

On Ps. 68, 28. 31.

In the *Journal of Biblical Literature* (Boston, U.S.A., 1891, pp. 151f.) Prof. Nestle has corrected מִתְרַפֵּס in Ps. 68, 31 into מִפְתָּרִם, a correction which no doubt others besides myself (*J.B.L.* 1892, p. 125) have accepted. May I point out here that the next words בְּאֹצֵר כֶּסֶף should probably be בְּאֹצֵר כֶּסֶף, and that these words with מִפְתָּרִם are a correction of מִנֵּי מִצְרִים כּוֹשׁ תְּרִיץ in v. 32. If this is right, correct יָדֵי into יִקְרְבוּ, and render v. 32,

Let them come with ointments from Pathros,
With store of silver let them draw near to God.

Of course I read, with Nestle, with בְּשִׁמְנִים.

Nestle closes his paper thus, "In רגמם und רגם (v. 28) ist zweimal der gleiche Stamm zu erwarten; das zweitemal im Dual, wie Jud. 5, 30 רחם und רחמתים neben einander stehen. Aber welcher? Dies diem docebit." I venture to think that all previous corrections are erroneous, and that we have to read

שְׂרֵי בְנֵימֵן צָעִיר יְדִידִים
שְׂרֵי יְהוּדָה רַב תְּמִימִים

"The princes of Benjamin the little, (God's) beloved ones,
The princes of Judah the great, blameless ones."

שְׂרֵי and הַרְבֵּה and הַתְּמִימִים and הַיְדִידִים may of course be read, if preferred, the passage being so corrupt.

יְדִידִים is due to the ingenuity of Mr. N. Herz, who

however proposes a different reconstruction of the verse, viz.,—

שרי בנימן צעיר | ידידים שרי יהודה | תרנים משרי זבולון

Having in preparation a critical work on the Psalms, based on a revised text, in which I fear I may be too radical for many scholars, I have thought it not too presumptuous to mention this explanation of a venerable *crux interpretum*.

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