LETTERS OF THE FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY
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TRANSLITERATED, TRANSLATED OR SUMMARISED, WITH INDICES OF PLACES, PERSONAL NAMES, IDEOGRAPHMS, AN INTRODUCTION AND 18 PLATES OF HAND-COPIES

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CONTENTS

TRANSLITERATION AND TRANSLATIONS ............... 6
INDEX OF WORDS .................................... 29
LIST OF IDEOGRAMS ................................ 34
NAMES OF PERSONS .................................. 35
PLACE NAMES ........................................ 36
COPIES OF ORIGINAL TABLETS ..................... 37
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THE Letters contained in this volume are the property of The John Rylands Library, Manchester. Excepting the two last fragments, they were published in the Rylands Bulletin in July, 1932 and January, 1933. They are republished herein, but the transliteration and translation given in the Bulletin have been revised, corrected and made more complete. Various indices have been added. The numbers within brackets ( ) relate to the copies at the end.

The method of transliteration herein followed is that of M. Thureau-Dangin's Syllabaire Accadien.

There is no record at the Library of the place of origin of these Letters. I suspect they came originally from Sippar.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Georges Dossin, Professor at the University of Liége. He took an interest in the Letters from their first appearance in the Bulletin, and has supervised my revision of my first efforts, often making sense where I could make none, and good sense where I had made bad.

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T. F.
Say to the district agent, whom Marduk keeps alive, thus says Dingirsaga: May Šamaš and Marduk grant thee life to length of days! When Marduk called thy name I rejoiced exceedingly, saying: A man who knows me, his name has been called, my wishes he will do. Forthwith men who do not know me, (R) to them I will write and my wishes they will do. Concerning Nabium-malik the kalût priest, an inhabitant of Ḥabuz, he reported to me, saying: 'No one ever made a demand (on me) for transport. Now the district agent has sent and men have seized my pledges.'

The awûlûm is a member of my family, he is not a stranger, he will do six corvées and pay the taxes of the priesthood and of the kalût priests. Now my letter I am having sent to thee. If thou truly loveth me, allow no one to make a claim against his house.
Say to Gimiliya: thus says KA-ilAia. May my lord and my lady for my sake give thee life to length of days! On behalf of my lady, that thou art in distress and (that) thou art in Babylon, I did not know till now. To my sorrow and (R) thy distress I have heard (it), and I am distraught. For (news of) thy well-being I have written. Write that thou art well, and two shekels of silver of thy own, give to Eteipi-Marduk the scribe. At the moment he is suing me.

Say to Gimiliya: thus speaks Birurutum: May Šamaš my lord and Šarpanit my lady for my sake grant thee life to length of days! Concerning the house of Mâr-Tasmêtum which thou gavest to the swineherds, that house is not the property of the police. It is (R) the house of the avīlum of Tupliaš. Enquire into (its) past. Mâr-Tasmêtum
is not an enemy; we are intimate (lit. "we have eaten bread together"). The house of Mār-Tašme tum, which thou gavest to the swineherds, give back to Mār-Tašme tum.

4 (= 888).

a-na Gi-mi-li-[ia] ša be-li ú-ba-[al-la]—tú-šu (R) an-ni-ki-a-am ú-ul ad-
qī-bi-ma um-ma KA-ša te-it-bi-e ta-ta-la-ak-ma 20
Aia-ma úmi-3(KAM)
be-li û be-el-ti aš-šu-mi-ia ki-ma me-ḫi-e-im a-ba-aš-ši
da-ri-iš u4-mi-im a-ka-la-am û me-e
5 li-ba-al-li-tū-ka ú-ul e-li-im-mi
i-nu-ma a-mu-ru-ka še-a-am ša am-ḫu-ru 25
ki-ma ša a-na ga-gi-im û ša at-ta tu-ša-bi-la
e-ru-bu-ma pa-ni be-el-ti-ia at-ta-a-ma ti-di-e
a-mu-ru û a-ḫi-ia-a i-na ki-mi-na-an-na
10 a-na pa-ni-ia ta-[a]-[h-du-ú] ma-am-ma-an-ni a-na ma-am-
a-na pa-ni-ka ab-du-ú ma-am-ma-an
um-ma at-ta-a-ma û-ul il-ḫa-ba-at-ti 30
iš-tu i-na-an-na ūmi-
10(KAM) qa-du-um bi-ši-ia
wa-aš-ba-a-ku ab-du-ú-ma la a-ma-at-ti
15 ū-ul aš-ku-un-ni še-a-am ša ki ma šu-bu-li-[m]
üt-te-mi ma-ab-ri-ka šu-bi-la-am-ma 35
ũ-ul-li-ša-am bi-ti lu-ba-li-ḫit-ti
aš-ta-na-pa-ra-ku a-na še-er ku-uš-šu-t[um]
la i-ka-la ū bu-bu-tum
LETTERS OF FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY

Edge: šum-ma li-ib-bi la a-ma-at-ti
mGi-mi-li-ia ša a-na ka-šu-um iḫ-du.
a-na ma-am-ma-an-ni ú-ul iḫ-[du].

Say to Gimiliya, whom my lord keeps alive, thus says KA-Aia: May my lord and my lady for my sake grant thee life to length of days! When I saw thee, as I entered the ‘convent,’ and saw the face of my lady, (thou) my brother, at my presence were glad, and at thy presence I was glad, thus didst thou speak: Ten days ago I settled here, I rejoice. I have not laid my report before thee. Thither I have sent repeated messages to thee. (R) I did not tell thee here. Thou didst rise up and go. For three days I have been like the storm-wind. Bread and water I can no more. The corn which I received and which thou didst despatch, thou knowest! Just now no one can commit a robbery against anyone. Along with my family let me not die. Despatch barley as much as one can send, that I may keep my household alive, owing to the cold, and hunger may not consume (it). If it is the wish of (i.e. depends on) Gimiliya, I shall not die. He who has joy in thee has no joy in anyone else.

5 (= 889).

a-na Gi-mil-ia qi-bi-ma
um-ma E-tel-pi-šMarduk-
ša-maš ʿu šMarduk aš-šu-
mi-ia da-ri-iš u₄-mi li-ba-
al-li-tú-ka
aš-šum ṭe₄-im nár iššakkim
ša a-na šarrim ta-aš-pu-
ra-am

(R) eqlam i-ti-ru-um-ma i-
ti-ir-ma
i-ku-ul um-ma a-wi-lum-ma
bāʾirum már-I-din-šZa-bá-
bā iššaknum šu-ū
ka-ni-ik šarrim ša in-na-ad-
u-n[u]m
li-il-qe-a-am-ma a-wa-tam 20
pa-nam šu-ta-ar-[ši]

5 (m) Il-šu-ba-ni a-na šarrim
iq-ta-bi-[m]a
um-ma šarrum [ ... ]i(?)-
ma
nāram li-na-pi-iš ki-a-am
šarrum i-pu-ul-[m]a
aš-šum (m)I-ku-nam ša šu-
kus-ne-im

šum-ma ki-ma aq-bu-kum
am-ša-li it-ti-ia
i-laʾ mi-im-ma-an u₄-ma-
am i a-ti ik-la-an-ni
šu-ḥa-rum šu-ū ka-ni-ik-šu
li-il-qe-a-am-ma
Li-pi-it-šNa-[bi-um] li-is-
ni-qā-am
Say to Gimilia: Thus speaks Etel-pī-Marduk: May Šamaš and Marduk for my sake give thee life to length of days! In the matter of the report on the ʾiššakku canal of which thou didst write to the king: Ilšubani spoke to the king. Thus (said) the king . . . that he enlarge the canal. Thus the king replied: Concerning Ikunam the cultivator of the date-palm, I looked into his past history and he does not dwell (here), and against his rent-field I took as pledges two of his maid-servants. Concerning the field of Idin-Zababa the ʾiššakku, I spoke to the awīlum and the awīlum spoke to Gimil-Marduk. Thus says Gimil-Marduk: the field he occupies . . . but he has not a document sealed by the king. (R) He has taken complete possession of the field and has consumed it. Thus the awīlum. The ba’iru, son of Idin-Zababa, is a ʾiššakku. Let him take the royal seal which was given to him, and clear up the former matter. If as I have told thee, he was in agreement with me yesterday, why has he put a check on me to-day? Let that young man take his seal and let him overtake Lipit-Nabium . . . .

(27) In reference to the journey to ‘Sailor-town’ which was arranged, let the son of Idin-Zababa hurry up! When he sees me, on my journey, in the matter of the field I will do the
business . . . a garment for Ilsubani of whom I spoke to thee. I will question him. This matter is of no importance, so don't be at all anxious.

6 (= 890).

a-na Gi-mi-li-ia
qi-bi-ma um-ma KA-ilat
Aia-ma
be-li ü be-el-ti aš-šu-mi-ia
li-ba-al-li-tú-ka
5 aš-šum ki-a-am ta-aš-pu-ra-am
um-ma-at-ta-a-ma am-mi-ni
ra-ma-an-ša a-na si-p[i]-h-ti a-li-im
1iddi-i a-bu-ka MU 6(KAM)
ki-a-am iq-ta-ab-bi-a-am
10 um-[m-m]a šu-ú-ma alpû-bi-a epinnim
I šu-si še-gur ta-a-an im-meri-bi-a
lu-ud-di-na-ak-ki um-ma a-na-ku-ma
i-na tup-pí-iwa wa-ru-da-a-ku-ma
a-ah-ḫi-ia ú-ul ab-ba-la-ka-at
15 aš-šum be-el-ti-ia
i-na bi-ti ti-iṣ-bu-ta-tim
pi-i tup-pí-iwa a-di e-iṣ-si-tim
ú-ul e-iṣ-me-e
ù tup-pí a-di i-na-an-[na]
20 ma-ḫar pi še-ir-ti-ia-ma
iš-ša-ki-in
Edge: ša šú-ḫa-ra-tim
ku-ru-ma-ti
lu-bu-ši
(R) iš-tu a-bi a-na ši-im-tim
il-li-ku a-ah-ḫu-ia
nu-du-na-am ša pi-i tup-pí-ia
ú-ul id-di-nu-ni-im 25
u₄-ma-am a-wa-tum
ú-na-am-i-ni ta-ši-a-am
na-di-tum ša a-ah-ḫu-ša
. . . si-ri-ša
la [t]a-ta-aš-š[u-κ]i (?) 30
a . . li-bi-š[a- . . . ]
tup-[p]i-i a-na-di-in
daiâni(meš) a-ma-ḫa-ar
te₄-im-ka ga-am-ra-am
šu-up-ra-am 35
a-bu-ka ü be-li-ia-a
iq-ta-ab-bu-ni
a-nu-um-ma (m)A-na-tum
aš-tap-ra-ak-ku
i-na eqli-ia 3 SE.GUR 40
e-il-qé-e ba-ri-a-ku
[a-na še-er še-im

¹ for ta-ad-di-i !
To Gimilia say: Thus speaks KA-ilaAia: May my lord and my lady give thee life for my sake. In the matter on which thou hast written thus: "Why is she downcast at the devastation (?) of the city"? Thy father six years ago, made the following promise: 'Plough-oxen, sixty gur of barley, sheep I will give thee.' Here is what I said: on my tablet I am a slave! I cannot rise against (?) above my brothers. Owing to my mistress, in the house . . . ; until recently I did not hear what my tablet recorded, and my tablet up to the present lies before Pišertu (?). After my father died, my brothers did not hand over to me my dowry in accordance with my tablet. Daily the matter is wearing me down; it troubles me. The nadītu priestess whose brother . . . my tablet he will hand over. I shall go before the judges. Write me full instructions. Thy father and my master have promised me. Now I send to thee Anātum. Already I have taken from my field three gur of barley. I am in want. In the matter of the barley belonging to the young girls, the allowance, the clothing, the ointment, articles of the dowry, send. Do not . . .

7 (= 891).

Say to [the district agent to whom Marduk [keeps] alive: Thus says Gimililišu: 'May Šamaš and Marduk give thee long life!' In reference to the cows of which thou hast written; as thou knowest, since we came, a rent-field of 6 ika a field I have rented. The field, in equal parts, has been granted to me; I shall furrow it, and the two cows which are on hand have calved. Later, certainly after the tenth day, I shall send cows and
[ma]-ia-ri a-ma-ḥa-āṣ
(R) ʿū 2 liṭāṭi-bī-a ša i-ba-āš-ši-a al-da
ša wa-ar-ka-an-nu-um
lu-ū iš-tu úmi 10 (KAM)-ma
15 liṭāṭi-bī-a ʿū kullīšam
lu-ut-ru-dam-ma
ši-bu-ut-ka li-pu-šu
ki-ma liṭāṭi-bī-a la ri-𝑞ú
šu-up-ra-am-ma . . tu-ni-ik-kum
20 um-ma a-na-ku -m[a]
(Rest broken)

8 (= 892).

Say to Gimil-Marduk, thus says KAL. Era . . : May Šamaš and Marduk give thee life. The house is well, be not at all distressed! From the granary I give 1 GUR of sesame to Idin-Zababa; of the rest of the sesame 10(QA) I gave to the silversmith; as much as one could measure I gave to the hierodole; 5½ QA worth ½ shekel of silver, I gave to Babbarḥegal. As for the good-quality oil of which thou didst speak . . . (R) I have said it to her ten times but she has not answered me. After thee I went out but I forgot and did not tell thee . . .
Say to Wattā: Thus speaks Gimil-Marduk: May Śamaš and Marduk grant thee life to length of days! Concerning that of which thou didst write to me saying: I shall send Sin-māqir the īšakku: do thou send with him. Let them fetch to thee Ilšubani the īšakku, who is of my family, who resides in Habbuz, and send him to me. In respect of the matter of which thou hast written, I appealed to Il-su-ba-ni īšakkam sa. They have fetched Selibum the prefect, and thus he spoke: Seeing that the īšakku is away on business, he has not had his
15 ki-a-am iq-bi-a-am um-ma
šu-ma
labuttûm ša qá-ta-ti-šu il-qa
ú-ul wa-ši-ib a-na gi-ir-ri-im
it-ta-la-ak
ki-a-am iq-bi-a-am

pledge brought to thee. If
thou speakest my good, have
him bring it to thee.

20 aš-šum labuttûm i-na gi-[ir-ri]-im
wa-aš-bu
ni-pu-sú ú-ul ú-ša-ri-a-kum
šum-ma ta- qá -ab-bi dam-
[q]í
[lu(?)-ú]-ša-ri-a-kum

10 (= 894).

a-na A-wi-li-ia ú 𒆠S[ ]in-ba-
ni-i
qi-bí-ma
um-ma E-tel-pi-ŠMarduk-
ma
šamaš ú ŠMarduk li-ba-al-
li-tú-ku-nu-ti

Lines 8 to end read: Let the field which you have furrowed,
be hoed. Till it thoroughly. If the oxen have been removed to
the town of Kikalla, return them that they may (R) take up their
work. In the matter of which I wrote to you, let there be no
negligence. Tomorrow I shall be with (wait on) you.
To my agent speak, thus says Ikûnpi-Zababa: May Ištar and Zababa for my sake, grant my agent life for length of days. In the matter of the ox belonging to the city of Kutha and the pig which is thy tribute, I have spoken to Etel-pî-Marduk who loves thee, and he has had thy tribute put as a charge on Sin-îš-meannî. My agent quickly (?) draw up thy tablet in favour of Etel-pî-Marduk and send it.

Say to Gimilia: thus speaks Etel-pî-Marduk: may Șamaš and Marduk preserve thy life, for my sake preserve thee alive for length of days! The stone about which thou hast written, I have sent to thee. The other stone is deposited with Awil-Samaš in Kikalla. It is very good. Let one of the young men in his presence cut it and let them send thee the pieces (?) of this stone. It is very good. I shall despatch Sinabassi to thee. Let them see the stones.
LETTERS OF FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY

(R) li-iš-ḥi-iṭ-ma
ba-ra-ri-tim [abni]m šu-a-ti

15 li-it-[ru]-ni-kum
ma-di-iš dam-qá-[at]
(m) Sin-a-a-ba-aš
a-ta-ra-da-ak-kum
abni-bi-a li-mu-ru

13 (= 897).

a-na a-wi-lim ša i[Marduk a-wa-ti-šu-nu šar-rum eš-
ú-ba-al-la-tú-šu (R) ki-ma šāb tupšikkim
qí-bí-ma m[e-ma]
um-ma Ia-an-ti . . . [ma]
Šamaš ụ i[Marduk da-ri-
iš u4-mi li-ba-al-li-tú-ka i-na iš-kar ịelippim in-na
5 lu-ú ša-al-ma-ta m[e-r]u(?)
awilū Ha-bu-uz-(ki) ki-a-am iš-tu i-nu-mi-šu a-na šābi
e-bu-nim tupšikkim šu-a-ti
um-ma šu-nu ma ad-du-ub-bu-ub-šu-nu šar-
a-na šābi tupšikkim la il-
ta-ni-is-stú-ni-a-ti-ma a-wa-tum ši-i i-na la i-di-
ú-da-ab-ba-bu-ni-a-ti im-ma
10 ki-a-am iq-bu-nim iq-gá-bi-a-ak-kum
. . a-na šābi tupšikkim šu-
a-[t]i wa-ar-ka-tam pu-ru-ús-ma 20
. . . šu-nu-ši-im-ma a-wi-lu-ú šu-nu la ud-da-
la iš-ta-na-as-stú

To the awilum whom Marduk preserves alive, say:
"Thus speaks Ianti- . . .: may Šamaš and Marduk preserve
thee alive to everlasting days. Mayest thou be well. The men
of the town of Habuz have spoken thus saying: 'Concerning
the basket-carrier let them not sue us, they are taking pro-
ceedings against us.' Such is their statement . . . The king
has heard of their affair. Seeing that that basket-carrier is not
old, all of them (?) in the . . . have been seen. From that
very time, I about this basket-carrier have prosecuted them.
The king gave the order. That affair in ignorance was commanded you. Enquire into the past history of the matter that these men may not prosecute and that they may not sue."

14 (= 898).

a-na ša-pi-ir Kiš(ki)
qī-bī-ma
um-ma Mu-na-wi-rum-ma
iiŠamaš iiMarduk ù iiZa-bā-
bā da-ri-iš u4-mi
5 li-ba-al-li-tū-ka
aš-šum nuḫatimmiₘₑş awīl
Kiš(ki)
aq-ta-na-ab-bi-ku-um-ma
ú-ul [ta]-ta-am-gu-ra-an-ni
ù (m) iiNa-bi [um-. . .] akil
nu-ḫatimmiₘₑş
10 aš-ba-ta-ku-um-ma
um-ma a-na-ku-ú-ma
(R) ù šu-ú li-iq-bi-a[n]-ni-
ma ?]
il-kam a-bi-a-am li-ri-id-di-
as(?)-šu-nu-ti
aš-šum I-din-iiZa-bā-bā
15 ša ta-at-tu-šu
a-wi-lam wa-ar-ka-as-sú
ú-ul pa-ar-sa-a-ta
ma-ka-al-ti be-lī-ia
ú-ul i-mi-is-st-e
20 a-wi-lum šu-ú
in-na-at-tu-ú a-na mi-nim
an-ni-tam te-pu-uš
aq-ta-na-ab-bi-kum-ma
ú-ul ta-ma-ga-ra-an-ni
25 ma-ḥar be-lī-ia a-ša-ka-an

Say to the agent of Kiš: thus speaks Munawirum: May Šamaš, Marduk and Zababa grant thee life to length of days! Concerning the cooks, inhabitants of Kiš I have spoken to thee repeatedly. Thou hast not complied with me. And Nabi- ... the foreman of the cooks, I have taken to thee. Thus I (have done) (R) and let him report to me, that he will have another corvée done for them. Concerning Idin-Zababa whom thou hast beaten thou dost not investigate the man as to his past. The food of my master he does not 'wash.' That man has been beaten. Why hast thou done this? I have spoken to thee repeatedly but thou dost not comply with me. I shall lay (the matter) before my master.
LETTERS OF FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY 19

15 (= 899).

a-na Gi-mil-ia qí-bí-ma
um-ma E-tel-pí-li Marduk-
mişaš ú li Marduk aš-šu-
mi-ia da-ri-iš u₄-mi li-ba-
li-tú-ka
. . . Mul-na-wi-rum-ma

5

. . . . . . . .

i-na (ál) Im . . .
eql-im ša (ál) . . .
aš-šum eqel Bi-ir-bi-rum
(k) 6 bur eql [lum na-d]a
mu-ú i-na eql-im ša-tu-ú
(m) E-a- - . .

10 il-li-kam-ma a-na me(?)-e

ti-is-bu-ta-ni
ma-di-iš ur-ta-[š]i i-na[a]-an-
aš-šum eql-šu
me-e la ú-na . . . Bi-ir-bi-
rum (k) wa-ši-ib
a-na-ku aš-šum u₄-ma-at
šamaššammim i-ta-ar-ka
a-na (ál) Malāhîm (k) at-ta-
la-ak

15 aš-šum eqel Malāhîm (k)
  6 alpú epinnimiš₄-a
ša i-na eql-im šu-a-ti i-ha-
at-tu-ú
4 alpú epinnim ma-ia-ar
    im-ha-šú
2 alpú epinnim i-ri-šu
   alpúli₃
   (R) ša-at-tum i-ta-ri-ik-šu-nu
   ši-im-ma

20 iškaram (?)(= KU. QAR !?)
   ú-úl i-ka-ša-du 14
   SE. GUR
I, because the days of sesame drag on, shall go to Sailor Town. Concerning the field of Sailor Town, (of) the six plough-oxen which are missing from that field, four plough-oxen are furrowing, two plough-oxen are on cultivation work. The oxen . . . (R) The year has been a long one for them. They do not get supplies (?). The 14 gur of barley which belong to Ilšubani they have received. Do thou restore their barley. Do not neglect that field. These oxen are destitute. The fodder which is coming up, they will consume and we lack a field. Put five gur of barley aboard a makurru boat, and, in addition, 1 ten officers with their weapons and ten men, have along side thee to draw the rope. During to-morrow let them arrive at Sailor Town. Perhaps you ought to detain them for one day. The oxen are destitute, and if rain overtakes the sesame which is loaded on the makurru boat, a great loss will occur; there will not be before thee a gur of barley for the family sustenance. Thou shalt detain them. When thou hast carried off (the ?), let them make their way and let them be detained. I shall bring the sesame to thee quickly. I have heard that two oxen have died in the town of Kikalla. Their oxen were destroyed in . . Enquire after them. One ox for the fourth time . . . Write.

16 ( = 900).

[a-na] Gi-mil-ia qi-bi-ma  (R) . . . . .
um-ma E-tel-pi  išMarduk-

ma  i-na (al) La-b[a-sa]-ar(ki) . . . 20

iššamaš  uth išMarduk aš-šu-

mi-ia da-ri-iš u4-mi li-

ba-li-tú-ka  i-na-šu-uh-šu-ma ku-u .

mi-di [i]di eqlim ša i-ba-aš-

šu-ú am-ta-ža-ar

1 ši-im-ma = sib-ma.
5 a-na eqel (āl)Bi-ir-bi-ri-im ša-bi-im qā-tam aš-ta-ka-an
me-hi-ir-šu a-ma-ḥa-ar ul-
li-ti-iš me-e a-ša-ba-at
ša šarrum a-na ad-di-im ma-
ḥa-ri-im ap-ra -ni-a-ti
li-qim i-na (āl) Di-la-nu-
um (ki) (m) Šarrumma-
ḥa-ra-am iq-bi-ma
aš-šum . . . la i-šu-ú a-ša-
ri-iš-ma
10 be-el [. . . Dam]-qī-i-li-šu
ad-ni-in-ma . . . ma-la
. . . nam
a-nam uš-ta-a-bi-il-šu ši-ta-
at al-di-im
i-na (āl)Di-la-nu-um a-ma-
ab-ḥa-ar alpūši-a ši-ip-
ra-am
ti-iš-bu-tu aš-šum alpi epin-
imbi-a ša (āl) . . . il-Za-
bá-bá
15 ū (āl) La-ba-sa-ar (ki) mi-
di ši-ta-ap-pu-ru-um-ma
ta-aš-ta-na-ap-pa-ar-ma ū-
ma-am ū-ta-ar-ru-ni-kum
One or two lines broken off.

To Gimilia say: Thus speaks E tel-pi-Marduk: May Šamaš and Marduk preserve thee alive for length of days for my sake. Perhaps I shall receive the rent of the field which is at hand. I shall put my hand to inspect (?) the field of the town of Birbiru. Its bar I shall “receive”. At a future date I shall draw off the waters. That which the king (has said) in the matter of the receiving of the āldūm (and) of the taking of the ab/p-ra-ni-a-ti in the town of Dilanum; the king has given the order to receive it. In the matter of the . . thither the master of . . Damqilišu (II) the anum I shall have it brought. The rest of the āldūm I
shall receive in the town of Dilanum. The oxen have begun the work. Concerning the oxen for plough of the town X and the town Labasar, perhaps thou hast sent repeatedly and they will answer thee. . . . (20) In the town of Labasar . . . until I go. They will be negligent (or they will receive the wage), they will depart. . . . Think it over. . . . (26) They will not be afraid. If a mistake occurs . . . they have disputed, to the town of X they have gone. Their report (?) . . . The year is over. The waters of the Ilimitti canal receive, and thou, in two days, in the town of Labasar, shalt rise up and . . . they will make.

17 (=901).

a-na E-tel [pi-][Marduk] qí-bí-ma
um-ma Mu-na-ri-ma-aš-šu-
Šamaš ǔ[a]-Mi-rum aš-šu-
mi-a da-ri-[iš u]-mi li-
ba-al-li-[ní]-ka
5 aš-šum m[e-][h]-ri-[lim] ša (m)E-tel-pí-[Marduk]
. . . im-[hi]-ru
a-di am-ša-a-li me-[h]-ra-
am a-na šu-[ri]-[lim] ša
ú-ul i-di-nam ki-[ma id-
din(?)]
10 ni-ṣa-ab-tu-ma me-[h]-ra-am a-na-ka-[r . . . ]
u-ṣa-ar-di 3 atappáti-bi-a . . me-e ḫu (?)-bi-ir
ip-te-ma mu-ú-ul i-ṭi [buʔ]
ü-ul ta-as- . . . az
mu-ú . . šu-tum ša i-la-ku li(?)-tú ša še-um eql-im šu-
a-na eqlim pa-[tā]-ri-im bi-
[šuʔ]
15 [mu]-ú i-na nārim ra-bi-tim i-na me-[e]-im eql-am šu-a-
ti a-na-ku-ú ḫa-li-[iʔ]

To Etel-pí-Marduk say: Thus speaks Munawirum: may Samaš and Marduk preserve thee alive for length of days for my sake. Concerning the dam which Etel-pí-Marduk removed.
Up to yesterday he had not set the dyke so as to cause a flow (of water). As soon as he set it we drew off (the waters) and caused the (waters of) the dam to flow. He opened up three trenches but the waters are not good. The waters ... which have come to break up the field, are bad. The waters of the Grand Canal have indeed risen but they have not arrived. The days drag on. Together ..., that trench was opened(?) but the field was not (loosened?). As for the field of the town X-Zababa of which thou sayest: 'The field ... as far as the field of the town of Birbirum, I will contest. ...' I have told thee ten times. Would I allow this field to go to ruin because of the water?

18 (≈ 902).

a-na Gi-[mil-ia] à-na-ra-ad-ka
qi-bî-[ma] ú-la-mi ti-di-[c]
um-ma Wa-[at-r]u-u[m-ma] iš-tu du-ri-[im or iš]
be-lî il[l]Marduk [ù] be-el-ti ma-ka-[al?]-šu
Iš-tar ú-u[l]-a-nu-um
aš-šu-mi-ia da-ri-iš u₄-mi i-nu-ú-m[a m]a-am-ma-[n]
5 li-ba-al-li-tú-ka la(?)-i-ú ap-pu-tum
ma-ar si-pu-ta šu-li-[m]a-am(?)

To Gimilia say: "Thus speaks Wâtrum: May my lord Šamaš and my lady Istar for my sake preserve thee alive for length of days. A kinsman and thy servant thou dost not know. For a long time his sustenance (?) has been 'distant.' When no one is , please keep me alive!"

19 (≈ 903).

a-na a-wi-lim ša ilMarduk-[ma ú-ba-al-la-tú-šu] r[a]-bi-a-an ši-bu-ut álîm
qi-bî-ma [ú]-še-lu-ni-šum-ma . -da i-ka-an a-ḫi-ia
um-ma Ku-ub-bu-ti-ia-ma ú-da-ri-sa-an-ni
ilšamaš ū i[i]Marduk da-ri-šu (R) . i-pi-[i][d (?)]
u₄-mi-im li-ba-al-li-tú-ka be-el a-wa-ti-šu
5 (m) -Sin- . . . ú-[lam]-mi-šu-ri-a-am-ma
da-an-ni i-na ekallim
20 (= 904).

a-na ša-pí-ri-[ia] i-na ka-ni-ki 5 immerībi-a
qi-bí-ma ša-ak-nu
um-ma A-wi-il-[i]Šamaš-ma a-nu-um-ma (m)A-di-ta-bi 10
išŠamaš ʿI Marduk li-ba-al-
li-[tí-ka] ū (m) Ib-ni-išAdad
5 aš-šum 4 immerībi-a 4 immeru ba-aq-mu
ša i-na tup-pi-ka(!) tu-ša-bi-
lam Rest of reverse much rubbed.

To the šapīru official speak: thus says Awīl-Šamaš. May Šamaš and Marduk grant thee life for ever. Concerning the four sheep which thou didst send according to thy tablet, there are five sheep put down on the sealed tablet. Now by Adiṭābi and Ibni-Adad four sheep fleeced, and one sheep... I have sent to thee.

21 (= 905).

Fragment.
a-mu-ur-[m]a nu-uš-ta -ti-
ma ţes-mi ma-ah-ri-k[a]
as-ku-un-ma a-ša-ri-iš it-ti-
ia
it-ru-ū a-na ma-ah-ri-ka
it-ta-al-kam ni-šu-šu ū SI. LAL-šu e-si-ih-ma
5 iš-tu Babilī (ki) ú-ši-ir-šum-
ma (iš)elippum ú-ul i-ba-ši-ma End of Fragment.

I saw. We met. I laid my report before thee and thither they sent (him?) with me. He went to thee. His folk have made search (?) for him outside Babylon. There is not a boat. Thus he (spoke): "Save-me"! ... At thy disposal let them place a boat of a double gur of barley and ... May it be a help to him!
To the awitum whom Marduk keeps alive, speak: thus says Marduknāṣir: May Šamaš and Marduk grant thee life for ever. I have sent to the palace two pigs instead of one. Give (me) (some) men, . . . let them bring to Babylon. May Marduk grant thee life. Don’t be careless!

Concerning Lipit-Istar, Tābnamir-Šamaš and Etel-pî-Šamaš, thy young men, once, twice they have run away from the Tower. He took those men and they went to Babylon. I have made the brother of Lipit-Istar take my tablet to thee. (9) . . .
26 (= 910).

To the awilmum whom Marduk keeps alive, speak: thus says lanti-. May Šamaš and Marduk give thee life for eternity of days. Mayest [thou be well!] Regarding the ships, the men of whom I wrote to thee, have not sent on those ships. In the matter of their daily barley, there is urgent need. The matter is important. Let them send forward the ships and transport the daily (rations of) barley. They have money.

27 (= 911).

26 THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY

26 (=910).

a-na a-wi-lim ša [Marduk] ú-ul ú-wa-še-ru
ú-ba-al-li-tú-šu a-na šeʾi umūti-šu-nu 10
d-a-an-na-tum ša-ak-na
qi-bi-ma na-ṭa-at a-wa-tum
um-ma la-an-ti . . za-na(?)- (R) (iš)elippētiša ši-na-ti
aḫ -ma li-wa-še-ru-ma
Summary: Lipuša writes concerning (the rightful ownership of?) a house. He gives the order: "Take the man out of the house." He receives a reply: "I have put the man out."

28 (= 912).

a-na a-wi-lim  [ṣu]-up-ra-arn  10
qi-bi-ma  bi-tu ú-ka-lu-ni
um-ma Be-[l]i-sú-nu-ma  (R) About 9 lines broken off.
īšamaš u iš-Marduk aš-šu-
mi-ia da-[ri-iš u₄-mi] li-
ba-al-li-tú-ka
uš-ta-bi-la-ku
i-na ša . . .-ka
5 (m) l-na-ša-e-pi-sum  2[su]b₄-parnigē uš-ta-bi-[lak-
um]
il-li-kam? ma ki-a-am iq-
ta-[bi]
šu-ú-ma ru-ba-tum
il-li-bi ma-di-iš i-te₄-il₄-[bi]
šu-lu-um-ka li-ra-[ha-am]
tē₄-im sti-li-'i-ti-ka

To the awilum say: "Thus says Belisunu: 'may Šamaš and Marduk for my sake preserve thee alive for length of days.' Inasa-episum came and spoke as follows: 'hunger has come very near to my heart. Send me news of thy sickness.'"

(24) I have sent two head-bands to thee. May it bring thee health!

29 (= 913).

Obverse : broken away.

Reverse.

[sinnīsati A]rib-i-il-li-i[a . .
as-šum at-ta la wa-aš-ba-ta
. . HÎ . A. meš ū ú . . . a-na Babili(ki) ú-ul ú-ša-ri-
[ša] iLa-ga-ma-al-na-ši-[ir]  ṣu-nu-ti
wa-až-ba-at-ma  ṭē₄-im-ka šu-up-ra-arn
5 [sinnīsati A]rib-i-il-li-ia sinnīsati šum-ma šu-ru-um a-na
sābītum
Babili(ki)
it-ti il-La-ga-ma-al-na-ši-ir  lu-ša-ri-ṣu-nu-ti
[a-n]a Imānem kaspam it-
ta-am-ga-ar šum-ma la ki-a-am
a-di ta-al-la-ka-am

Reverse (5) Arbiliya, the female publican, came to an agreement with Lagamalnāšir for one mina of silver. The thieves,
because thou art not here, I have not had them taken off to Babylon. Write me thy instructions. If I must have them led away to Babylon, (I shall). But if not so, until thou comest, people must go to them.

Fragment.

Obverse.

Reverse.

30.

Edge. [šum]-ma i-ba-šu a-na ša i-šu-ú ut-te-is-bi.

"Concerning the canal X which I came to dredge." Apparently there followed a request for various goods: "silver, wool, garments, vessels, implement for drawing water ((is) dala)," and ends with "If there are (any), of what these are, I am very desirous!"

31.

Fragment.

To Etel-pî-î-Marduk say "Thus speaks Munawirum: May Šamaš and Marduk for my sake preserve thee alive for length of days! In the matter of the eleven oxen of which thou didst write to me saying: 'When thou readest my tablet, let Awil-Marduk take the oxen and go. This matter is in the ruin of my "underneath."'"
### INDEX OF WORDS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Page Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>amman</td>
<td>5: 22; 6: 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>immeru</td>
<td>6: 11; 20: 6, 11, 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ammini</td>
<td>20: 4, 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amaru I</td>
<td>4: 6; 5: 29; 12: 18; 21: 1; 31: 6; IV, i: 19: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amšali</td>
<td>5: 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amtu</td>
<td>5: 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anaku</td>
<td>1: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annum</td>
<td>16: 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annanum</td>
<td>1: 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annū</td>
<td>14: 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annumma</td>
<td>6: 38; 24: 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>annikiām</td>
<td>5, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inûma</td>
<td>1: 5; 4: 6; 14: 3; 13: 16; 18: 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>innana</td>
<td>1: 19; 2: 10; 6: 19; 4: 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esēhu</td>
<td>21: 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apalu I, i</td>
<td>5: 7; 8: 19, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apēsu</td>
<td>1, i: 10, 14; 5: 7, 31, 35; 7: 7; 16: 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apputum</td>
<td>18: 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aṣāru</td>
<td>1: 21: 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eqlum</td>
<td>5: 10, etc.; and often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erēbu</td>
<td>1, i: 4: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erēšu</td>
<td>10: 9, 15, 18; 15: 18, 23 (2); 30 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arāhu</td>
<td>5: 28; 28: R; 30: R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arēši</td>
<td>15: 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arāku</td>
<td>15: 19; 17: 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>urru</td>
<td>10: 16; 15: 27; 18: 7 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esū</td>
<td>6: 27 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ašariš</td>
<td>16: 9; 21: 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iškārum</td>
<td>13: R; 15: 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aššum</td>
<td>15: 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ešru</td>
<td>8: 18; 17: 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

aššum, passim; R-sa, 9:4; R
ki-am, 6:5.
iššakku, 5:4, etc.; 9:5.
esšītum, 6, 17.
išṭen, 27:19.
išṭiniš, 3:15.
ištiššu, 24:3.
ištu, 4:14; 7:6, 14; 6:22;
18:10.
atappu, 17:11, 19.
itī, 24:12; 29:R 6.

 preventative
bā'iru, 5:18.
babalu, 1:17.
bubutu, 1:37.
bakāmu, 19:12.
balāṭu, I, i: 21:7; II, i: 1:7;
bēlu, bēltu, passim.
biltu, 5:10; 7:7.
balakātu, 6:14.
baṇū, II, i: 11:15.
barāru, 12:14.
bašū, I, i: 4:22; 5:Edge;
bītu, 1; 3; 8:5; 27:7, II.
bāšu, 17:14 (9).

gāgū, 4:7.
gamāru, II, i: 15 Edge.
gamru, 6:34.
girru, 9:17, 20.

dabābu I, i: 5:19; 11:9. II,
i: 13:9; 2:Edge.
dayānu, 6:3.
damāqu, I, i: 12:10, 16.
dimmu, 24:4.
dannatu, 26:11.
dāriš, I and passim.
dūru, 18:9.

preventative
wabalu, III, i: 4:26, 33, 34;
6:42, Edge; etc. III, ii:
1:7; 12:7; 24:8; etc.
walādu, 7:12.
warū, I, ii: 21:3. III, i: 9:
22, 24; 19:14; 24:10, 12,
13; 29:R 10.
(w)ardu, 18:2.
wariki, 6:20.
warkanum, 7:13.
warkātu, 3:12; 5:Edge; 31.
waṣābu, I, i: 15:27.
waṣābu, I, i: 4:9, 14: 5:9;
waṣāru, I, i: 7:11; II, i: 16:9,
14.

preparatory
zakaru, I, i: 4:5; IV, ii: 1:9.

preparatory
ḥabatu, I, i: 4:30; 15:34.
ḥadū, I, i: 1:6; 4:10, 11, 14
and Edge.
ḥalāqu, II, i: 17:31.
ḥirū, I, i: 30:2.
ḥuṣābu, 30 R.
INDEX OF WORDS

31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Armenian</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>թաբու</td>
<td>١:١٧:١٢</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>թեմ</td>
<td>٤:١٥ and often.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>յավու</td>
<td>١:١٦:٩; ٢٤:١١; ٤:١٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>յաթո</td>
<td>٥:٢٢.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քաբու (؟)</td>
<td>١:١٧:٢٥.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քակու</td>
<td>١٥:٢٦.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քալո</td>
<td>١:٢١:١٣.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քալիթո</td>
<td>١:٢٤.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քվլիշո</td>
<td>٧:١٥.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քիմ</td>
<td>٤:٢٢; ٣٤; ٢:٨; R șa ٤:٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քիմինանու</td>
<td>٤:٢٨.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քանակո</td>
<td>٥:١٤, ١٩, ٢٣; ٢٠:٨.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քինաթո</td>
<td>١:Edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քիննաշաբո</td>
<td>٩١٤ R.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քուրումմաթو</td>
<td>٦:Edge; ١٥:٣٢.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քասպո</td>
<td>٢:٢١; ٨:١٣; ٢٦:١٦; ٢٩:٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քուշո</td>
<td>٤:٣٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քաշում</td>
<td>٤:Edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քաշադո</td>
<td>١, ١:١٥:٢٠, ٣١; ١٧:١٦.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>քութիմմո</td>
<td>٨:١٠.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>կեւ</td>
<td>١:٤:٢٤; ٥:٢٢; ١٨:١٣.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>կեւում</td>
<td>٣:١٥.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>կիթ</td>
<td>٤:Edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>կաբարո</td>
<td>١:١٥:٢٠, ٣١; ١٧:١٦.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>կութիմմո</td>
<td>٨:١٠.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>նադո</td>
<td>١, ١:٦:٨; ١٠:١٥; ١٥:٢٢.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մու</td>
<td>١٦:٣٥:١٧:١٢, ١٤, ٢٩.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մադիս</td>
<td>١:٦; ١٢:١٠, ١٦; ١٥:١١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մադա доход</td>
<td>٨:١١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>միդ</td>
<td>١٥:٢٩; ١٦:٤.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մայարո</td>
<td>٧:١١; ١٠:٨; ١٥:١٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մագարո</td>
<td>١, ٢:١٤:٨, ٢٤; ٢٩:٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մեհو</td>
<td>٤:٢٢.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>միհո</td>
<td>٥:١٠; ١١:١١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մահրո</td>
<td>١:١٥; ٦:٢٠; ٩:١٠; ١٠:٥, ١٦; ١٢:١٢; ٢١:٣.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մեհրո</td>
<td>١٦:٦; ١٧:٥, ٨, ١٠; ٢٧:١٥.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մահասو</td>
<td>٧:١١; ١٥:١٧; ١٠:٨.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մակալտو</td>
<td>١٤:١٨; ١٨:١٠.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մալ</td>
<td>٨:١١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մաման</td>
<td>١, ١٨ and Edge; ٤:٢٩ and Edge; ١٨:١٢; ٢٤:١٥.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>միմ</td>
<td>٥:Edge; ٨:٥; ٢٤:١٠.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մինո</td>
<td>١٤:٢١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մեսո</td>
<td>١, ٢:١٤:١٩.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մաս</td>
<td>١٥:٢٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մարարո</td>
<td>١٠:٩.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մաշ</td>
<td>٨:٢١.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մաթ</td>
<td>١:١٠; and sapir matim passim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>մաթի</td>
<td>١:١٧.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>միթարիش</td>
<td>٧:٩; ١٧:١٨.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>նադո</td>
<td>١, ١:٦:٨; ١٠:١٥; ١٥:٢٢.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Gloss</td>
<td>Assyrian Lexemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nadānu</td>
<td>pabu, qabu, i, ii: 1:26, IV, i: 14:17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nudunnū</td>
<td>parsigu, 28:24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nazāqu</td>
<td>pisatū, 6: Edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niziqtu</td>
<td>pišertu, 6: 19, 20.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nuṣatimu</td>
<td>pītū, i, i: 17:12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>naṭū</td>
<td>paṭāru, 17:14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>naṭītu</td>
<td>pū, 6: 7, 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nakādu</td>
<td>šābu, 15: 26; 16: 5; 22: 8; R šipšikkim, 3:11, 14, 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nakāru</td>
<td>šabītu, I: 10, 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>namū</td>
<td>šībtu, 7: 17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nēmettu</td>
<td>šabātu, I, i: 5: 14; 16: 6, 14; 14: 10; 17: 10; I, ii: 15: 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nasāquu</td>
<td>šubātu, 5: 32; R pasīgē, 28: 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nipū</td>
<td>šuḫārtu, 6: 42, 43.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nipūtu</td>
<td>šētu, 2: 9; 4: 36; 6: 42.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nārum</td>
<td>šānu, 15: 25, 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>naṣū</td>
<td>šarāmu, 16: 22.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>niṣu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>naṣāpakū</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qādištu</td>
<td>I, iii: 14:7, 23.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qātāmu</td>
<td>qātu, 9: 7, 16; 16: 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raʿāmu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reʿū</td>
<td>raʿāmu, 1, i: 1: Edge; 11: 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>riḏū</td>
<td>reʿū, I, i: 16: 5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raḥānu</td>
<td>reʿū, 3: 8, 18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>riḏū</td>
<td>raḫānu, 19: 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rédū</td>
<td>rédū, 3: 10; 15: 25.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Gloss</th>
<th>Assyrian Lexemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>palābu</td>
<td>parāsu, I, i: 3:12; 5: 12; 14: 17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>palgu</td>
<td>parsigu, 28:24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pānu</td>
<td>pisatū, 6: Edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paqādu</td>
<td>pišertu, 6: 19, 20.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parādu</td>
<td>pītū, i, i: 17:12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parādu</td>
<td>paṭāru, 17:14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parādu</td>
<td>pū, 6: 7, 24.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Gloss</th>
<th>Assyrian Lexemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sašitu</td>
<td>šānu, 15: 26; 16: 5; 22: 8; R šipšikkim, 3:11, 14, 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sībutu</td>
<td>šabītu, I: 10, 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sīhu</td>
<td>šībtu, 7: 17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sūšitu</td>
<td>šabātu, I, i: 5: 14; 16: 6, 14; 14: 10; 17: 10; I, ii: 15: 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šuḫātu</td>
<td>šubātu, 5: 32; R pasīgē, 28: 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šētu</td>
<td>šētu, 2: 9; 4: 36; 6: 42.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šānu</td>
<td>šānu, 15: 25, 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šarāmu</td>
<td>šarāmu, 16: 22.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Gloss</th>
<th>Assyrian Lexemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sašitu</td>
<td>šānu, 15: 26; 16: 5; 22: 8; R šipšikkim, 3:11, 14, 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sībutu</td>
<td>šabītu, I: 10, 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sīhu</td>
<td>šībtu, 7: 17.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sūšitu</td>
<td>šabātu, I, i: 5: 14; 16: 6, 14; 14: 10; 17: 10; I, ii: 15: 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šuḫātu</td>
<td>šubātu, 5: 32; R pasīgē, 28: 24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šētu</td>
<td>šētu, 2: 9; 4: 36; 6: 42.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šānu</td>
<td>šānu, 15: 25, 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>šarāmu</td>
<td>šarāmu, 16: 22.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEX OF WORDS

riḥu, 5:28.
raḵābu, III, i:26:15.
rāmānu, 2:22; 6:7.
rīqū, 7:18; 15:23.

ša'ālu, I, i:5: Edge.
šē‘ū, 4:25, 34; 6:11, 40, 42; 15:20, etc.
šībūtu, 19:5.
šadādu, I, i:15:27.
šaḥātu, I, i:12:13.
šakānu, I, i:1:15; 4:16; etc.
šulmu, 2:17, 19; 27:5, 6.
šarnū, 15:30.
šumu, 1:5.
šamnu, 8:11, 15.
šīmtu, 6:22.
šīnāti, 26:8, 13.

šina, 24:3; cp. I, 2:7.
šangūtu, 1:24.
šasū, I, i:1:17, Edge; 9:12.
I, iii:13:22.
I, iii:4:18; 16:16.
šapīru, 1:19; etc.
šīpātu, 30.
šapīla, 31:9.
šaqālu, I, i:1:24.
šīqīlu, 2:21; 30: obv.
šārāqu, I, i:29:8.
šarru, 5:4, etc.; 16:7, 8; 13:13, 17.
šūsū, 6:11, 30.
šattu, 6:8; 15:19; 16:35; 17:15, 25, 28.
šittu, 16:12.

tuppu, 1:26; 6:13; etc.
tupšikku, sab R:13.
tarū, I, i:9:9, 14; 12:15.
tabālu, I, i:15:19.
tarāku, I, i:15:19.
-tān, 6:11.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDEOGRAMS.</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. SÀ, 5:10, etc.; and often.</td>
<td>NU. GIS, 8:11, 15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DI. TAR, 6:33.</td>
<td>PA, 14:9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(GIS) DA. LA, 30: R 6.</td>
<td>PAD. É, 15:32.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUB. SAR, 2:23.</td>
<td>PAP. É, 17:11, 19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(GIS) GAR, 13:15.</td>
<td>SAL. GESTIN. NA, 29:5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUD, 10, and often.</td>
<td>SANGU, 1:24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUD. APIN, 6, and often.</td>
<td>SI. LAL, 21:12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUN, 5:10; 7:7.</td>
<td>SIB, 3:8, 18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID, 16:4.</td>
<td>SIG, 30: obv.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(GIS) KA. KU. LU, 30: R 3, 5.</td>
<td>SA. GUD, 7:15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(GIS) KU, 15:27.</td>
<td>SAH, 3:8, 18; 11:8; 22:5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KU. BABBAR, 2, and often.</td>
<td>SE. GIS. NI, 8:7, 9; 15:13, etc.; 16:28.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KU. DIM, 8:10.</td>
<td>SE. UD, 26:10, 15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LID. GUD, 7:5, 15.</td>
<td>TAB. BA, 21:11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LU, 14:6.</td>
<td>TAK, 12:6, 7, 16.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LU. GAL, 5:7, etc.</td>
<td>TÜG, 5:32.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>URU. KI, 15:6, 7; 19:6, 8.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>US. KU, 1:24.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ZAB. GI. IL, 13:9, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PERSONAL NAMES.

Amât-jiAi, 2 : 3; 4 : 2; 6 : 2.
Awil-jišamaš, 12 : 7; 20 : 2.
Anatum, 6 : 38.
sinnišArbiliya, 29 : 1.
dBabbarhegál, 8 : 14.
Birututum, 3 : 3.
iEnlil-bani, 10 : 1.
Etel-pišamaš, 24 : 2.
Etel-pišams, 5 : 2; 10 : 3; etc.
Etel-pišamaš, 24 : 2.
Etel-pišams, 5 : 2; 10 : 3; etc.
Walta, 9 : 1.
Gimil-jišamaš, 5 : 12, 13; 8 : 1; 9 : 2.
Gimiliya, 2 : 3; 4, etc.
Gimilišu, 7 : 3.
Damqi-liš, 16 : 10.
Ţabnamir-jišamaš, 24 : 1.
Ianti .... , 13 : 3; 26 : 3.
Ithin-jišamaš, 5 : 11, 18, 28; 8 : 7; 14 : 14.

Ikûnam, 5 : 8.
Ikûn-piš-jišamaš, 11 : 3.
inašepisum, 28 : 5.
Kal-Era .... , 8 : 3.
Lipit-jišamaš, 5 : 24.
Lipit-Ištar, 24 : 1.
Lipuša, 27 : 3.
Mûr-jišamaš, 3, 13, 17, 20.
Marduk-nasir, 22 : 3.
Munawirum, 14 : 3; 17 : 3; 31.
Nabi-... akil nuhatimmi, 14 : 9.
Nabium-mâlik, kalâ awil
alHabuz(ki).
Sin-îšmeanni, 11 : 11.
Sin-mâgir, iššakkum, 9 : 5.
Dingir-saga, 1 : 4.
Selibeš, 9 : 14.
PLACE-NAMES.

Kiš, 14:1, 6.
Kuta, 11:7.
Birbiru, 15:8, 12; 16:5; 17:23.
Labasar, 16:15, 38.
Dilanûm, 16:8, 13.
Tuplišuš, 3:11.
aZababa, 16:14; 17:21.
Im-, 15:6.
a-ú, 16:33.
Kikalla, 10:10; 12:8; 15:36.
5.

10.

15.

Rev.

20.

25.

30.

Edge.
LETTERS OF FIRST BABYLONIAN DYNASTY 49

902.

903.

Rev.

Rev.

15.
5. 

10. Reversal, 14 lines, much rubbed.

Fragments. 

Rev. 
2 lines broken off.
912

5.

10.

Reverse

about 9 lines broken off.

20.

15.