

into a camp, the name of fortified city, which is applied by the Septuagint to Raamses and Pithom, is also justified. Another point which was established by the discovery of Pithom is that it was Rameses II. who was the builder of the city, at least in the sense in which the Egyptian kings called themselves founders. Pithom possibly existed long before him, but he enlarged it considerably and built the storehouses. I have mentioned that the civil name of Pithom and of the neighbouring district was *Thuku*, or *Thukut*. The eminent German Egyptologist, Brugsch, first suggested that this word might be the Egyptian equivalent of Succoth. Names of that kind passing from one language to another are generally not translated even if they have a sense. They keep very much the same form ; the people to whose language it does not belong are guided only by the likeness of the sound, and give to the name a form which has in their own language a meaning possibly quite different from its original sense. Thus we must not wonder if the Egyptian Thukut has nothing to do with the meaning of tents of the Hebrew Succoth. We know now the first station of the Israelites, a station which is very appropriately given as a district and not as a city.

Pithom, in later times, became Heroopolis, or *Ero Castra*. This is a very important fact in reference to the geography of the Isthmus of Suez. All ancient authors agree that Heroopolis was situate at the head of the Arabian Gulf, called also Heroopolitan. We are thus compelled to conclude that the Red Sea extended a great deal more north than it does at present. This seems to be a generally admitted point among scholars, and especially among travellers who have been on the spot. The opinions differ as to the limits of the extent ; some think that it ended at the northern end of the present Bitter Lakes, at least in historical times, while others, what seems to be more probable, admit that it comprised also Lake Timsah. Whatever opinion is adopted, it changes considerably the views which have been prevailing for a long time as to the crossing of the Red Sea. Whether it took place north or south of the Bitter Lakes, it was through shallow water, which would be now dry land, except for the Suez Canal, and