

lands of the Scythians and Thracians, to Colchis and the River Phasis, where those of his soldiers who were weary of their wanderings remained as settlers. Rameses was also the first, according to the priests, "who, by means of his long ships, subjected to his dominion the people who inhabited the coasts of the Erythrean Sea. After this achievement, he continued his course until he came to a sea which was not navigable, owing to its shallowness."* Diodorus expressly says that Sesostris (Rameses the Great) penetrated into India beyond the Ganges, and that he brought captives back with him from Babylon. "The only certain fact with reference to Egyptian navigation is, that, from the earliest ages, not only the Nile, but the Arabian Gulf, was navigated. The celebrated copper mines near Wadi-Magaha, on the peninsula of Sinai, were worked as early as the fourth dynasty, under Cheops-Chufu. The sculptural inscriptions of Hamamat on the Cosseir road, which connected the Valley of the Nile with the western coasts of the Red Sea, go back as far as the sixth dynasty. Attempts were made under Rameses the Great† to form the

* Herod., ii., 102 and 103; Diod. Sic., i., 55 and 56. Of the memorial pillars (*στήλαι*) which Rameses Miamoun set up as tokens of victory in the countries through which he passed, Herodotus expressly names three (ii., 106): "one in Palestinian Syria, and two in Ionia, on the road from the Ephesian territory to Phocæa, and from Sardis to Smyrna." A rock inscription, in which the name of Rameses is frequently met with, has been found near the Lycus in Syria, not far from Beirut (Berytus), as well as another ruder one in the Valley of Karabel, near Nymphio, and, according to Lepsius, on the road from the Ephesian territory to Phocæa. Lepsius, in the *Ann. dell' Institute Archeol.*, vol. x., 1838, p. 12; and in his letter from Smyrna, Dec., 1845, published in the *Archäologische Zeitung*, Mai, 1846, No. 41, s. 271-280. Kiepert, in the same periodical, 1843, No. 3, s. 35. Whether, as Heeren believes (see in his *Geschichte der Staaten des Alterthums*, 1828, s. 76), the great conqueror penetrated as far as Persia and Western India, "as Western Asia did not then contain any great empire" (the building of Assyrian Nineveh is placed only 1230 B.C.), is a question that will undoubtedly soon be settled from the rapidly advancing discoveries now made in archæology and phonetic languages. Strabo (lib. xvi., p. 760) speaks of a memorial pillar of Sesostris near the Strait of Deire, now known as Bab-el-Mandeb. It is, moreover, also very probable, that even in "the Old Kingdom," above 900 years before Rameses Miamoun, Egyptian kings may have undertaken similar military expeditions into Asia. It was under Setos II., the Pharaoh belonging to the nineteenth dynasty, and the second successor of the great Rameses Miamoun, that Moses went out of Egypt, and this, according to the researches of Lepsius, was about 1300 years before our era.

† According to Aristotle, Strabo, and Pliny, but not according to Herodotus. See Letronne, in the *Révue des deux Mondes*, 1841, t. xxvii., p. 219; and Droysen, *Bildung des Hellenist. Staatensystems*, s. 735.