



Fragment featuring the Standard Inscription of King Ashurnasirpal II

Date

c. 760 B.C.E.

Medium

Gypsum

Description

"A large and valuable donation has been quite recently made to the Miscellaneous Department of the Cabinets, by Henry Dwight Williams, Esq., Commissioner of the Imperial Customs at Nanking, China. Many of the articles in this collection will serve a good

purpose in illustrating the religious rites, domestic habits, and practical arts of the Chinese and Japanese. Of still higher value are two slabs, with cuneiform inscriptions, from the palace of Sardanapalus, at Nimroud, which were sent to this country by Rev. W. Frederick Williams, a Missionary of the American Board, at Mardin, East Turkey, and a brother of the gentleman who presents them to Hamilton College." (SOURCE: Hamilton College Catalogue, 1868-69, p. 22) "All the world is represented in the Cabinet of Hamilton College. All the centuries and all the civilizations have delegates there - or ought to have. Heretofore China has spoken through the brilliant birds, three hundred in number, presented many years ago, when the writer hereof was a Freshman, by Dr. Peter Parker. Now China speaks again, (*tacita loquitur*,) with a multitude of voices that proclaim the thoughtful generosity, the love for science and the fealty to early attachments of Henry Dwight Williams, a native of Utica, and connected by blood or friendly ties with many of the older families of Oneida County... [a description of many of the items in the gift, most of which are from China] ...A still higher value among scholars will attached to a couple of slabs, with cuneiform inscriptions, from the palace of Sardanapalus, at Nimroud, supposed to date about 760 B.C. These treasures were sent to this country by Rev. W. Frederick Williams, a missionary of the American Board, at Mardin, East Turkey, and a brother of the gentleman who presents them to Hamilton College." (SOURCE: Hamilton Literary Monthly, November 1868, p. 125-26)

Dimensions

Overall: 4 1/2 x 7 5/8 x 3/4 in. (11.4 x 19.4 x 1.9 cm)