

NEW HITTITE TEXTS.

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SINCE the publication of my volume on the "Hittites and their Language" (Blackwood, 1898), two new Hittite texts have been found (*see* "Proceedings Soc. Bib. Arch.," June 7th, 1898, p. 230; November 1st, 1898, p. 265). The first of these is a seal, said to come from Malatiya, in Armenia. The reading appears to me to be *Mo si Kas Makh Za-bu ra dimmo*—"This is the seal of Prince Zabu of the land of Kas" (Kassite). Zabu was the third king of the first Kassite dynasty in Babylon (probably about 2201-2187 B.C.), and the reading thus seems to confirm the view that the Hittite texts belong to this dynasty.

The second text, in three lines, said to come either from Malatiya or from Angora, is imperfectly copied, and not clear enough to read, but it is remarkable that the first eight emblems are the same, and occur in the same order, as those beginning a text found at Arslan Tepe, three miles north-east of Malatiya (*see* Plate XII, No. 3, in my book above-mentioned), which fact should assist decipherment.

Dr. Sayce is of opinion that some of the texts in cuneiform, recently found at Boghaz Keui, are in the same language used by Tar-Khundara, Prince of Rezeph, in the Tell Amarna Collection (Berlin, No. 10). This is only natural, since, as I have pointed out, the Hittite and Mitanni languages appear to be the same. But it does not aid us to decipher Hittite emblems.

The detailed history of the first dynasty of Babylon, just published by the British Museum (*see* "Proceedings Soc. Bib. Arch.," January 10th, 1898) is of interest, first because (like the well-known letter of Ammi Satana) it is written in Akkadian, and secondly, because it speaks of the conquest of Aleppo as early as the time of the second king Sumulan. These indications agree with the view I have put forward, that these monarchs were of Akkadian (not of Semitic) origin and conquered in the West, where the Hittite texts are now found.
