of Sir Henry Rawlinson (1810–95), who had begun his career in the East India Company in Persia and Afghanistan, where his exceptional linguistic skills were recognised. He had been studying the monumental, trilingual (in Old Persian, Elamite and Babylonian) Behistun inscription of Darius the Great since 1836, and, building on the earlier research of Georg Friedrich Grotefend, delivered a summary of his progress in decipherment to the Royal Asiatic Society early in 1850. He intended to follow it up with a longer book, but was anxious to gain credit for primacy (which was questioned at the time and still remains controversial), and so published this short work in March 1850. It states Rawlinson's theories, and offers a linguistic and archaeological background to his work, along with his interpretation of king lists and other inscriptions.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

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.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

# A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria

*Including Readings of the Inscription  
on the Nimrud Obelisk,  
and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings  
of Nineveh and Babylon*

HENRY CRESWICKE RAWLINSON



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.  
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781108077477](http://www.cambridge.org/9781108077477)

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2014

This edition first published 1850

This digitally printed version 2014

ISBN 978-1-108-07747-7 Paperback

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.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

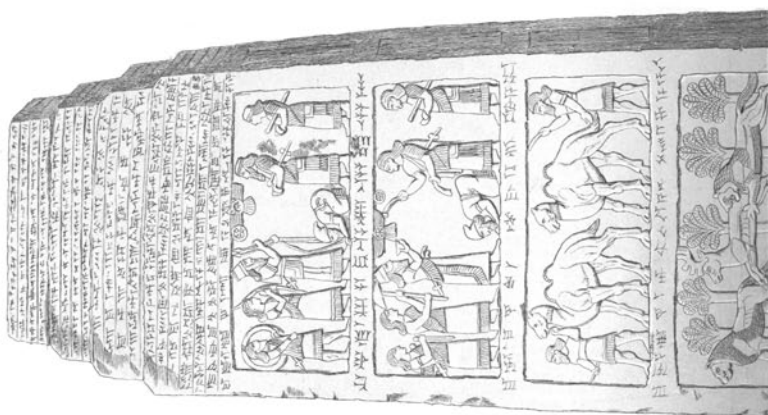
Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



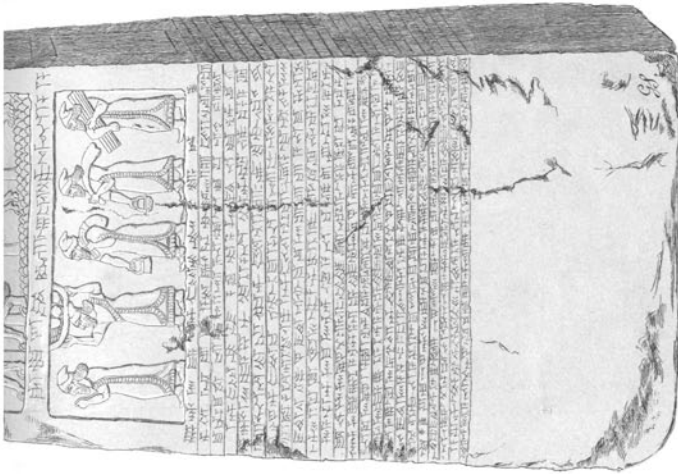
Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)



G. Schaeff.

E. Hübner's imp.

*The Nimrud Obelisk in the British Museum.*

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A COMMENTARY  
ON THE  
CUNEIFORM INSCRIPTIONS  
OF  
BABYLONIA AND ASSYRIA;  
INCLUDING READINGS OF THE  
INSCRIPTION ON THE NIMRUD OBELISK,  
AND A BRIEF NOTICE OF  
THE ANCIENT KINGS OF NINEVEH AND BABYLON.

---

READ BEFORE THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY;

BY

MAJOR H. C. RAWLINSON.



LONDON:  
JOHN W. PARKER, WEST STRAND.

---

1850.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07747-7 - A Commentary on the Cuneiform Inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria: Including Readings of the Inscription on the Nimrud Obelisk, and a Brief Notice of the Ancient Kings of Nineveh and Babylon

Henry Creswicke Rawlinson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

LONDON

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SON,

ST. MARTIN'S LANE.