

paper, and the ornate style in which they have got up a capital story.

Our New Editions include *Lost among the Affghans: being the Adventures of John Campbell (otherwise Feringhee Bacha) amongst the Wild Tribes of Central Asia*, related by himself to Hubert Oswald Fry (Smith, Elder & Co.),—and *Barbara's History*, by Amelia B. Edwards, which Messrs. Hurst & Blackett have added to their "Standard Library." In Reprints we have before us *Cook's Voyages of Discovery*, edited by John Barrow (A. & C. Black),—*A Second Series of The Afternoon Lectures on Literature and Art delivered in the Theatre of the Museum of Industry, S. Stephen's Green, Dublin* (Bell & Daldy),—*Street Ballads, Popular Poetry, and Household Songs of Ireland* (Dublin, M'Glashan & Gill),—and *Gertrude; or, Family Pride*, by Mrs. Trollope, which Messrs. Chapman & Hall have added to their "Select Library of Fiction." In Second Editions we have *The Little Darling at Home, a Series of Drawings*, by Lorenz Frölich, Text by Hermamma, translated by Mrs. George Hooper (Dulau & Co.),—*Hymns from the German*, translated by Frances Elizabeth Cox (Rivingtons),—*Tales of the Outspan; or, Adventures in the Wild Regions of Southern Africa*, by Capt. A. W. Drayson (Saunders, Otley & Co.),—and *The Law of Life, shown in a Philosophical, Religious, and Social Study of The Lord's Prayer*, translated by Harriet E. Wilkinson, from the French of M. d'Espinassous (Smith, Elder & Co.). The following Miscellanies have appeared, *The Volume of The Natural History Review for 1864* (Williams & Norgate),—*Tabor's Teachings; or, the Veil Lifted. A Glimpse of Christ's Glory and Intercourse with His People for Ever*, by the Author of 'Heaven Our Home,' &c. (Edinburgh, Nimmo),—*Replies to the Third and Fourth Parts of the Right Reverend the Bishop of Natal's 'Pentateuch and Book of Joshua Critically Examined'*, by Frank Parker (Bell & Daldy),—Vol. III. of *Young England* (Tweedie),—*Do Without It: a Christmas Story*, by W. Percival (Houlston & Wright),—*Our Interests in China: a Letter to Earl Russell*, by Horatia N. Lay (Hardwick),—*The Vicar of Wakefield*, by Oliver Goldsmith (Murby),—*Key to the 'Standard' Manual of Arithmetic*, edited by J. S. Laurie (Murby),—*Le Christianisme dans l'Age Moderne, 1520—1800*, par Étienne Chastel (Paris, Cherbuliez),—*La Bible en France, ou les Traductions Françaises des Saintes Ecritures: Etude Historique et Littéraire*, par Emmanuel Pétavel (Paris, Librairie Française et Étrangère),—*Das Höhere Schulwesen in Preussen*, von Dr. L. Weiss (Williams & Norgate),—*Ἀ Δεῖ Ἐνεσθαι ἐν Τάξει: The First Woe: a Dissertation on the Scope and Meaning of the Prophecy under the Fifth Trumpet of the Apocalypse, which results in the Rise of the King of the Locusts (The Antichrist)*, by Enoch Gregor Lea (Partridge),—*Report of Experiments on the Growth of Wheat for Twenty Years in Succession on the same Land*, by J. B. Lawes and J. H. Gilbert (Clowes & Sons),—*Church Bells; or, Thoughts in Verse for Holy Times* (Macintosh),—and the following Pocket Books, Almanacs, &c. for 1865—*Punch's Pocket Book—Letts's Diary; or, Bills Due Book, and an Almanack—Letts's Pocket Diary and Almanack—Beeton's Christmas Annual*.

FRENCH GIFT-BOOKS.

THE rapid increase made of late years in the number of gift-books issued by French publishers, proves that there is a brisk demand. The books which have been issued recently are, also, of a higher order than that of the tame and gaudy gift and prize books with which Messrs. Marne, of Tours, have for many years supplied French schools and families. Messrs. Marne & Co. boast that they can produce fifteen thousand volumes, of ten sheets each, per diem; and they actually do produce, every year, hundreds of thousands of cheap prize and gift books. The gift-books which have appeared, however, of late years, in Paris, must not be, for one moment, compared with the volumes that issue from the Marne press. Paris publishers have vied with each other in the production of costly holiday volumes. The subjects of them take a wide range. There are scientific books, luxuriously printed in quarto, and illustrated by the first artists

of the day, as Doré's 'Don Quixote,' and 'The World of the Sea,' and 'The Heavens,' presented with all the luxury of exquisite coloured plates, and engraved woodcuts. For the very young there are, 'The Adventures of a Little Parisian' (a companion book to the 'Swiss Robinson'), 'The Grandson of Robinson,' 'The Joy of the Hearth,' and a host of kindred highly moral and instructive productions. People who prefer to make their annual gift a book instead of a satin bag of sweetmeats, can find handsomely illustrated and bound works, suited to the taste of every reader, and adapted to the capacity of every purse. Here are, 'Ancient and Modern France,' by Mary "Lafon"; 'Jerusalem and the Holy Land,' by the Abbé G. D.; 'A Picturesque Voyage in Italy and Sicily,' by Paul de Musset; or 'Youth's Plutarch.'

The two notable gift-books of the present season in Paris are, however, *The World of the Sea*—[*Le Monde de la Mer*, par Alfred Fredol], and *The Heavens*—[*Le Ciel*, par Amédée Guillemin]. These two volumes are illustrated profusely with woodcuts, and with exquisitely-executed steel plates, printed in colours. Alfred Fredol's 'World of the Sea' recommends itself to the reader at once by the lively pictures of sea-anemones, crustacea, &c., to say nothing of the polar bear, printed artistically in colours, upon its cover. A shrimp swims at his own free will under the title, making direct for a rock where a star-fish lies at his ease, possibly contemplating, with sentimental satisfaction, the sea-anemones growing in his neighbourhood. There is a sad story in the Preface of the book. It is the posthumous, unfinished labour of the author. The book, however, is a charming one. M. Fredol was a conscientious student, and this book was his holiday work. It is some account of the world of the sea, told in simple language, shorn of all confusing technicalities, for the benefit of that despot, the general reader. M. Fredol delighted to draw the great and little existences of the submarine kingdom, which was his world; and in the beautiful book before us he has described the anatomy and metamorphoses, the habits and industries, the loves and hates of life under the sea. Many learned men brought their experience to his aid; among them we find the names of C. Vogt, of Geneva, Geoffroy St.-Hilaire, Coste, and others. Messrs. Gudin and Biard have permitted their pictures of the calm sea and the agitated sea, to be reproduced in colours; and P. Lackerbauer has illustrated M. Fredol's text with a series of exquisitely-coloured drawings.

'The Heavens,' by M. Amédée Guillemin, is a gift-book that does credit to MM. Hachette, who have produced it. Not only is it beautifully illustrated with coloured pictures of the heavens, and with astronomical drawings, but the letterpress has been intrusted to a learned young student of astronomy, M. Guillemin. He has executed his difficult task with care and discretion. He has not endeavoured to make science easy. "I am," he says, "of those who believe that the physical and natural sciences have enough native attraction to dispense with foreign ornament. This conviction has been my only guide in the conception of the plan, and in the execution of this work." He faithfully describes, in a word or two, that which his book emphatically is. "It is not a scientific book; it is a faithful picture of the phenomena offered by the heavens to the admiration of cultivated man." M. Guillemin describes these phenomena with a truth that is never in the least distorted or dimmed by the vagaries of a heated imagination. He is astronomer before all things; and he sets forth from his store of knowledge exactly those phenomena and those explanations of them that a fairly educated reader would understand and enjoy. 'The Heavens seen from the Horizon of Paris,' which forms the frontispiece to the book, is an exquisite specimen of colour-printing. The stars stand out like diamonds from the deep blue. A second plate of the same subject (p. 400) surpasses, in depth of colour, even the frontispiece.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Acrostics in Prose and Verse, Sequel to 'Double Acrostics,' 2/6 cl.
Alford's Letters from Abroad, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Ash's Pictures and other Poems, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Barefooted Birdie, Tale for Christmas, by T. O'T., 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Barmby's Aids to Devotion, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Book of Golden Deeds, by author of 'Hell of Redcliffe,' 8vo. 4/6
Book of Humour, Wit, and Wisdom, 8vo. 5/ cl.
Bontell's Heraldry, 3rd edit. enlarged, 8vo. 2/ cl.
Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress (Fullarton's Edit.), imp. 8vo. 20/ cl. gt.
Chapman's Varicose Veins, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Craig's (Isa) Duchess Agnes, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Daily Communion (Texts), 84mo. 1/6 cl.
Dobbe's Family in America, by "Our Special Correspondent," 10/6
Fowler (Frank), Last Gleamings, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Gertrude Waufrate, a Story for Christmas, by M. J. H., sq. 1/1
Gilbert's De Profundis, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.
Golden Calendar (The), illum. by W. Severn, roy. 4to. 42/ cl.
Home and Foreign Service, or Active Christian Life, sm. cr. 8vo. 5/1
How we Spent the Summer, or Voyage en Zigzag, illust. 10/6 bds.
Hunter's Joe Witless, or Call to Repentance, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Irving's Tales of a Traveller, Elsevier Series, 12mo. 5/ cl.
Joseph and his Brethren, illum. by Owen Jones and Warren, 42/1
Keary's Little Wanderer, Fairy Tales, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Lady Emily Geraint, &c., by an Old Harrovian, 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Lake (Jane A.), Memorials of, "Quietness and Assurance," 3/6 cl.
Leech's Later Pencilings from Punch, folio, 3/1 cl.
Life's Paths, or Spiritual Influence, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Logan's Obsolete Diseases of the Skin, 8vo. 2/6 cl.
Lytleton's (Lord) Epigrams, post 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Merton's Legend of Seybold, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Old City (The) and its Highways, by "Alep," post 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Original Poems for Infant Minds, illust. edit. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Pennell's Family Fairy Tales, 2nd ed. large sq. 4/6 plain; 5/6 col. cl.
Robertson's Pastoral Counsels, sm. cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Seymour's Love of the Albatross, and the Swan, post 8vo. 8/ cl.
Selection of Etchings by the Etching Club, 13 pictures, 4to. 63/ bd.
Shakespeare, edit. by Keightley, Vol. 6 (Elsevier Series), 8vo. 5/ cl.
Short Whist, by Major A., 16th edit. Essay by Prof. F., 12mo. 2/6
Smedley's Gathered Leaves, illust. sq. 12mo. 7/6 cl.
Smith's Home, or Light in Darkness, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Smith's Philosophy of Health, 11th edit. 8vo. 15/ cl.
Spohr (Louis), Autobiography of, trans. from the German, 8vo. 14/1
Taylor's Ballads and Songs of Brittany, sm. 4to. 12/ cl.
Temple's Works, Selection from (Moxon's Minutiae Poets), 5/1
The Three Buttons, a Fairy Tale, sq. 12mo. 2/6 bds.
Thomson's The Bishop and the Book, Thoughts on Colenso, &c., 1/6
Whitfield's Two Essays, Pencilings of Beauty in Nature, &c., 2/6

THE NEW PICTURE PROCESS.

Rossie Priory, Inchtute, Dec. 14, 1864.

I observe in an article in your journal of the 19th of November, under the head of "Picture Clearing,"—an account of a process discovered by Prof. Pettenkofer, of Munich, by which the thickening tendency of the surface of the varnish can be removed. I believe the same process, or one analogous to it, and equally satisfactory in its results, to be adopted by Mr. Smith, Rosebank Cottage, Dundee, whom I employed to clean a very valuable collection of paintings by Old Masters which I possess. The condition of many of these pictures was such that I did not venture to encounter the risk of sending them to London, which, I was told by a competent judge, would be absolutely necessary. Some of these pictures were peeling off, while those painted on panel would not bear the slightest movement. Mr. Smith had succeeded admirably with paintings belonging to friends of mine, and I resolved to intrust him with those at Rossie Priory. I caused the material he uses to be analyzed, and found that the ingredients were perfectly innocent. The effect is precisely such as that described by you to have resulted from Prof. Pettenkofer's treatment—namely, revivifying the old varnish, and filling in the cracks, and bringing out the colouring and the backgrounds, which had been completely obscured; and this without producing that effect of high glazing which is often so offensive in pictures which have been recently restored.

My pictures have now been cleaned three years, and nothing can be more perfect than the state they are in. I think it due to Mr. Smith to make his success in this instance known; but I delayed doing this till sufficient time had elapsed to enable me to judge whether the paintings were permanently benefited or not. Your article in the *Athenæum* seems to afford me a favourable opportunity of bringing the matter forward; and I gladly avail myself of it, as I think Mr. Smith, who has the additional merit of being very moderate in his charges, ought to be encouraged, and his valuable discovery turned to account in saving pictures from the pernicious effects of the ordinary mode of picture-cleaning. KINNAIRD.

THE NILE MYSTERY.

Howlett's, Manchester Street, Dec. 20, 1864.

IN your issue of December 17, you gave circulation to a letter bearing the name of Mr. J. G. Dorington, noticing "with surprise the curious theories broached by Capt. Burton in his new publication, 'The Nile Basin.'" Perhaps you will allow me space to reply. I am ready to meet Mr. Dorington or any other man upon this subject on one condition, a certain temperance of language. M. Malte-Brun, M. D'Abbadie, and, to mention no others, the last Bulletin of the French Geographical Society, broadly assert that the "Discovery of the Nile

Sources" is a non-discovery. Mr. Hogg, Mr. Vaux, and Dr. Beke, the Abyssinian traveller and critical geographer, have, before 'The Nile Basin,' suggested the connexion of the Tanganyika Lake with the Nile. Drs. Livingstone and Kirk have shown that the Nyanza is distinct from the Tanganyika, despite Mr. Cooley. I have followed in their path; hardly, however, pretending to construct, although it is in my power to demolish. Yet, says my critic (or his friends), ignoring the names above mentioned, "I think the attention of geographers and the public ought to be drawn to this attempt to impose on them in the name of science, by theories sustained by misrepresentation and misquoted data." Modest man!

There are many who ignore the use of words; and of such is my critic. He pursues, "At pages 42, 119 *et seq.* Capt. Burton discusses the question of levels, and in both places asserts the level of the Nyanza to have been made on the first expedition 3,550 feet, and on the second 3,745 feet." Could my critic have read the book? In page 42 (which was written by me) I discuss the altitude of the visionary Lunna Montes, now duly consigned to limbo. Page 119 was written, not by me, but by Mr. M'Queen, with whom, however, I quite agree. Mr. Dorington then asserts that the lake levels were made on the first journey 3,740 feet, and on the second journey 3,808 feet. Does he know that his relative, after the Expedition led by me, made the level of Nyanza 3,740 (in 'The Nile Basin,' p. 48, there is a misprint, 3,550 for 3,740); on return from his second journey, 3,558 (Map published Feb. 26, 1863, and signed J. H. Speke); then 3,308 (Map, *Journal R.G.S.*, vol. xxxiii); and, lastly, 3,740 once more (vol. xxxiii. p. 332)? Capt. Speke himself has finally announced 3,740 with authority, and has adopted it in preference to others; under which circumstances Lake Windermere, as Mr. M'Queen stated, insists upon running up hill, and its highly original example is followed by all the neighbouring streams. In fact, the readiest way to explain the difference of the levels is to suppose two lakes, the northern 3,300 feet above sea-level, the southern 3,700.

My critic then proceeds: "The descent of the river Nile from Ripon Falls to Urondayani (888 feet) is not confined to only one twelve-foot fall, as suggested by Capt. Burton; but is expressly stated in the 'Journal,' and marked on Speke's map as having many rapids." Nego! In Capt. Speke's map before alluded to there is only one rapid—the "Isamba,"—and in his 'Journal' (p. 464, &c.) no other is alluded to.

"At page 123," he continues, "Burton attempts to make Speke fix an altitude for the mouth of the Luta Nzige, which he never did, or could do, as he never saw it." But, unfortunately, he *did*. In vol. xxxiii., *Journal R.G.S.*, p. 332, Capt. Speke "throws the Little Luta Nzige more than 300 feet above the Tanganyika Lake." Is this not fixing it? And if Mr. Dorington, who evidently knows not what travellers with theories *could* do, will make the calculation, he will find that Capt. Speke's assumption places the Luta Nzige at 2,200 feet in round numbers, as stated, not by me, but by Mr. M'Queen, in 'The Nile Basin' (p. 123).

These errors of Mr. Dorington, curious as they are in one who pretends to criticize, show no bad *animus*; but presently we are led to a thoroughly disingenuous statement, which I quote at full length: "In crossing the great bend the Nile made to the westward in Chopi and Madi, Capt. Burton asserts (p. 17) that Speke missed it altogether; and that the river he left behind him probably drains by the Djour into the Bahr Ghazal. But the river he left behind him was to the eastward of the supposed line of water connecting the Tanganyika, Luta Nzige and Gondokoro, whilst the Bahr Ghazal is to the westward. Therefore, one of the two rivers must have crossed over the other, which is an absurdity."

The sentences alluded to in p. 17 of 'The Nile Basin' stand thus:—"It is evident from his (Capt. Speke's) map that the supposed White River, which may have been his own Kivira, or other stream, discharged itself into the 'Little Luta Nzige' Lake, afterwards decreed to be a 'backwater.' Instead, however, of beating the

stream, Capt. Speke has clearly missed it: it might easily have been drained by the Jur (Djour), which runs parallel to the White River, or by a similar branch into the Bahr el Ghazal."

Your readers will observe that I have nowhere directly drained the Luta Nzige into Capt. Speke's "Nile," above its confluence with the Asua. In page 43, I wrote: "Presently it became evident to every geographer who cast his eye upon the map produced by the Nile Expedition of 1860—1863, that the Rusizi River might drain the Tanganyika Lake either into the water called the Luta Nzige, or by some other means, into the White River." In page 52, I propose altering the map by "draining Lake Tanganyika into the Luta Nzige," without attempting to determine the drainage of the latter. My sentences evidently mean, if the Luta Nzige drains into the Asua, near Miami's Tree, the Spekeian Nile will clearly not reach the Bahr el Ghazal; *vice versa*, it may. M. Miani (Bulletin, 1864, p. 360) still finds listeners to his belief that the river issuing from the so-called Nyanza was the Giei or Itieri, flowing to the westward, and that the explorers bade unconscious adieu to it near the Karume Falls. And so the natives told them, as Capt. Speke (*Journal of Discovery*, p. 585) naively confesses. The latest map sent home by Baron von Heuglin by no means settles the question; to the southward of his southernmost point (N. lat. 7°), the Djour, or Jur, still appears a considerable stream. In page 124 ('Nile Basin'), Mr. M'Queen gives cogent reasons for abolishing the "backwater." As regards Capt. Speke having missed the stream, I must quote from the pages of a learned review (April, 1864, p. 139, *Westminster Review*). Arguing from the fact that with a great fall, the supposed Nile flowed only two miles in twenty-four hours, the geographer says: "A far more likely supposition is, that, instead of having beaten the river, Capt. Speke missed it. For it is hardly conceivable that what he compares to 'a fine highland stream' should be the channel of the waters from a lake larger than the whole of Scotland, and we should rather be disposed to regard it as a separate river, having its sources in the Jebel Kuku, apparently a considerable range, possessing an elevation of 2,000 feet." The "absurdity," I submit, rests with my critic, who evidently does not understand that, as he should walk before he runs, so he should read before he writes. I can only regret having inadvertently preserved in my sketch-map, which holds as much as possible to Capt. Speke's tracing, any sign of draining the Luta Nzige into the Asua.

"The Asua river, also," continues the critic, "which Burton wishes to make the great eastern branch of the Nile, and superior to the water issuing from the Nyanza, was easily fordable close to its junction with the latter, there a great river." But the Captain expressly says (page 594), "The bed of the Asua seemed very large, but being far off was not very distinct." In page 598 he speaks contemptuously of it; but his book is everywhere a mass of contradictions.

On the other hand, "The Nile" was viewed (page 591) from Paira, distant some ten miles. In page 598, at the only place where Capt. Speke approached it, it is described as a "fine highland stream." What can this mean? "And yet," continues Mr. Dorington, "it is in favour of theories such as these that we are asked to abandon our belief in the testimony of two eye-witnesses, and to adopt the conclusions of men who have never been within hundreds of miles of the Nyanza." If Mr. Dorington continue to believe he will soon be the *ultimus Romanorum*. The explorers were, firstly, not eye-witnesses to all they assert; nor, secondly, were they, as the French Bulletin justly observes, very capable of appreciating what they saw. At one of their most important stations, the confluence of the Asua and the western stream, they preferred shooting buffalo and eland; consequently, their geographical details are rare as Libyan oases in the dreary waste of "shooting for the pot."

Finally, Mr. Dorington, after throwing out a hint that he can prove a list of errors when he has not yet shown one, exclaims "I will say nothing about the disgraceful attempt to injure the moral character of one now gone from us, by the reproduc-

tion of some stories with a new colouring in these pages."

Mr. Dorington has no right to impute to me personal motives. I in no way attack Capt. Speke's character—another account would have been given at Bath. I object, however, to his book and to his theories. Mr. M'Queen's part of 'The Nile Basin' was published during Capt. Speke's life.

In conclusion, I hope that for the future my critics will write in language less redolent of hot temper and cold cause. Also, that those who would convict me of "misrepresentation," &c. will be kind enough not to confine themselves to a mere question of levels. It is by far the least important of the Five Main Objections offered by me to Capt. Speke's boasted "Discovery," which at the end of a year has been duly set aside, like that of Bruce, by the scientific world of Europe.

RICHD. F. BURTON.

A CASE OF PLAGIARISM.

12, Fitzgibbon Street, Dublin, Dec. 18, 1864.

IN the observations in your last number on 'Adam and the Adamite,' Mr. R. S. Poole has erroneously assumed that the theory which I have advanced and advocated as my own, is the same as that which was put forth in 'The Genesis of the Earth and Man,' viz., "that the first man could not have been the Adam of the Bible." More than two centuries have elapsed since that theory was propounded by an Italian monk. The proposition which my book was written to elucidate is, that the Adam of Genesis was the first-born and father of the Caucasian race, and that all the other races of man are the descendants of distinct pre-Adamite ancestors. This theory, of which I was in ignorance when the article in Kitto's 'Biblical Cyclopædia' was written by me, I have endeavoured, in 'Adam and the Adamite,' to establish by a variety of arguments,—in the course of which it became necessary to refer to the different meanings of the Hebrew words *ish* and *adam*, as put forward in 'The Genesis of the Earth and Man'; and the source from which my information was derived has been duly and fully acknowledged in a foot reference as well as in the text of my book. So far Mr. Poole has no reason to complain; for I deny that the substance of the four preceding pages (162-166) is to be found, as he alleges, in the book he has edited. With reference to the criticisms on the "one blood" of all mankind, mentioned by St. Paul in the 17th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, on which Mr. Poole has observed, an intended foot reference was accidentally omitted in my book, which has given him the opportunity of accusing me of adopting the reasonings of the author of 'The Genesis of the Earth and Man' without acknowledgment. I regret that he should have felt that he had reason to complain; but a glance at my work will show how anxious I have been to fortify my own conclusions by referring to authorities, and that non-recognition of the suggestions and reasonings of others cannot fairly be laid to my charge. I have no wish that the author and editor of 'The Genesis of the Earth and Man' should be deprived of the merit to which they are entitled; and, in the cause of truth, my desire is, that all that has been published by them may have as wide a circulation as anything that has proceeded from my own pen.

DOMK. M'CAUSLAND.

ON EGYPTIAN CHRONOLOGY.

Dec. 20, 1864.

IT is much to be wished that the scepticism of the late Sir G. C. Lewis, in regard to Egyptian antiquities, had led him to study the subject more closely. He did us a service by throwing out his doubts; but he would have done us a greater service had he looked into the evidence by which much that is most valuable can be satisfactorily established. Your Correspondent, Mr. D. W. Nash, has done better in fixing upon two of the chief points in which the defenders of the Long Chronology break down in their arguments. These are

First. No evidence has yet been discovered to show that the list of Theban Kings should be broken by the insertion of any period of time whatever, for the reigns of the Hyksos or Phœnician