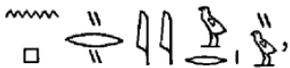
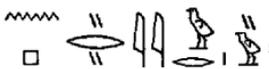


NOTE ON THE NAME , NEPIRÛRIU,
IN THE KARNAK LIST OF NORTHERN SYRIA.

PARK LODGE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE,

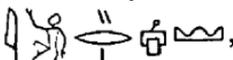
December 26th, 1888.

MY DEAR MR. RYLANDS,

The extraordinary local name , No. 284 in the Karnak List of Northern Syria, has hitherto eluded explanation. Brugsch has proposed Nipur (*Egypt under the Pharaohs*, II, 284), and has been followed by Lenormant (*Les Orig. de l'histoire*, III, 330), who places the mountain Nibûr (or Nipûr) a little way to the east of the Upper Tigris, not far from Amida [Diarbekr] (*ibid.*, 208). Sayce, however, identifies Nipûr with the Taurus, (*T.S.B.A.*, III, 292). This leaves half of the word out of account, and does not, I think, agree with the allocation.

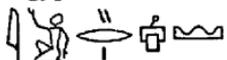
The other day, in reading what has been published on the cuneiform tablets of Tel el-Amarna, an explanation of this strange name occurred to my mind. It was suggested by the cuneiform transliteration of the throne-names of the two Amenhoteps. Here we find  read as Naphururiya, and  as Nimmuriya. Then, I thought,  might easily have been written by a Mesopotamian scribe Napiriu-riya, or (allowing for the familiar terminal *u*) Napiriu-riu. Here, then, we have the name of the princess Neferurâ, the favourite daughter of Thothmes III, whose triumphal list this is, attached probably to some fortified military station, just as his own name was given to a strong Egyptian post not far from Simyra. The name of the royal lady had been associated with that of her father at an earlier date (Wiedemann, *Aeg. Gesch.*, 335). If it be objected that the name would have been inscribed in the list in its usual Egyptian form, my answer is that the list, or this part containing Euphratean towns and fortresses, may have been written in cuneiform by Mesopotamian scribes, and transliterated in a servile manner by the stonecutter or his instructor at Karnak. Compare No. 122 in the same list, , which I have always taken as the exact equivalent of the Amâtu of Assyrian annals, although Professor Maspero objected that  is spelt in Egyptian .

Names of this class (surnames of conquest) are very fleeting, and it is no wonder if Nepiriuriu is dead and gone. It may have been attached to some strong post of ancient date on the Euphrates.

By the way, I have proposed the identification of Alasiya in the Tel el-Amarna tablets with the important region ,  (Brugsch, *G. I.*, II, 40; Karnak List, 236). I suggested this to Professor Sayce, who replied (November 15, 1888) that it *must* be Alasiya. Professor Maspero writes to me (December 23) that this identification is proposed in the forthcoming part of the *Rec. de Travaux*.

Yours very truly,

HENRY GEORGE TOMKINS.

P.S.—January 17, 1889. Since this letter was sent to you, we have learned from Professor Sayce's letter in the *Academy* that the Egyptian docketing of tablets from Alasiya shows its identity with  (as proposed to him by me) conclusively. I have not yet seen the *Rec. de Travaux* containing the identification.—H. G. T.

