

buffaloes, he proceeds : ‘ He slaughtered amtsi with his arrows. The amtsi that survived he captured and brought to his city Assur.’ In another inscription he speaks of killing thirty amtsi ; a preposition and noun follow, the signification of which are doubtful. I think the root is ישב, *yashab*, to sit or dwell ; but whether the king means to say that he killed them from an ambush, or that they were at rest when he attacked them, I cannot say ; nor indeed am I very certain that the root is what I have stated. In the same passage where these thirty amtsi are mentioned, he speaks of killing 257 of what I have translated buffaloes, with arrows, while driving in his chariot, and also 360 bulls with a weapon, which I suspect to have been the boomerang. From this it appears that the amtsi were, comparatively speaking, rare.

“ I feel that an apology is due to the Academy for offering a paper on a subject on which I possess such imperfect knowledge. Still, however, it may prove interesting to some ; and it may elicit observations from naturalists that may throw light on what I leave in obscurity.”

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Sir William R. Hamilton read a continuation of his Paper on some new geometrical applications of quaternions.