

A SECOND SERIES
OF THE
MONUMENTS OF NINEVEH;

INCLUDING
BAS-RELIEFS FROM THE PALACE OF SENNACHERIB AND BRONZES FROM
THE RUINS OF NIMROUD.

FROM DRAWINGS MADE ON THE SPOT, DURING A SECOND EXPEDITION TO ASSYRIA,

BY
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SEVENTY-ONE PLATES.

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TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE LORD COWLEY, G.C.B.

&c. &c. &c.

HER MAJESTY'S AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF FRANCE,

This Volume is Dedicated.

INTRODUCTION.

THE greater part of the bas-reliefs of which representations are given in the following plates, were discovered in the ruins of the Palace of Sennacherib in the mound of Kouyunjik, during my second expedition to Assyria. Some are of the highest interest, as illustrative of events mentioned in Holy Writ. Others appear to record the conquest of countries to the south of Nineveh, and of tribes inhabiting the mountainous districts of Armenia and Asia Minor. The series representing the removal of the winged Bulls, and the raising of the mounds on which the Palaces were built, forms a valuable addition to our knowledge of the manners and arts of the ancient Assyrians.

In my smaller work, entitled "Nineveh and Babylon,"* will be found full descriptions of the various bas-reliefs and monuments discovered in Assyria; of the mode of their discovery; and of their respective sites; with such information concerning the events they represent and record, as may have been obtained from the inscriptions.

* "Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon; with Travels in Armenia, Kurdistan, and the Desert: being the result of a second Expedition to Assyria, undertaken for the Trustees of the British Museum." 8vo (1853).

The sculptures from Nimroud stood in the small temples on the northern side of the great platform. They are all in the British Museum. The bronzes were discovered in a chamber of the North-west Palace, and are amongst the most interesting relics brought to this country from Nineveh.

The original drawings of the sculptures were made by Mr. F. C. Cooper, the late Mr. Bell (the artists sent to Assyria by the Trustees of the British Museum), and myself. They are mostly on the scale of one-and-a-half to two inches to a foot. The bas-reliefs have been skilfully drawn on stone by Mr. L. Gruner.

A. H. LAYARD.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES.

PLATE I.

RESTORATION OF THE PALACES ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE PLATFORM OF NIMROUD.

THIS lithograph is intended to convey a general idea of the appearance of the Palaces when they stood on the platform washed by the River Tigris. The restoration has been executed by Mr. Baynes, under the superintendence of Mr. Fergusson, from plans and drawings of the existing remains. It is, of course, in many parts, conjectural; although every care has been taken to consult, for the details and general arrangement, all the sources of information relative to Assyrian art and architecture at present open to us. I have elsewhere pointed out the various authorities for the basement wall, the exterior façades, the form and ornaments of the buildings, and the mode of admitting light by pillars.*

The great tower is the tomb of the King, whose name may, perhaps, be read Sardanapalus, and who was the builder of the North-west Palace. It is now marked by a pyramidal mound of earth, but the basement wall, and a considerable part of the superstructure of brickwork, still remain. The small building beneath the tower is a temple dedicated to an Assyrian god. Adjoining it is the North-west Palace, from which the principal Assyrian sculptures brought to this country were obtained. Then follows an edifice erected by a later monarch, and at the South-western corner is the Palace of Esarhaddon. The flights of steps leading up to the summit of the platform are still marked by ravines running into the mound.

* Nineveh and Babylon, chap. vi.

PLATE II.

COLOSSAL LION.

From an entrance to a small temple at Nimroud.* It is now in the British Museum. Its length is eight, and height thirteen feet. At the opposite side of the entrance was a similar Lion.

PLATE III.

HUMAN-HEADED BULL AND WINGED FIGURE FROM A GATEWAY IN THE WALL SURROUNDING KOUYUNJIK.

These colossal figures, about fourteen feet high, and a similar group corresponding to them, formed the sides of an entrance into that quarter of the city of Nineveh in which was built the great palace of Sennacherib, now covered by the mound of Kouyunjik. Neither of the sculptures had been finished. The details in the wings of the human-headed Bull have been added by mistake in the plate; only part of them had been put in by the Assyrian sculptor.†

PLATE IV.

THE KING AND SACRIFICIAL ALTAR. (NIMROUD.)

This fine monument stood near the entrance to a small temple on the northern side of the platform of Nimroud. The figure is that of the King who built the North-west Palace, and whose name may correspond with the Sardanapalus of the Greek

* Nineveh and Babylon, p. 360.

† *Ibid.*, p. 120.

Historians. It is consequently amongst the oldest monuments yet discovered at Nineveh. The tablet, which is eight feet eight inches high, and of limestone, is covered in front, at the back, and on the sides with an inscription in small cuneiform characters, containing the records of that monarch. It is now, with the altar, in the British Museum.*

PLATE V.

BAS-RELIEFS AT AN ENTRANCE TO A SMALL TEMPLE. (NIMROUD.)

Part of one side of the entrance near which stood the bas-relief of the King last described. The group is believed to represent the god to whom the temple was dedicated, driving out the evil spirit.† On the opposite side of the doorway the same figures were repeated. These bas-reliefs are now in the British Museum.

PLATE VI.

FISH-GOD. (NIMROUD.)

Supposed to represent the god Dagon of the Philistines.‡ It formed part of the same entrance as the bas-reliefs last described. It is also in the British Museum.

FIGURE NEAR AN ENTRANCE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Similar figures were placed by the sides of the great Bulls at the entrances in the Palace of Sennacherib, at Kouyunjik.

PLATE VII.

LED HORSES, FROM A PASSAGE IN THE PALACE OF KOUYUNJIK.

These bas-reliefs, and similar figures, in all fourteen horses, formed one side of an inclined passage in Sennacherib's Palace at Kouyunjik. They are numbered 29 to 38, in No. LL., plan I.§ The average height of the figures is about 4½ feet. Several of them are in the British Museum.

* Nineveh and Babylon, p. 351.

† *Ibid.*, p. 348.

‡ *Ibid.*, p. 343.

§ The Arabic numerals denote the position of the slabs against the walls, and the Roman the chamber in which they were discovered. They all refer to the plan of Kouyunjik at the end of this volume.

PLATE VIII.

MEN CARRYING FRUIT, &c. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From the opposite side of the same passage.

PLATE IX.

MEN CARRYING FRUIT, &c. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The continuation of the line of bas-reliefs contained in the previous plate. The series appears to represent a procession of attendants bearing fruit, game, and flowers to a Royal banquet. Amongst the delicacies will be observed locusts fastened to rods. Dates, apples, pomegranates, and grapes are the principal fruits. These figures occupied in all seventeen slabs, from 1 to 17 of No. LI.

PLATE X.

OBELISK OR STONE IN BOAT. (KOUYUNJIK.)

This bas-relief appears to represent Assyrian workmen, or slaves, bringing a block of stone down the Tigris from a quarry.

PLATE XI.

WORKMEN TOWING A BOAT CONTAINING AN OBELISK OR A BLOCK OF STONE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Part of the preceding bas-relief. This subject occupied altogether eight slabs, or from 1 to 8 in No. XLIX. Unfortunately the upper part of all of them had been entirely destroyed.

PLATE XII.

SENNACHERIB SUPERINTENDING THE MOVING OF A COLOSSUS. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Above the King is a jungle of reeds in which are deer and a wild sow with her young. This slab was found detached from the rest, but was probably No. 61, on the east side of the great Hall, No. VI.

ASSYRIANS MOVING A COLOSSAL WINGED BULL. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The river represented at the top of the slab is probably the Tigris. (No. 53, Hall VI.)

PLATE XIII.

ASSYRIANS MOVING A WINGED BULL ON A SLEDGE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(Nos. 54 and 56 of Hall VI.) The connecting slab, representing workmen dragging the sledge, had been utterly destroyed. The Tigris is again represented.

PLATE XIV.

ASSYRIANS BUILDING A MOUND FOR THE ERECTION OF A PALACE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(Nos. 66, 67, and 68, Hall VI.) The short epigraphs over the figures declare that these bas-reliefs represent the building by Sennacherib of his Palace at Nineveh. In the centre square are the brick-makers. Many of the workmen were probably slaves or criminals, as they are in fetters.

PLATE XV.

DRAWING A WINGED BULL TO THE TOP OF AN ARTIFICIAL MOUND. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Sennacherib himself superintends the operations, which appear to have been carried on near the banks of the river Tigris. It may consequently be inferred that the building of the mound and Palace of Kouyunjik is represented. (Nos. 63 and 64, Hall VI.)

PLATE XVI.

DRAWING UPRIGHT BULL. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Part of the same series as the bas-reliefs in the previous plates. The Assyrians seem to be represented as finally placing a colossus. (Nos. 44, 45, and 46, Hall VI.)

PLATE XVII.

WORKMEN WITH IMPLEMENTS AND ROPES FOR MOVING WINGED BULL. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(No. 62, on the same side of the Hall.) This completes the series of bas-reliefs discovered at Kouyunjik, representing the various processes adopted by the Assyrians in moving the winged Bulls. A full description of them will be found in the fifth chapter of my smaller work. Those contained in plates 12, 13, and 15, &c., are in the British Museum.

PLATE XVIII.

THE SIEGE AND SACK OF A CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Forming the sides of a narrow chamber. (Nos. 12, 13, 14, and 15, XII.) From the dress and features of the prisoners it may be conjectured that these bas-reliefs record the conquest of a Syrian nation.

PLATE XIX.

A CONQUERED NATION LED AWAY CAPTIVE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(Nos. 7 and 8, XXXII.) No inscription remains to identify the country of the captives.

PLATE XX.

ASSYRIAN ARMY BEFORE THE CITY OF LACHISH. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(Nos. 5 and 6, XXXVI.)

PLATE XXI.

THE SIEGE OF THE CITY OF LACHISH BY SENNACHERIB.

(Nos. 7 and 8. Same chamber.)

PLATE XXII.

CAPTIVES AND SPOIL FROM THE CITY OF LACHISH.

(Nos. 9 and 10. Same chamber.)

PLATE XXIII.

SENNACHERIB BEFORE THE CITY OF LACHISH.

(Nos. 11 and 12. Same chamber.) The inscription in this plate declares that the King beneath is Sennacherib, the King of Assyria, seated on the throne of judgment before the city of Lakhisa. The captives led to him are consequently Jews. The figure in the embroidered robe standing before him is probably the General of his army, perhaps the Rabshakeh himself, whom Sennacherib sent to Hezekiah.

PLATE XXIV.

CHARIOT AND ATTENDANTS OF SENNACHERIB, AND A CASTLE ON A MOUNTAIN.

(No. 13. Same chamber.)

The bas-reliefs contained in this and the four preceding plates are believed to represent the siege of Lachish, mentioned in the Second Book of Kings, chap. xviii., and in Isaiah, chap. xxxvi. This is one of the most important series of bas-reliefs hitherto discovered in Assyria. They have not yet been brought to this country.*

PLATE XXV.

CONQUEST OF A TRIBE INHABITING MARSHES. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From the walls of a long chamber (Nos. 2 and 3, XXVIII.), on which the conquest of Chaldæa, or some district on the lower part of the Euphrates, seems to have been represented, probably the campaign against Merodach-Baladan, recorded in the inscriptions of Sennacherib.† Similar marshes are still found near the mouths of the great rivers of Mesopotamia.

PLATE XXVI.

CONQUEST OF A TRIBE INHABITING MARSHES. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The continuation of the preceding subject, representing the captives and the spoil taken from the conquered tribes.‡

PLATE XXVII.

THE CONQUEST OF A MARSHY COUNTRY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The conquered tribes probably inhabited the same country as that represented in the bas-reliefs contained in Plate XXV.§ (Nos. 5 and 7, LXIV.)

PLATE XXVIII.

THE CONQUEST OF A TRIBE INHABITING A MARSH. (KOUYUNJIK.)

A subject similar to that in Plates XXV. and XXVII. (No. 1, LXX.)||

* For a full description of the bas-reliefs, see chap. vi. of "Nineveh and Babylon."
† Nineveh and Babylon, p. 140. ‡ *Ibid.*, p. 443. § *Ibid.*, p. 585. || *Ibid.*, p. 586.

PLATE XXIX.

TRIUMPH OF THE ASSYRIAN KING. (KOUYUNJIK.)

These bas-reliefs represent Sennacherib in his chariot receiving the captives, cattle, and spoil after a victory. No inscription remains to identify the conquered country. From Chamber VII.*

PLATE XXX.

CAPTIVES AND IDOLS CARRIED AWAY BY THE ASSYRIANS. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The captives, from their peculiar dress, appear to be natives of Syria, perhaps of Judæa. (Nos. 1, 2, and 3, LXIV.)†

PLATE XXXI.

SIEGE AND ESCALADE OF A CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

(From Chamber XXXII, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.) The captives represented in Plate XIX. were taken from this city.

PLATE XXXII.

HUNTSMEN WITH GAZELLE, HARE, AND BIRDS. (KHORSABAD.)

A detached slab in black marble, now in the British Museum, from the Palace of Sargon at Khorsabad. It was found in the small temple attached to the principal building.‡

PLATE XXXIII.

CAPTIVES BROUGHT TO ASSYRIA. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From their dress, and the peculiar form of their war-cars drawn by mules, it is believed that these captives are Elamites or Susianians. (From Chamber LXIII. Nos. 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14.)

PLATE XXXIV.

CAPTIVES BROUGHT TO ASSYRIA. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Apparently belonging to the same nation as those represented in the preceding plate. (From Chamber XLVI., Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7.)§

* Nineveh and Babylon, p. 229. † *Ibid.*, p. 585. ‡ *Ibid.*, p. 130. § *Ibid.*, p. 582.

PLATE XXXV.

CAPTIVES AND SPOIL BROUGHT TO ASSYRIA. (KOUYUNJIK.)

These bas-reliefs are from the same chamber as those in Plates XXV. and XXVI., and probably record the conquest of the same tribes inhabiting Chaldæa, or southern Babylonia. (Nos. 7, 8, and 9, XXVIII.)

PLATE XXXVI.

CAPTIVES AND SPOIL. (CONTINUED FROM PLATE XXXV.)

THE ASSYRIAN KING RECEIVING PRISONERS WITHIN THE WALLS OF A CAPTURED CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

It is possible that the walls and towers may represent a fortified camp, and not a city.

PLATE XXXVII.

CONQUEST OF A MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY BY ASSYRIANS. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From the Great Hall, VI. (Nos. 11, 12, and 13.) No inscription remains to identify the conquered people.*

PLATE XXXVIII.

CONQUEST OF A MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

A continuation of the subject represented in the previous plate. (Nos. 19 and 20.)

PLATE XXXIX.

SIEGE OF A CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

These bas-reliefs are now in the British Museum. Several characters are probably wanting in the name of the city engraved above the castle, and its site consequently has not yet been identified. From Chamber XIV. (Nos. 8, 9, 10, and 11.)†

* Nineveh and Babylon, p. 70.

† *Ibid.*, p. 72.

PLATE XL.

SIEGE AND PLUNDER OF A CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The country represented in these bas-reliefs has not been identified. It was probably in Armenia, near the head-waters of the Euphrates or Tigris.* The King on his throne in Plate XXXVI., formed part of this series. From Chamber XLVIII. (Nos. 11, 12, and 13.)

PLATE XLI.

KING PREPARING TO CROSS A RIVER. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From the Great Hall, XIX. (Nos. 20, 21, and 23.) The King represented is Sennacherib.‡

PLATE XLII.

SIEGE OF A CITY ON THE BANK OF A RIVER. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From the same hall. (Nos. 11 and 12.)

PLATE XLIII.

SIEGE OF A CITY ON THE BANK OF A RIVER. (CONTINUED.)

From the same hall. (Nos. 15 and 16.)

The Euphrates, or the united waters of that river and the Tigris, is probably represented in these bas-reliefs. The cities may be Naghit and Naghit Dibeena, conquered by Sennacherib in the sixth year of his reign.‡ That monarch, in his chariot, is seen in Plate XLII.

PLATE XLIV.

CAPTIVES WITH FEATHERED HEAD-DRESS. (KOUYUNJIK.)

Supposed, from their resemblance to prisoners represented on Egyptian monuments, to be the Tokkari, a people conquered by Sennacherib.§ From Chamber XXII. (No. 10.)

* Nineveh and Babylon, p. 119.

† *Ibid.*, p. 441.‡ *Ibid.*, p. 441.§ *Ibid.*, p. 230.

PLATE XLV.

A FIELD OF BATTLE. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From Chamber XXXIII. (Nos. 1 and 2.)

PLATE XLVI.

A FIELD OF BATTLE. (CONTINUED.)

From same chamber. (No. 3.)

PLATE XLVII.

ASSYRIAN TRIUMPH. (KOUYUNJIK.)

From same chamber. (No. 4.)

PLATE XLVIII.

ASSYRIAN TRIUMPH. (CONTINUED.)

From same chamber. (No. 5.)

PLATE XLIX.

TRIUMPH OF ASSYRIAN KING.

From same chamber. (No. 6.)

The bas-reliefs contained in these five plates represent the conquest of Susiana by the son of Esarhaddon. That monarch, it would appear, caused them to be graven on the walls of the Palace of Sennacherib, his grandfather. The material of the slabs is a fossiliferous limestone, and the sculpture is remarkable for the spirit of the outline and the delicacy of the details. The six slabs are in the British Museum.*

PLATE L.

CAPTIVES AND PART OF A WALLED CITY. (KOUYUNJIK.)

The inscription across one of the bas-reliefs contains the name of Sennacherib, but

* Nineveh and Babylon, chap. xx.

not that of the conquered country, which has not been identified. From Chamber X. (Nos. 7 and 11.)

PLATE LI.

ASSYRIAN ROCK SCULPTURES. (BAVIAN.)

These figures, which are about twenty-five feet high, represent Sennacherib worshipping before a god. They are carved upon the rock in a valley to the east of Nineveh. The excavated chambers are probably tombs of a later date than the sculptures. On tablets adjoining this bas-relief are inscriptions, by which it appears that these monuments were sculptured to record the opening of some great canal by Sennacherib, and to celebrate his conquest of Babylonia.*

PLATE LII.

ENTIRE STATUE FROM THE NORTH-WEST RUINS. (NIMROUD.)

Found in one of the small temples on the northern side of the platform at Nimroud. Its height is three feet, four inches; the material, a compact limestone. This is the only perfect specimen hitherto discovered of an Assyrian statue "in the round." It appears to represent the early Nimroud King, the builder of the North-west Palace, and to have been raised after his return from the conquest of Mount Lebanon. It stood on a square pedestal of red limestone. Both are now in the British Museum.†

PLATE LIII.

PAINTED BRICKS. (NIMROUD.)

From a mound in the south-east corner of the inclosure of Nimroud.

PLATE LIV.

PAINTED BRICKS. (NIMROUD.)

Discovered in the same ruin as those in the last plate, with the exception of Nos. 10 and 11, which are fragments of earthen vessels, and were found in the North-west Palace.

* Nineveh and Babylon, chap. ix.

† *Ibid.*, p. 361.

PLATE LV.

PAINTED BRICKS AND FRAGMENTS FROM NIMROUD AND BAASHIEKHAH.

No. 1. Part of a beard or hair in clay, coloured blue, probably belonging to a statue. From a small temple at Nimroud.

Nos. 2, 3, and 8. Fragments of the lid of a vase or vessel, from Baashiekhah.

No. 4. A small jar from Nimroud.

No. 5. Fragment of a beard in enamel; part of a statue. From a small temple at Nimroud.

No. 6. Painted brick from Nimroud, representing the King followed by his attendants. Size, 12 inches by 9 inches.

No. 7. A glazed clay ball from Nimroud.*

PLATE LVI.

SCULPTURED PAVEMENT. (KOUYUNJIK.)

In alabaster; between the winged Bulls at entrance *c* of Chamber XXIV. Many of the entrances at Kouyunjik had similar pavement slabs.

PLATE LVII. TO LXVIII.

BRONZE DISHES, BOWLS, AND VESSELS FROM NIMROUD.

A particular description of the bronzes will be found in my smaller work.† They were discovered together in a chamber in the North-west Palace at Nimroud, and are now in the British Museum. The engravings (63 to 67) are from the admirable drawings made by Mr. Prentis for the Trustees; the lithographs are by Mr. L. Gruner, with the exception of those in plate 68, which are from drawings by Mr. George Scharf, jun. They are of the size of the original objects.

* For a description of the bricks in these three Plates, and of the colours used by the Assyrians, see "Nineveh and Babylon," p. 166.

† Nineveh and Babylon, chap. viii.

PLATE LXIX.

CYLINDERS, GEMS, AND IMPRESSIONS OF SEALS FROM ASSYRIAN RUINS.

All these objects are in the British Museum, and have been fully described in my "Nineveh and Babylon."* The seals are impressed upon clay. The nature of the materials in which the gems and cylinders are cut is mentioned beneath each specimen. They are all drawn to the original size. The cylinders 33 to 38 are Babylonian—the remainder are Assyrian; those from No. 44 to 48, are probably the most ancient.

PLATE LXX.

VIEW OF THE MOUNDS OF KOUYUNJIK AND NEBBI YUNUS, AND OF THE REMAINS OF THE EXTERIOR WALLS, FROM THE NORTH.

This view is taken from a low hill outside the northern inclosure wall. The large mound in the centre is Kouyunjik: upon that beyond it is built the Mosque of the tomb of Jonah. The mound rising above the line of wall in front of Kouyunjik covers the entrance or gateway in which were discovered the colossal human-headed Bulls and winged figures in Plate III.†

VIEW OF THE MOUNDS OF KOUYUNJIK AND NEBBI YUNUS, AND OF THE REMAINS OF THE EXTERIOR WALLS, FROM MOSUL.

From a sketch by the Rev. S. C. Malan, taken from the top of the Author's house at Mosul. The Tigris divides the town from the ruins. The principal mound, that in the centre, is Kouyunjik—to the right, or south of it, is the tomb of the prophet Jonah. The long lines of wall may be traced on both sides of these ruins. In the background are the hills of Makloub.

PLATE LXXI.

GENERAL PLAN OF THE EXCAVATED CHAMBERS AT KOUYUNJIK.

* Nineveh and Babylon, c. vi. and xxv.

† *Ibid.*, p. 120.

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