

A little later than Manahath we find Onam. Not contented to share his brother's empire or to occupy the position of a subject, he turned southward, and, a little below the point of divergence of the Nile's various branches, founded a town, which he named after himself, On, the strong city of the Sun, also called An-ra. There he kept regal state for some years, until a new invasion drove him from the throne; and his descendants the Anu, after threatening Egypt for a time from the coasts of Arabia Petraea, withdrew at last to Chaldea.²¹ On the lists he appears as Onnos; but his name as found upon the monuments is An, represented by the figure of a fish.²² There can be no doubt that he is the Babylonian Oannes or Dagon, so intimately connected with Ilus, none other than his oldest brother Alban.²³

I cannot tell precisely at what period Jahath or Jachath, the son of Alban or Reaiah, began his unhappy reign, whether during the life of his uncle Manahath or after his death. He is Achthoes, the cruel king of Heracleopolis, who was killed by his guards and Hercules, according to the lists. There are or were at least three towns in Egypt called Heracleopolis, two of which were in the Delta, one at its eastern and the other at its western extremity, while the third was situated on the left side of the Nile below Lake Moeris. It is probable that Achthoes inhabited and ruled over the town to the east of the Delta, not far from the dominions of his father Alban on the one hand and those of his uncle Manahath on the other. He is fully identified with the solar line of Seb,²⁴ and his name is read Ati on the monuments, where he is also represented as a monarch cut off in the flower of his age. This may agree with the statement of Sanchoniatho as to the unhappy fate of Jehid or Jeoud, the son of Ilus. This Jachath or Achthoes was confederate with Nesteres, the son of Usecheres, whom I will yet show to be Ha (the definite article) Ahashtari the son of Ashchur (or as our English version of the Bible erroneously reads Asshur), a great name in a distinguished family, the Ashtar of the Shepherd Kings.²⁵ He, however, is no Horite, and for the present must be dismissed. Nesteres or Ahashtari and Achthoes together made war upon Onam or Onnos, the

²¹ Lenormant and Chevalier, i. 205, ii. 359.

²² Osburn, i. 311.

²³ Bonomi, Nineveh and its Palaces, 330, quotes some valuable remarks of Miss Fanny Corbeaux, connecting On and Dagon.

²⁴ Osburn, i. 373.

²⁵ Id., ii. 522.

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