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THE BIBLE AND EGYPTOLOGY.

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THE excavations which have been made within the last twenty years by Mariette and his successor, Professor Maspero, and quite recently by the Anglo-American Society, and the Egypt Exploration Fund, have contributed to throw a great deal of light on the points of contact between Scripture and Egyptology. Those points are chiefly: the arrival of Abraham in Egypt, the rise of Joseph, the stay of the Israelites in the country, and lastly the Exodus.

I. The opinion generally admitted now by most of the living Egyptologists is that the arrival of Abraham and the settlement of the children of Israel took place at a time when Egypt was governed not by native pharaohs, but by those who are well known in history under the name of HYKSOS.¹ About 2300 to 2500 B.C., when the kingdom of Egypt had already lasted about 2,000 years, the country was invaded by foreign nomads whom the Greek writers have called either Barbarians or Shepherds. Their name, the HYKSOS, consists, as they say, of two Egyptian words which mean *princes of shepherds* or *nomads*. They took possession of the country by violent means, and the tradition of the depredations which they committed lasted up to a late epoch; but in the end they fell subject to the influence of the more civilised nations

¹ It is not the place to state here why I cannot agree with the view advocated by Dr. A. Kellogg in his learned book, *Abraham, Joseph, and Moses in Egypt*.