

ditionary Force advancing north-west towards Mosul. The enemy sued for an armistice, which was granted from 12 noon on the following day (October 31).

“Plates I and II are photographs taken on the Hedjaz railway, which lies east of and parallel with the River Jordan. El Ula station, shown in Plate III, marks the entrance to the sacred province of Hedjaz; beyond this point no Christian may go. Plates IV and V show bridges on the Yarmak Valley Railway, which was captured in the later stages of the campaign. It is interesting to observe that a photograph of the bridge in Plate V was sent by Kasim Pasha to the Sultan Abdul Hamid. It was the first photograph of the line to be seen in Constantinople, and, on receiving it, Abdul Hamid decorated Meisner Pasha with a gold medal.”¹

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES ON JEWISH ANTIQUITIES.

By JOSEPH OFFORD, M.R.A.S.

(Continued from Q.S., 1919, p. 186.)

LX.—*The Double-headed Eagle and the Etruscans and Hittites.*

A WRITER in the *Morning Post* has been tracing back in artistic history the double-headed Eagle of Prussia (or Germany) to the Tarquins, the founders of Rome.

But this heraldic symbol is far older than its utilisation by any race by the Tiber, being the crest of the earlier Hittite princes of Palestine and Syria. That it was brought over from the Near East to Italy is quite in agreement with the persistent statements in the classics that the Etruscans came from Asia. They certainly, for a time, introduced the Egyptian scarab-shaped seals into their new home. The syllable “Tar” of Tarquin, is the “Tar” of Tarkondemos and other Hittite personages. It may be the Tar of Tarshish,

¹ For the continuation of the article, which was almost wholly technical, see *Modern Transport*, Oct. 25th.

and be significant of something great or magnificent. If so, a Tarshish ship perhaps was a vessel large enough to voyage down the Red Sea and brave the Indian Ocean, or through the Pillars of Hercules into the stormy Atlantic. In fact, it may have been a Phoenician "East Indiaman," doubtless, with many a Zebulonite mariner among the crew (Gen. xlix, 13). If so, the long-continued debate upon the site of Tarshish will remain unsolveable.

LXI.—*The Sukkiim.*

The side-lights thrown by the documents from the Jewish settlers at Elephantine upon the Hebrew period of Palestine do not yet appear to be exhausted.

Some years ago, when publishing one of the Aramaic inscribed ostraca from Syene, Prof. Lidzbarski, in his *Ephemeris für Semit. Epigraphik*, II, p. 232, noted that it mentions a tribe, or a band perhaps of troops, called סכני, which he thinks are the hitherto unidentified Sukkiim of 2 Chron xii, 3. Dr. Sachau also rendered the word similarly. These views have now been apparently adopted by the French editors of the *Corpus Inscript. Semit.*, for in the recently issued parts of their preliminary publication, the *Répertoire d'Epigraphe Sémitique*, this ostrakon appears numbered 1792.

The author of Chronicles mentions these people in connection with mercenary or allied troops of the Pharaoh Shishak. The Elephantine Jewish and Samaritan garrisons were, of course, another foreign force employed by the Persian governors of Egypt at a later era.
