

CUNEIFORM TEXTS  
FROM  
BABYLONIAN TABLETS, &c.,  
IN THE  
BRITISH MUSEUM.

PART XXVIII.

(50 Plates.)

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.

SOLD AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM;  
AND AT  
LONGMANS & Co., 39, PATERNOSTER ROW;  
BERNARD QUARITCH, 11, GRAFTON STREET, NEW BOND STREET;  
ASHER & Co., 14, BEDFORD STREET, COVENT GARDEN;  
AND  
HENRY FROWDE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, AMEN CORNER,  
LONDON.

---

1910.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

LONDON:  
HARRISON AND SONS,  
PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS LATE MAJESTY,  
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.



Part XXVIII of "Cuneiform Texts from Babylonian Tablets, etc.," contains texts from ninety tablets and fragments of the Kouyunjik Collections in the British Museum, the majority of which are here published for the first time. The texts relate to omens, and are copied from tablets made by the order of Ashur-bani-pal, king of Assyria, from B.C. 668 to B.C. 626, for the Royal Library at Nineveh.

The tablets included on Plates 1-42 are inscribed with omens derived from births, and are in continuation of those published in Part XXVII of this work. They include portents taken from the phenomena of animal as well as of human parturition; and the extraordinary character of many of the composite offspring described can only be explained as referring to events which might take place in dreams. Rarely, the human births are defined as referring to a special class, as with those derived from the offspring of princesses, on plates 3 and 4.

Plates 43-50 are devoted to omens derived from the liver of a sacrificial victim, and are in continuation of the texts already published in Part XX of this Series. The omens are here derived from the appearance of two parts of the liver which may probably be identified with the gall-bladder and the finger-shaped appendix known as the "processus pyramidalis." From peculiarities noted in the different portions of the liver, the diviner could foretell the probable result of a campaign, or the future of any private citizen who might consult him. Thus both public and private events figure in the lines devoted to the interpretation of the signs.

The copies have been made by Mr. P. S. P. Handcock, B.A., and have been revised and corrected by Mr. L. W. King, M.A., F.S.A., Assistants in the Department.

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

DEPARTMENT OF EGYPTIAN AND ASSYRIAN ANTIQUITIES,  
BRITISH MUSEUM.

*June 1st, 1910.*



## DESCRIPTION OF PLATES.

---

- I. Some of the tablets here published contain omens derived from the birth of children, others being connected with the birth of animals, sheep, cows, dogs, pigs, goats, etc.

PLATE.

(a). Of the human births, the following may be mentioned as of special interest:—K. 3966 contains omens derived from the offspring of princesses, including children with six toes, and with the eye of a lion, a serpent, a demon, etc. It may be noted that K. 10158 is a duplicate of K. 3966, ll. 1-9, but, as it gives no variants, its text is not included. On K. 4035 are enumerated various omens to be derived from the condition or absence of different organs in a new-born child.

(b). Of the animal births, it may be noted that K. 7200 relates to omens derived from the birth of various coloured pups. K. 3823, Rev., ll. 24 ff., K. 4079a, and 79-7-8, 113, treat of omens derived from the birth of sheep; different portents are deduced from the place where they cast their young, such as on a bed, or in the court, etc. While some of the abnormalities enumerated are possible in nature, such as a sheep with six legs, two tails, etc., other births, such as those of lions from sheep, can only be regarded as referring to events in dreams. Other omens of the same class are found among those relating to other animals, such as KK. 3838, 6698, which, besides referring to omens derived from the birth of kids of different colours, derive omens from the birth of a horse, dog, lion, serpent, fox, jackal, etc., from goats. Among other tablets of animal omens are KK. 9713, 12840, Sm. 502, which refer to the birth of pigs: it may be noted that the catch-line of K. 9713 refers to the birth of dogs (*cf.* K. 7200, pl. 5); KK. 6289, 12865, Rm. 2, 107, which contain omens derived from the birth of horses, among them being the birth of a horse with the head of a pig, etc., without hind and fore-legs, etc.; KK. 849, 5988, 8296, which relate to omens derived from the birth of calves, including the number of calves at a birth, a two-headed calf, the position of the horns on the right or left side, the similarity of the right or left hoof to that of a lion, etc....

1-42

- II. The remaining eight plates, containing a selection of texts relating to omens derived from the liver of a sacrificial victim, principally concern the two parts of the liver which may probably be identified with the gall-bladder, and the finger-shaped appendix known as the "processus pyramidalis." The variations in the gall-bladder, from which omens are derived, include observations as to whether it is split on the right or left sides, whether the lower or upper part is split, if it is split in two places on both the right and left sides, whether there is a depression in the left side, right side, or centre of the bladder, etc. K. 717 may be mentioned as of a special interest, for it shows that the month in which the omen was observed was an influential factor in determining its significance; this tablet enumerates the different events of public or private importance, which ensue when the observation was made in the months Nisan, Iyyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Ab, and so on throughout the year

43-50

## CORRIGENDA.

Pl. 1, 82-3-23, 56, l. 1, for read ; l. 3, for read ; l. 4, for read ; l. 6, for read , and for read ; K. 6790, etc., l. 10, for read ; l. 18, for the second read . Pl. 2, l. 30, end, for read ; l. 32, for read ; l. 46, for read , i.e., *suk-ku-ka*, "a deaf child"; l. 48, for read , and for read , i.e., . Pl. 3, l. 4, for read ; l. 13, for read , i.e., *mātu i-ša-ru*; l. 26, for read . Pl. 4, l. 7, for read , i.e., *aribu*, "a raven"; l. 15, omit after *ma-la*. Pl. 5, K. 4035, etc., l. 14, for read , i.e., ; K. 7200, etc., l. 2, for read . Pl. 6, K. 766, l. 2, for read ; K. 6281, between lines 4 and 5 there is a blank space of one line; l. 5, for read ; l. 8, for read , i.e., , *hušahhu*; l. 9, for read ; l. 13, for read ; for read , i.e., . Pl. 7, l. 2, for read ; l. 8, of only is visible; l. 15, for read , i.e., probably ; l. 17, for read ; l. 22, for read ; l. 32, second half, the traces are those of . Pl. 8, Rev., l. 6, for read . Pl. 9, l. 27, for read ; l. 38, for read . Pl. 10, K. 9222, l. 3, for read ; l. 5, for read ; l. 7, for read . Plates 11, 12, 13, and 14, the edges of the tablets are not where indicated by dotted lines; Pl. 12, K. 6667, l. 5, for read , i.e., ; K. 7178, l. 11, for read . Pl. 13, K. 6743, for read ; K. 7033, l. 1, for read , i.e., probably ; l. 5, for read ; l. 9, for read . Pl. 14, K. 12887, l. 4, for read ; K. 9166, l. 4, after insert ; l. 5, for read ; and l. 5 (and pl. 25, l. 3), for read . Pl. 15, K. 12754, l. 4, for read . Pl. 16, K. 12527, l. 4, for read ; l. 6, for read ; 82-3-23, 84, l. 6, for read ; l. 8 f., for read . Pl. 20, Rev., l. 2, for read . Pl. 21, K. 10592, Obv., l. 3, end, add . Pl. 25, l. 19, for read .

## INDEX TO REGISTRATION NUMBERS.

Registration Number.	Plate.	Registration Number.	Plate.
K. 134 + K. 4128	... 43, 44	K. 4035 + K. 4037	... 5
K. 182 + K. 3038	... 47, 48	K. 4064	... 45
K. 717	... 44	K. 4079a	... 38
K. 766	... 6	K. 5988	... 31
K. 798	... 37	K. 6221	... 42
K. 849	... 30	K. 6231	... 49
K. 1930	... 40	K. 6281	... 6
K. 2714 + K. 3831 + K. 4062	... 50	K. 6286 + K. 6295	... 39, 40
K. 3143	... 38	K. 6288	... 33
K. 3760	... 49	K. 6289	... 31
K. 3817	... 24	K. 6667	... 12
K. 3823 + K. 3835	... 7, 8, 9	K. 6698	... 15
K. 3838 + K. 7985 + K. 10404	... 32	K. 6743	... 13
K. 3966	... 3, 4	K. 6790 + K. 8081 + K. 9791	... 1, 2
K. 3985 + K. 6690 + K. 11202 + S. 241	... 25, 26, 27	K. 6910	... 18
		K. 7033	... 13

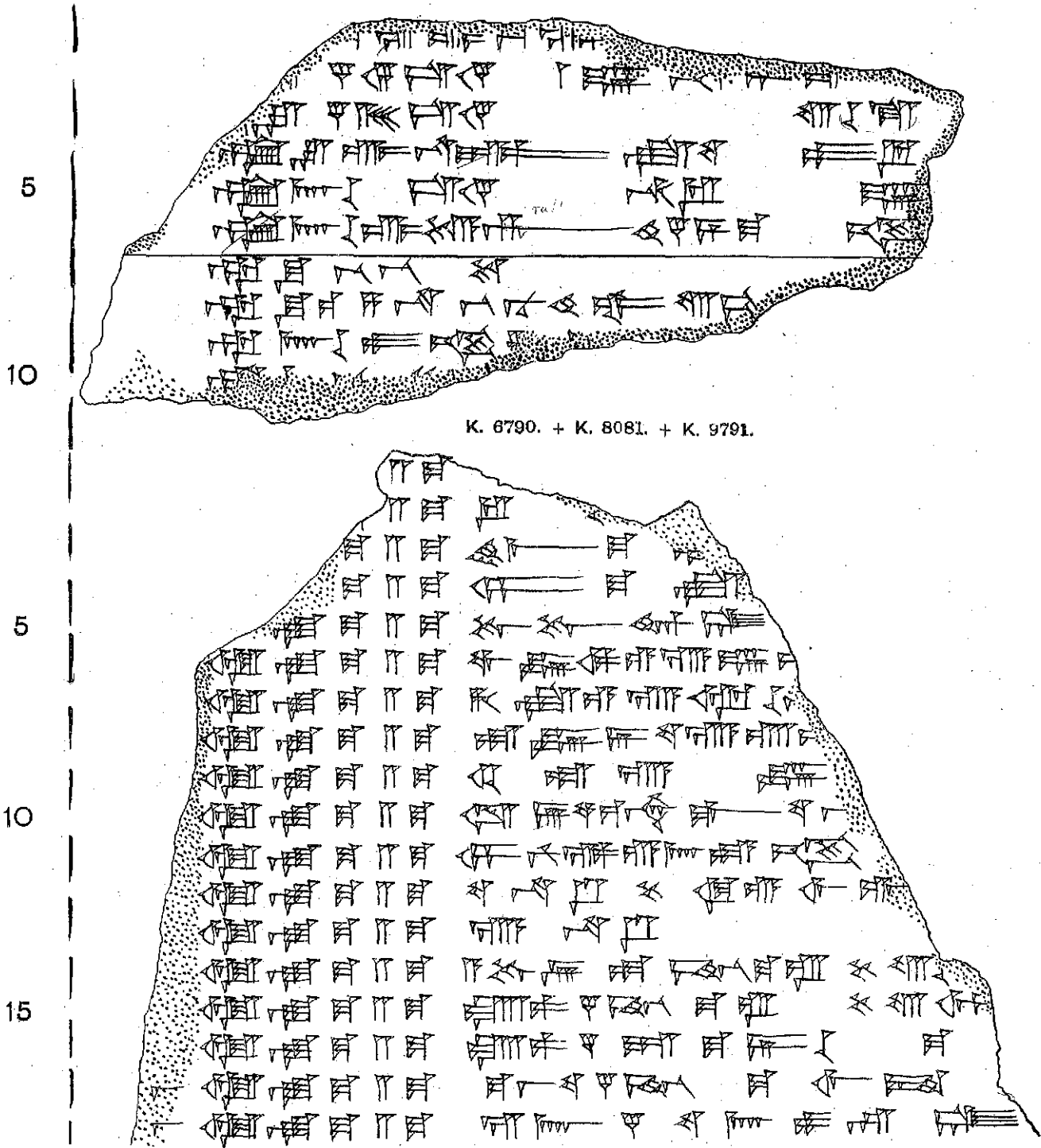
Registration Number.					Plate.	Registration Number.					Plate.
K. 7036	...	...	...	...	34	K. 12860	...	...	...	...	17
K. 7178	...	...	...	...	12	K. 12861	...	...	...	...	17
K. 7200 + K. 9862	...	...	...	...	5	K. 12865 + K. 12884 + K. 13960	...	...	...	...	23
K. 7278	...	...	...	...	10	K. 12886 + S. 1743	...	...	...	...	34
K. 7615	...	...	...	...	17	K. 12887	...	...	...	...	14
K. 8100	...	...	...	...	46	K. 12888	...	...	...	...	26
K. 8274	...	...	...	...	34	K. 13443	...	...	...	...	18
K. 8296	...	...	...	...	22	K. 13959	...	...	...	...	18
K. 8336	...	...	...	...	36	K. 13961	...	...	...	...	26
K. 8821	...	...	...	...	41	S. 502	...	...	...	...	35
K. 9166	...	...	...	...	14	S. 779	...	...	...	...	11
K. 9222	...	...	...	...	10	S. 826	...	...	...	...	48
K. 9466	...	...	...	...	18	S. 1101	...	...	...	...	21
K. 9614	...	...	...	...	16	S. 1927	...	...	...	...	18
K. 9713 + K. 10723	...	...	...	...	35	Rm. 2, 107	...	...	...	...	30
K. 9837	...	...	...	...	15	Rm. 2, 205	...	...	...	...	20
K. 10592	...	...	...	...	21	Rm. 2, 516	...	...	...	...	38
K. 10675	...	...	...	...	39	79-7-8, 89	...	...	...	...	37
K. 11090	...	...	...	...	34	79-7-8, 113	...	...	...	...	38
K. 11889	...	...	...	...	15	79-7-8, 127	...	...	...	...	14
K. 12001	...	...	...	...	19	79-7-8, 237	...	...	...	...	40
K. 12049	...	...	...	...	15	80-7-19, 60	...	...	...	...	32
K. 12074	...	...	...	...	48	81-2-4, 199	...	...	...	...	41
K. 12278	...	...	...	...	41, 42	81-7-27, 108	...	...	...	...	38
K. 12527	...	...	...	...	16	82-3-23, 38	...	...	...	...	24
K. 12534	...	...	...	...	16	82-3-23, 56	...	...	...	...	1
K. 12749	...	...	...	...	19	82-3-23, 84	...	...	...	...	16
K. 12754	...	...	...	...	15	82-5-22, 196a	...	...	...	28, 29	29
K. 12840 + K. 14180	...	...	...	...	35	82-5-22, 522	...	...	...	...	19
K. 12859	...	...	...	...	19	83-1-18, 448	...	...	...	...	47





OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

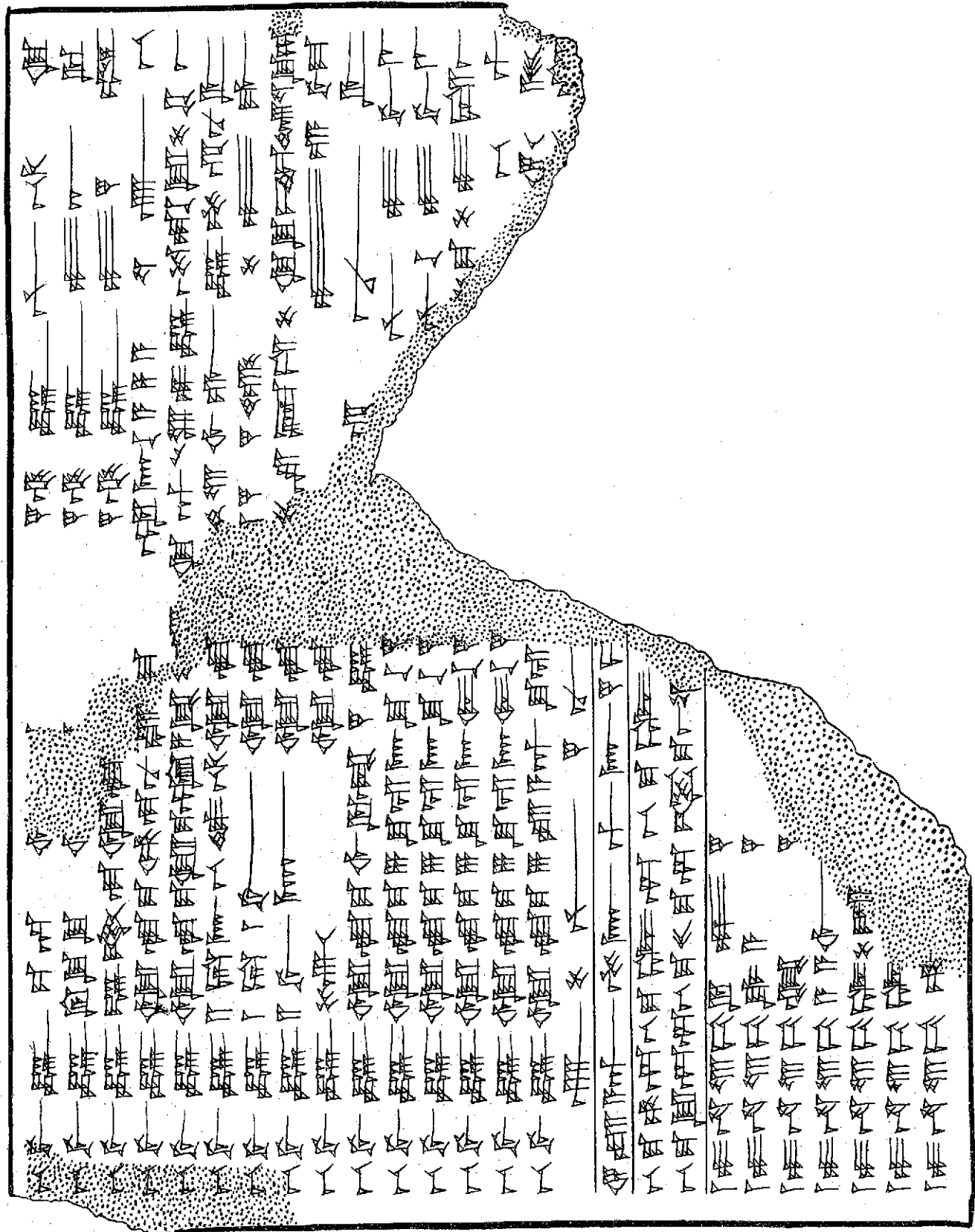
82, 3-23, 56.





OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3966,  
OBVERSE.



5

10

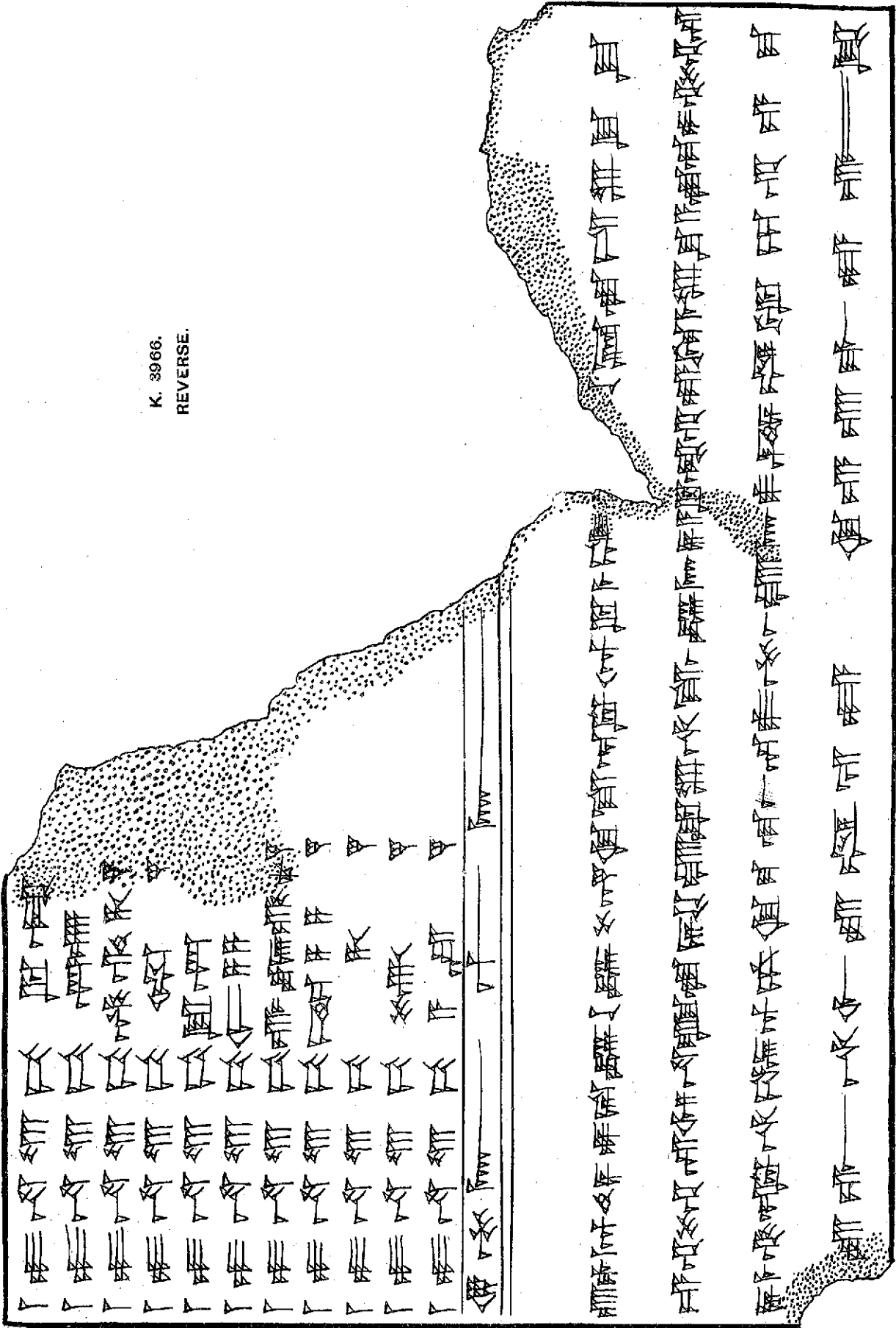
15

20

25

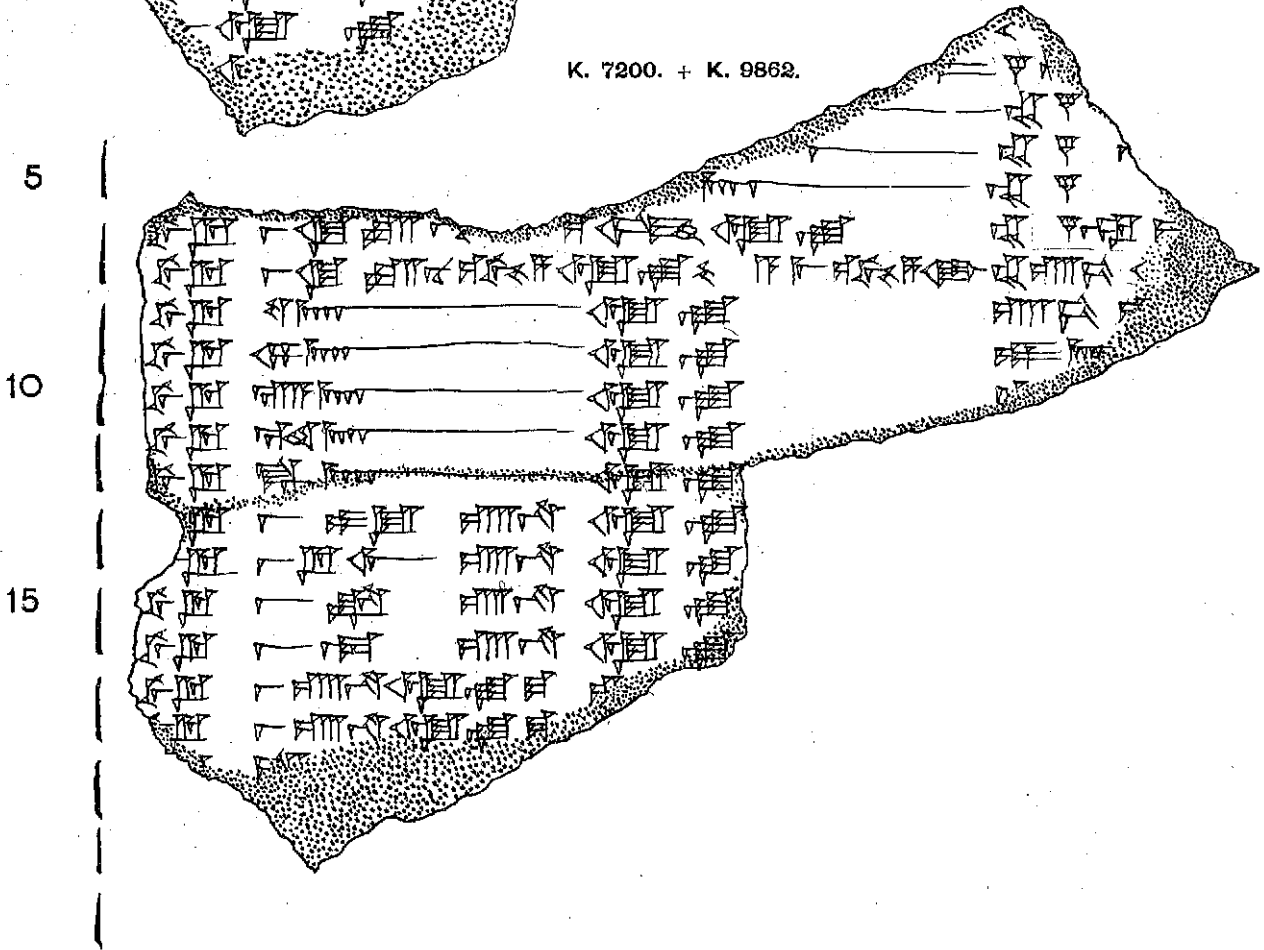
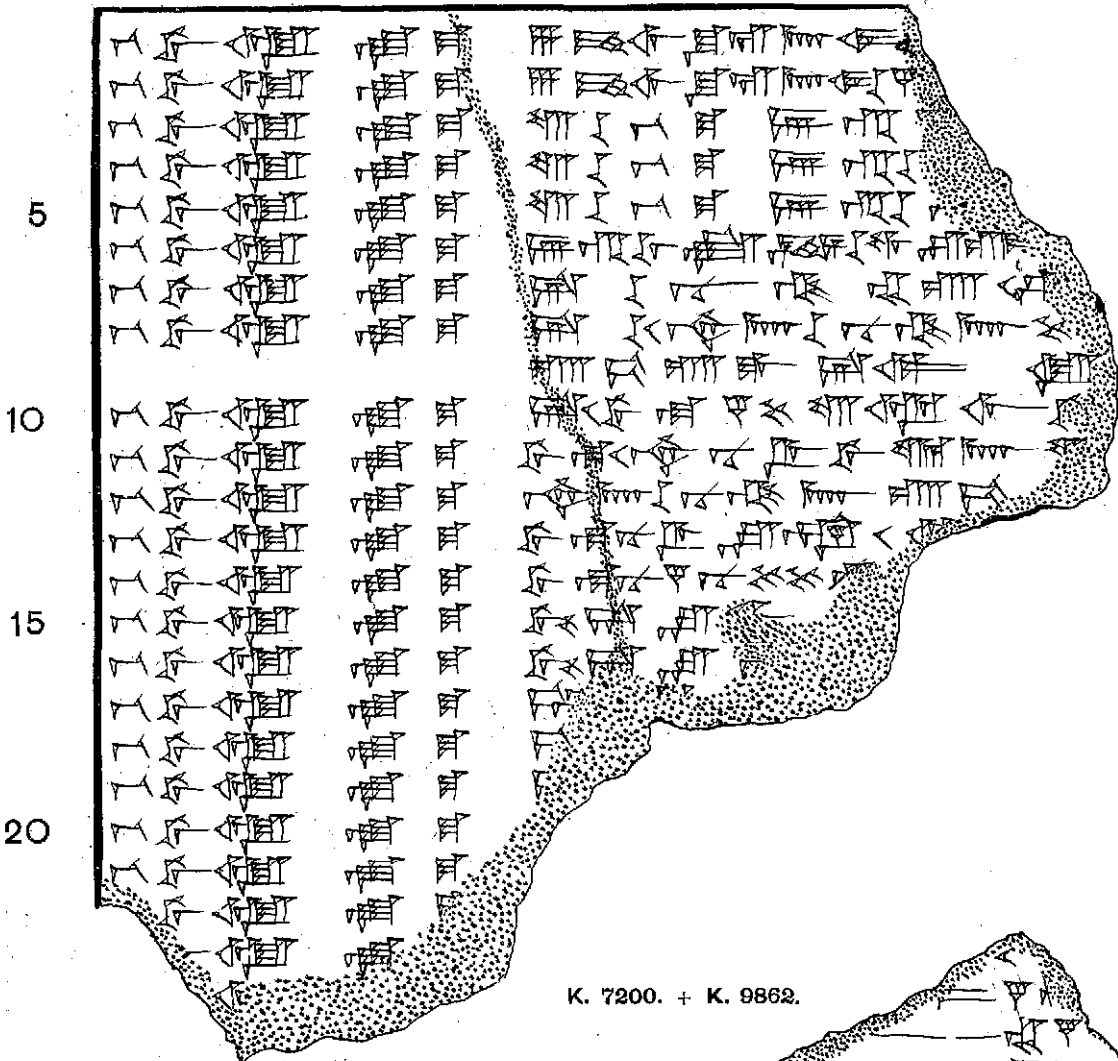
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3966.  
REVERSE.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

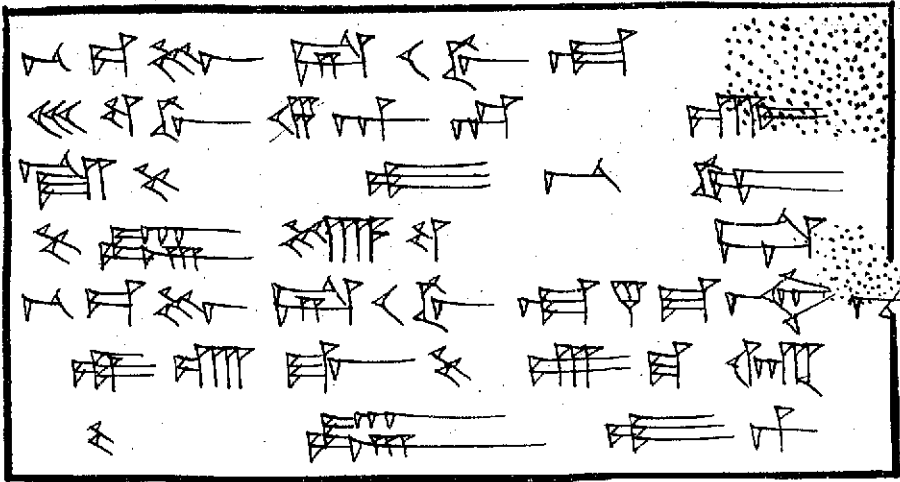
K. 4035. + K. 4037.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 766.

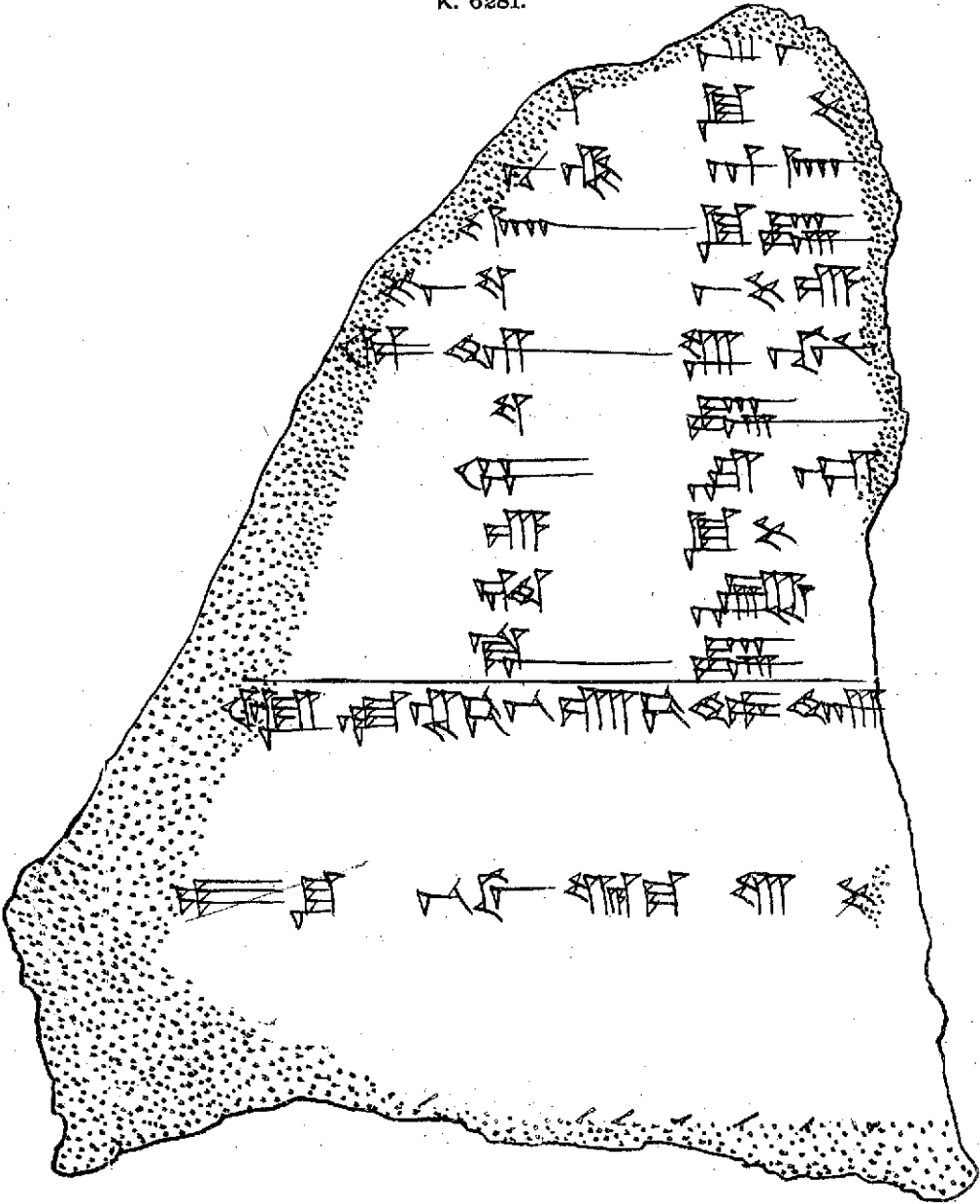
5



K. 6281.

5

10



## OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

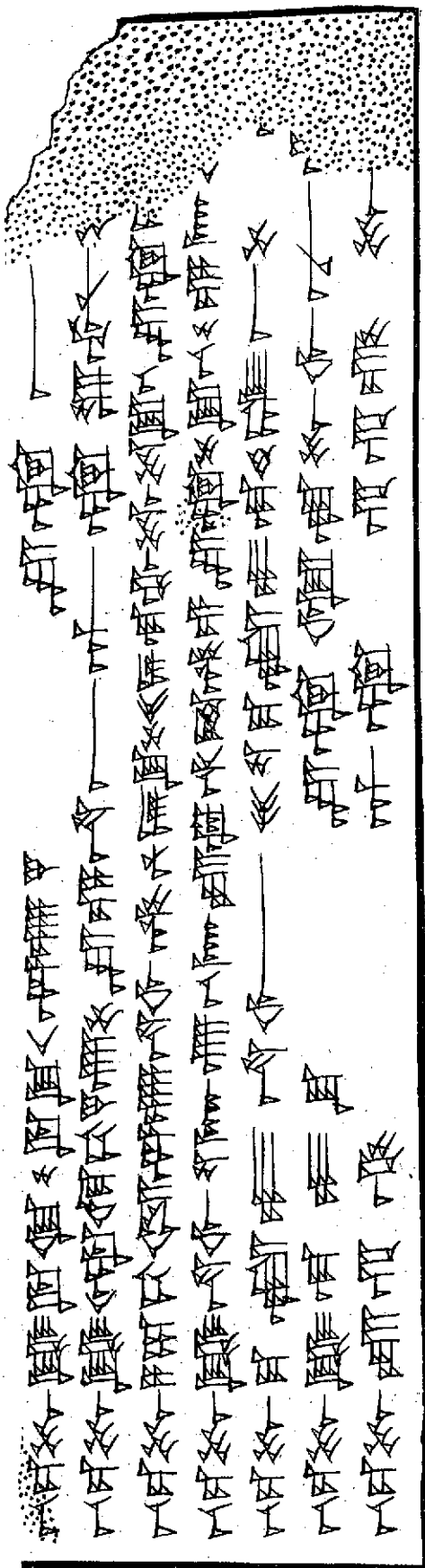
K. 3823. + K. 3835.

OBVERSE.

[illegible]

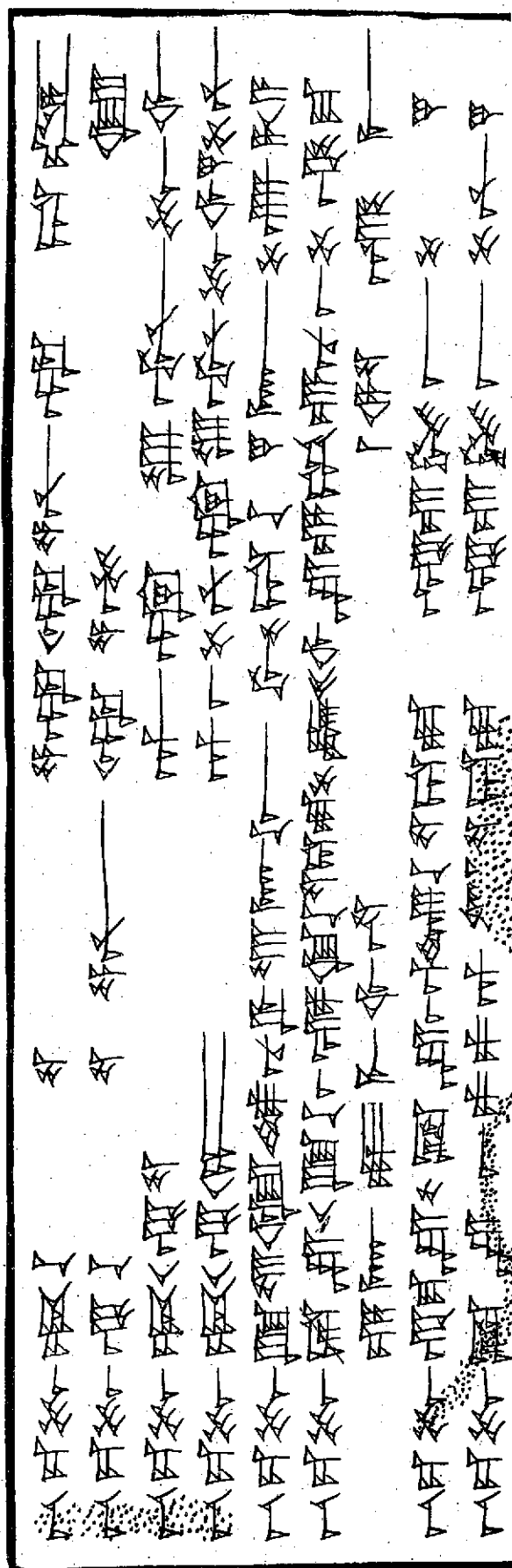
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3823. + K. 3835. OBVERSE (CONT.)



40

K. 3823. + K. 3835. REVERSE.



5







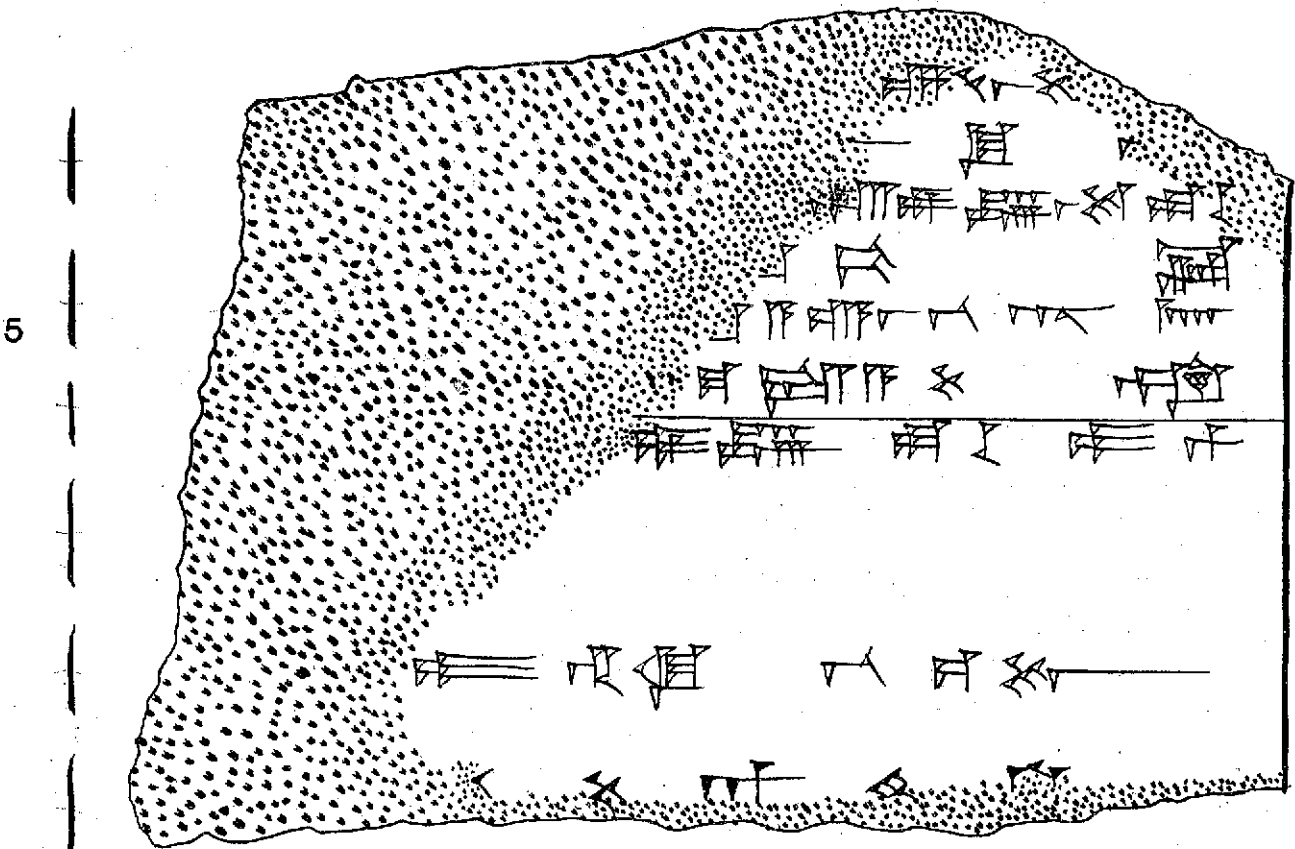
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

S. 779.

OBVERSE.

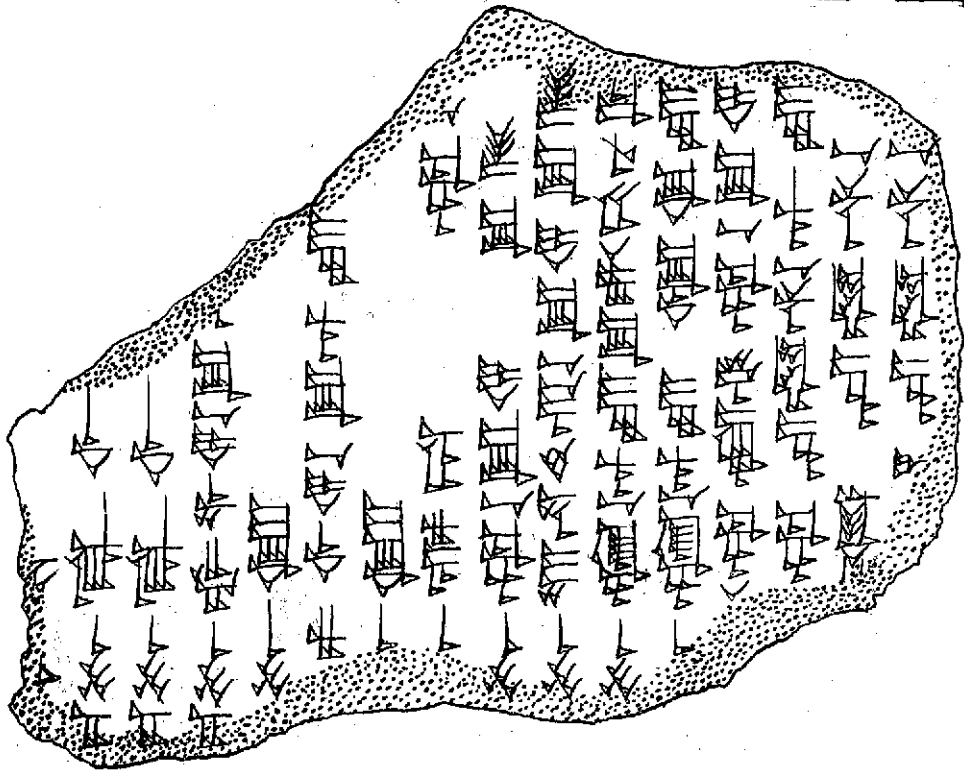


S. 779, REVERSE.

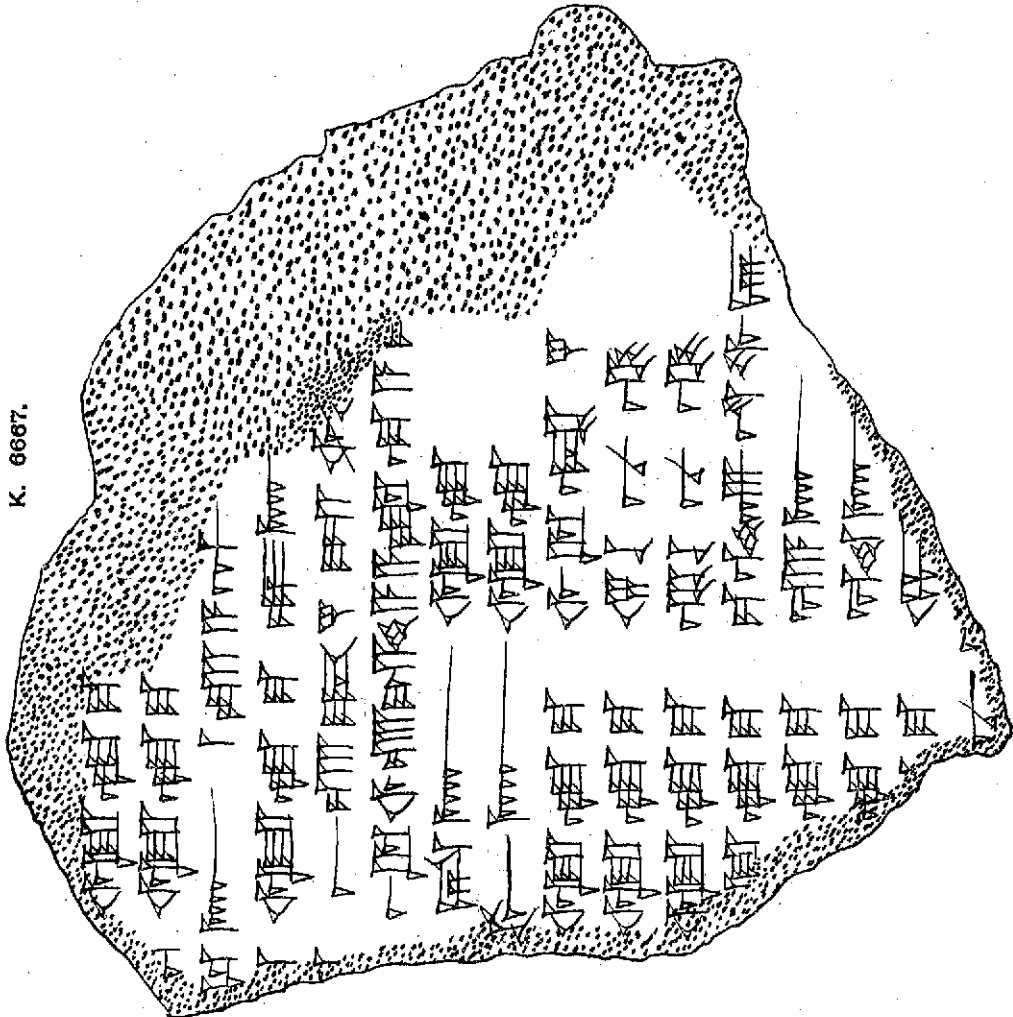


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 717B.

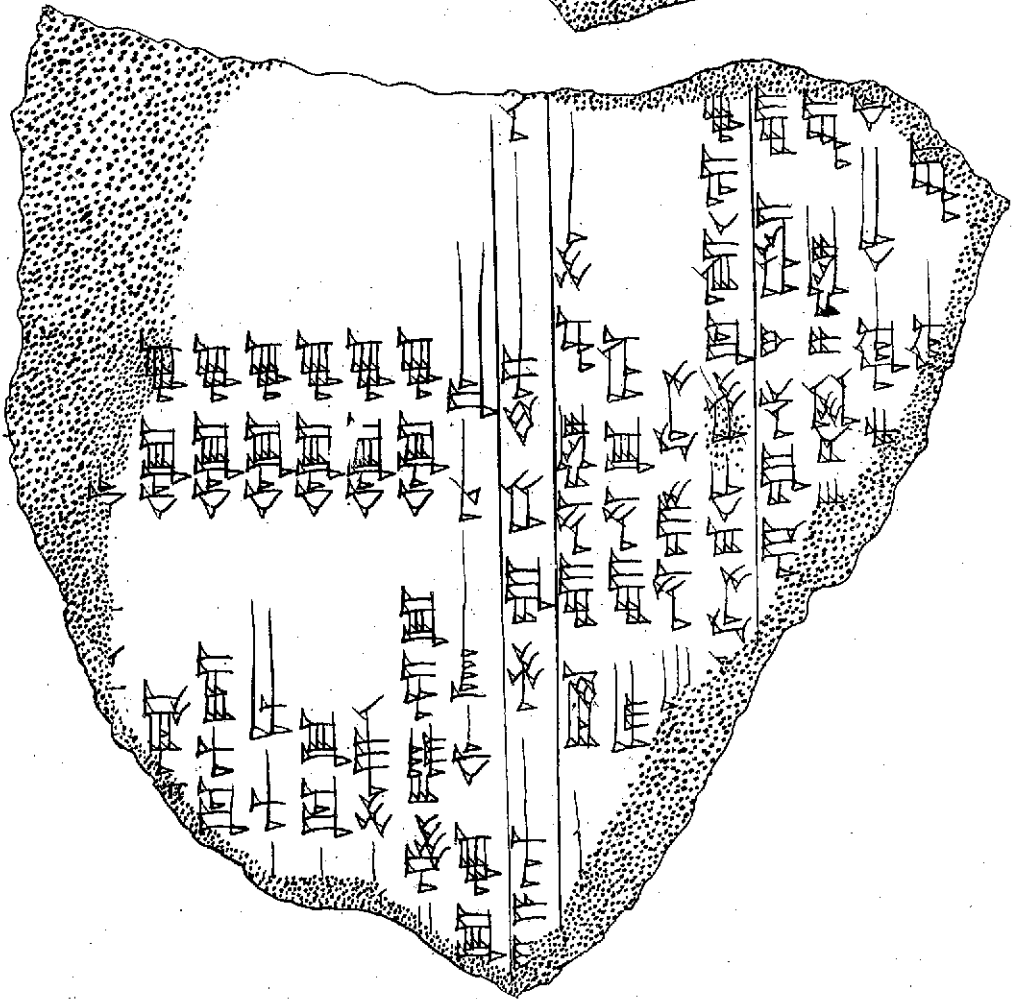


K. 9687.

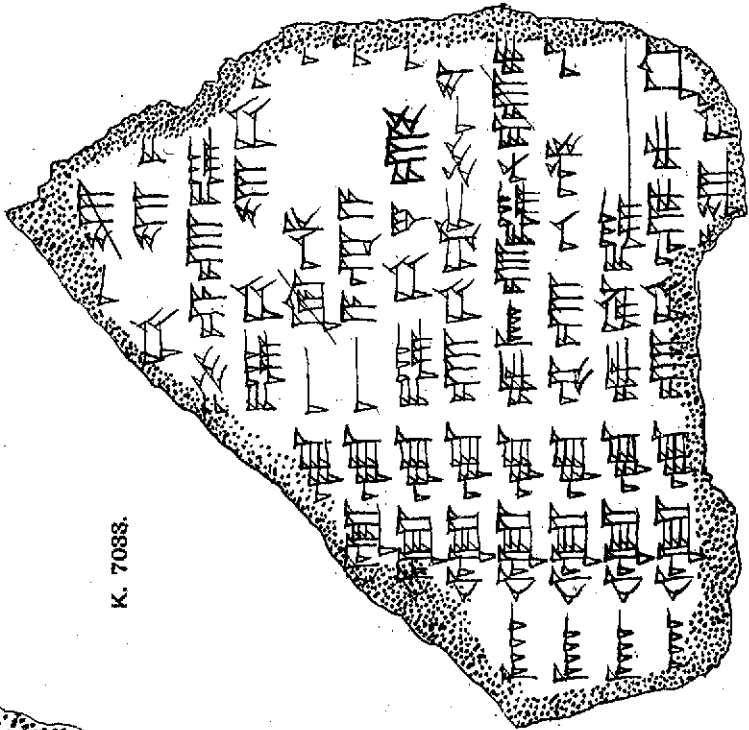


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 6743.



K. 7033.

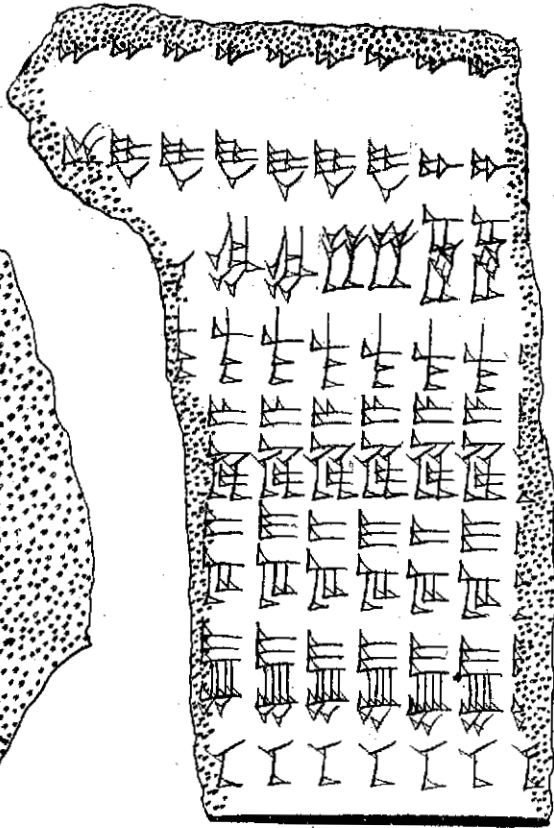


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 9166.



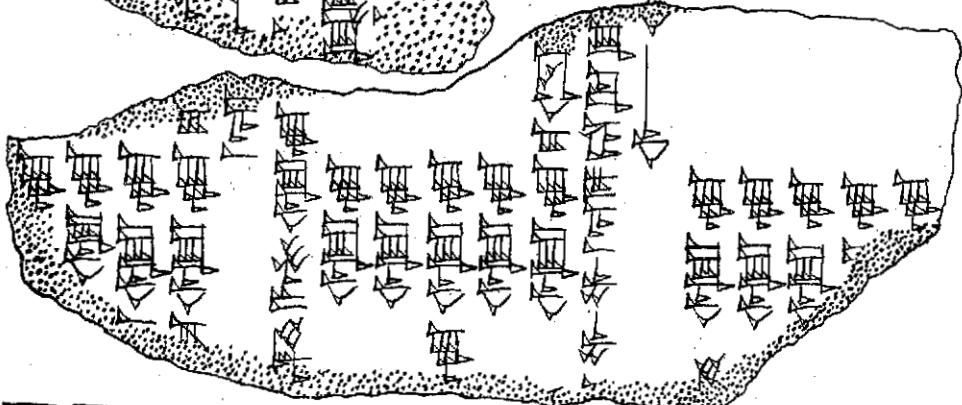
79-7-8, 127.



5

10

K. 12887.



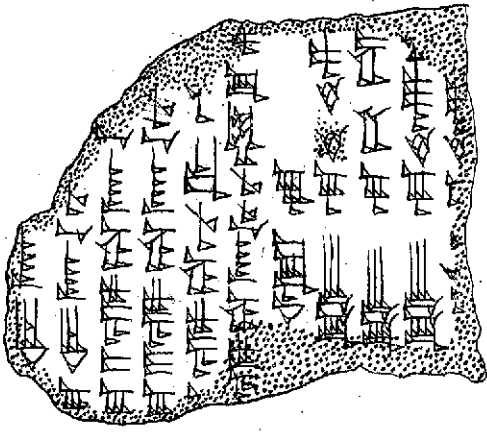
5

10

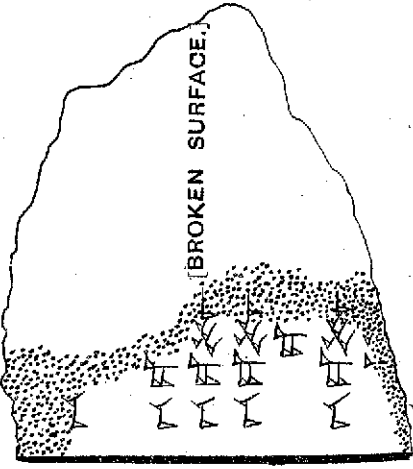
15

OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 12754.



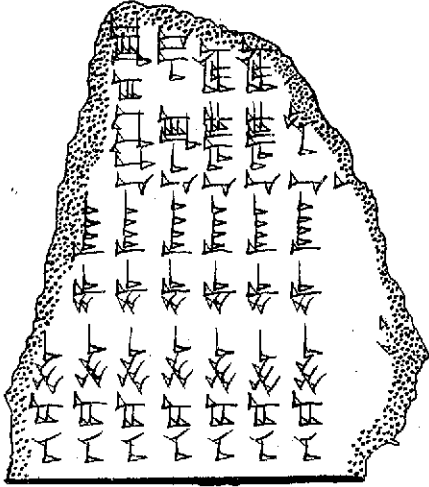
K. 12049 OBVERSE.



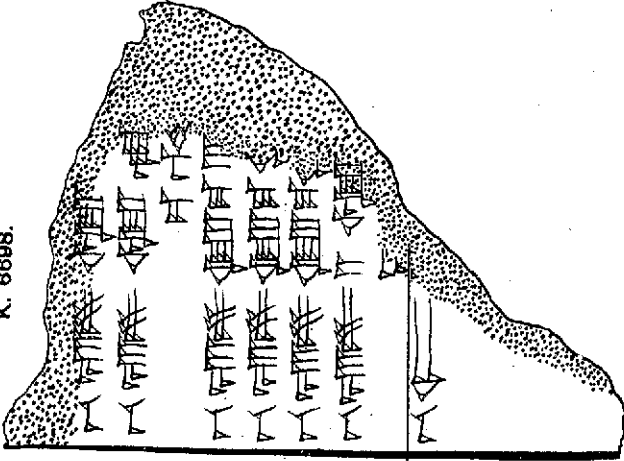
K. 9837.



K. 12049 REVERSE.



K. 6698.



K. 11889.



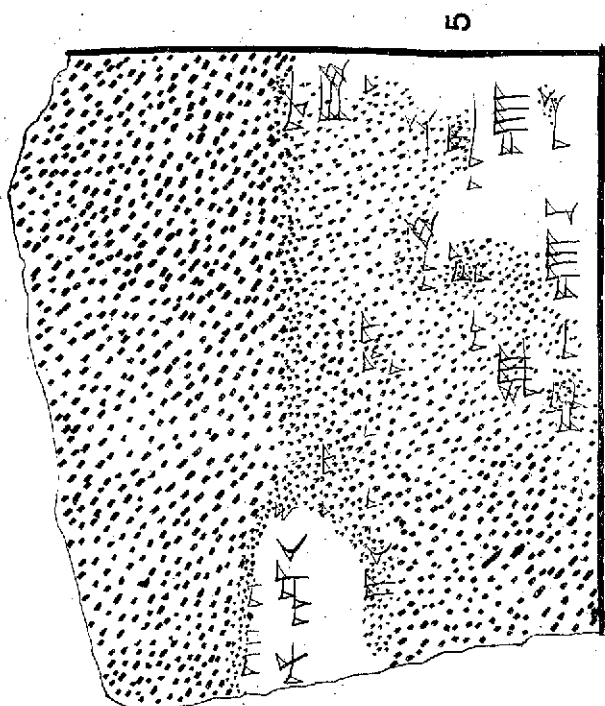
5

5

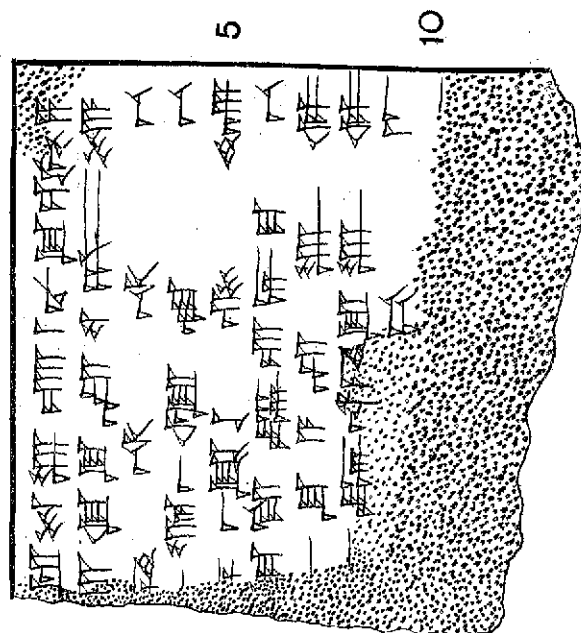
10

OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 9614, OBVERSE.



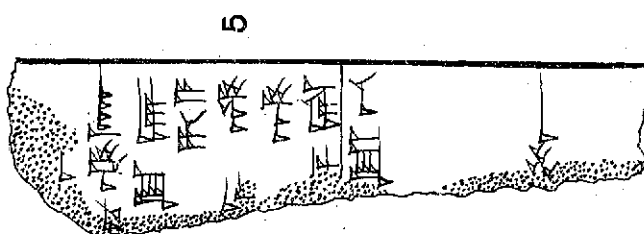
K. 9614, REVERSE.



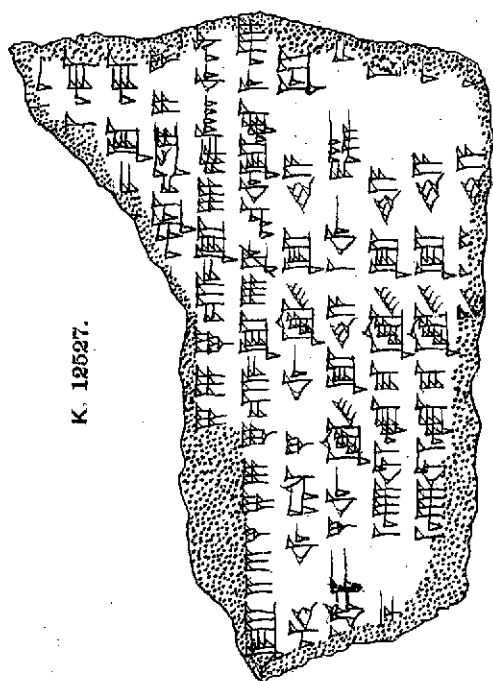
K. 12534, OBVERSE.



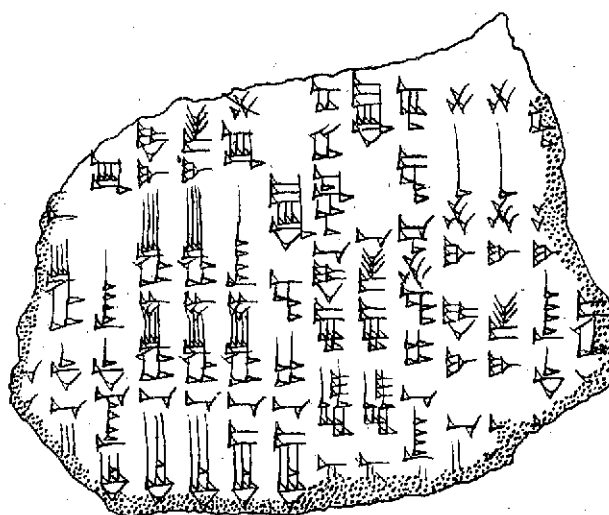
K. 12534, REVERSE.



K. 12527.



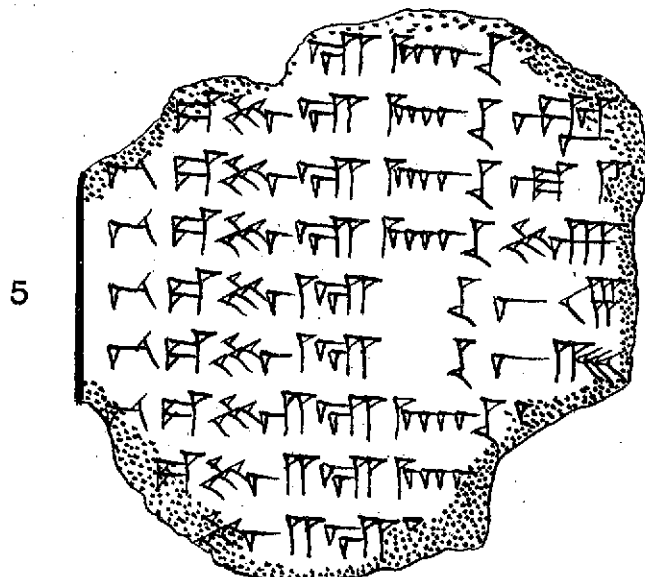
82-3-23, 84.



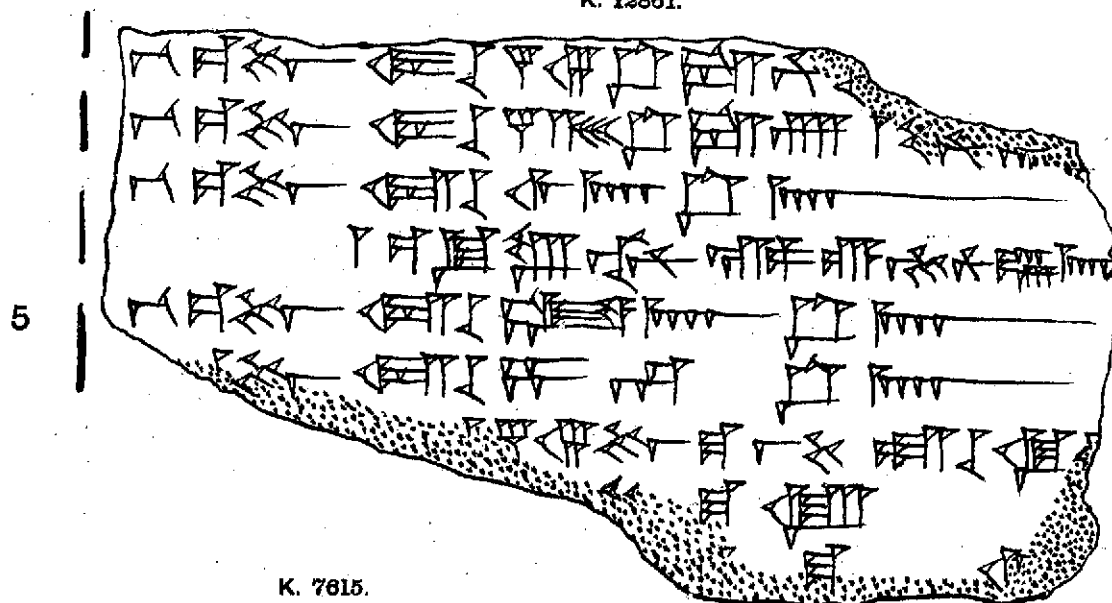


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

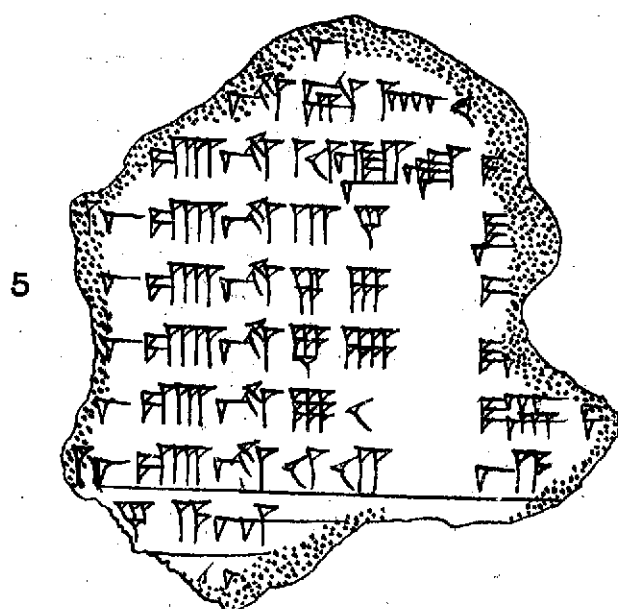
K. 12860.



K. 12861.

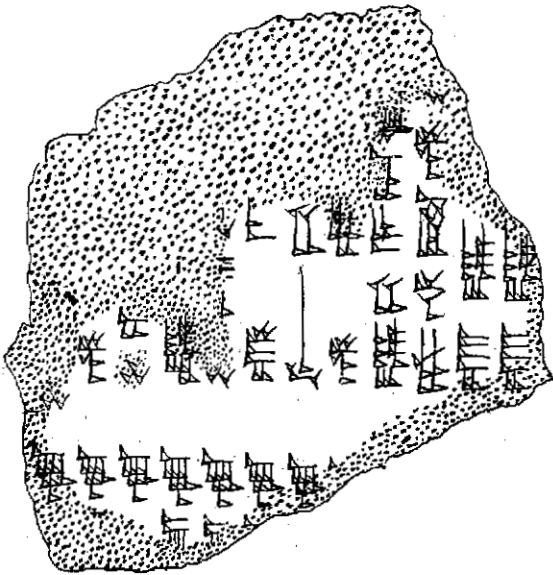


K. 7615.

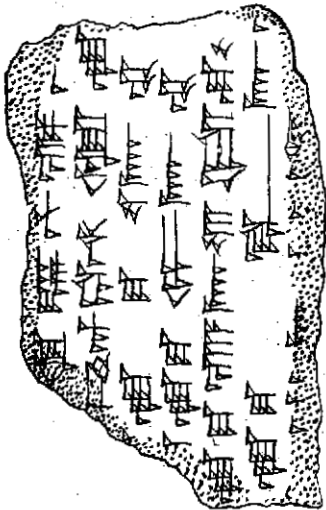


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

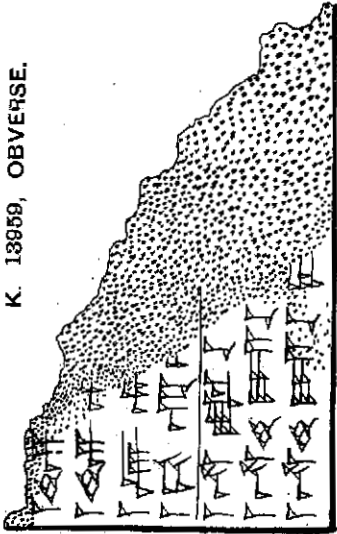
S. 1927.



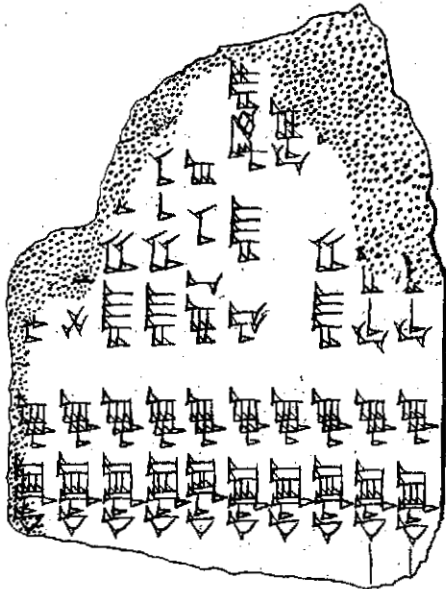
K 13443.



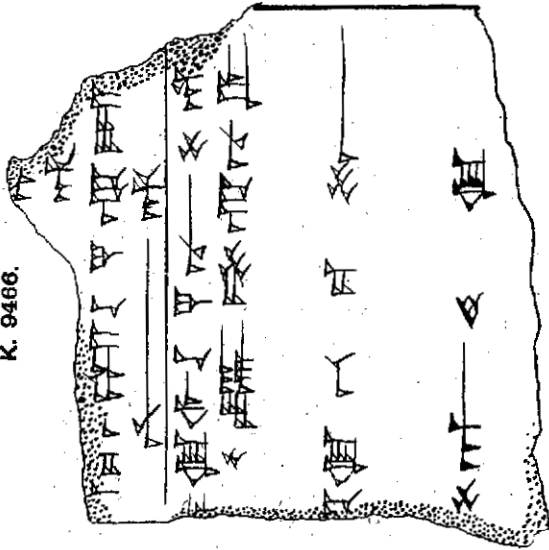
K. 13959, OBVERSE.



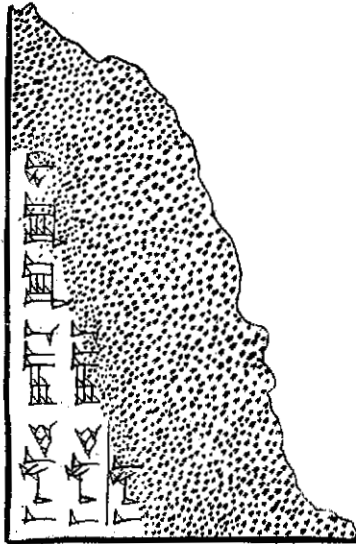
K. 6910.



K. 9466.

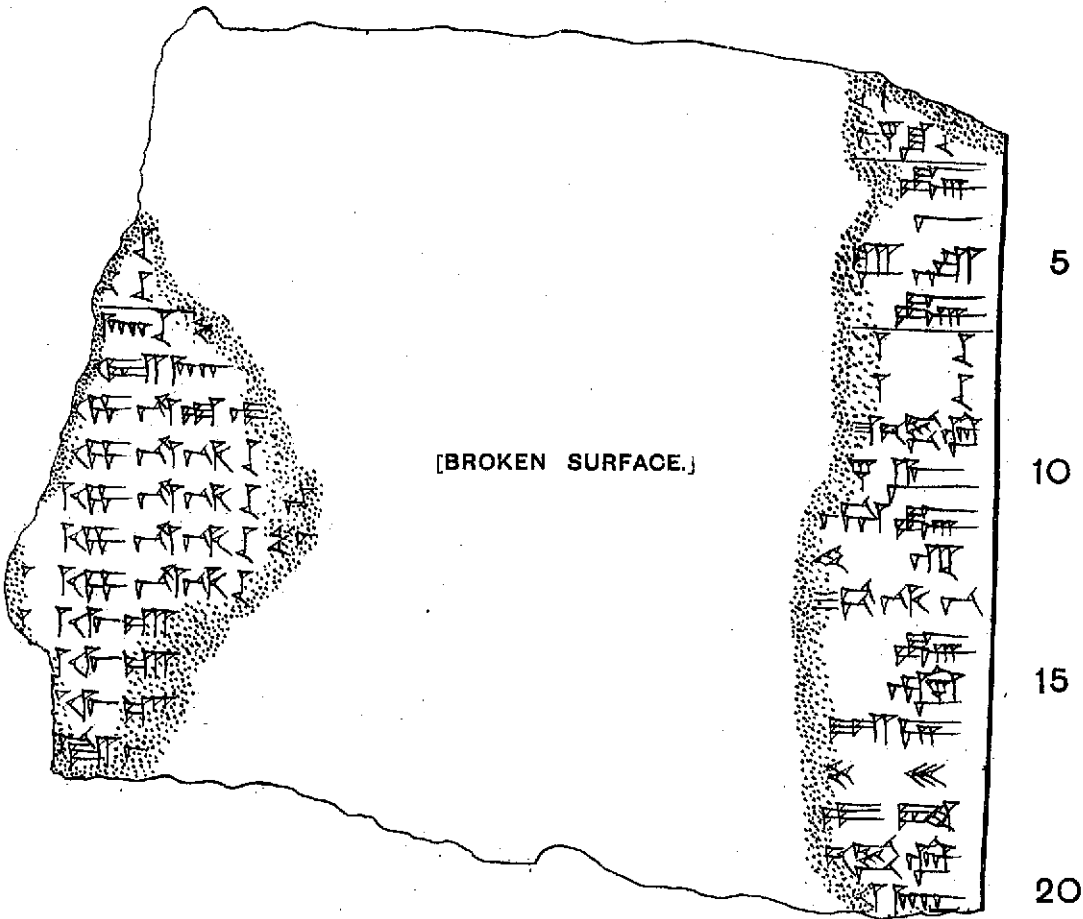


K. 13959 REVERSE.

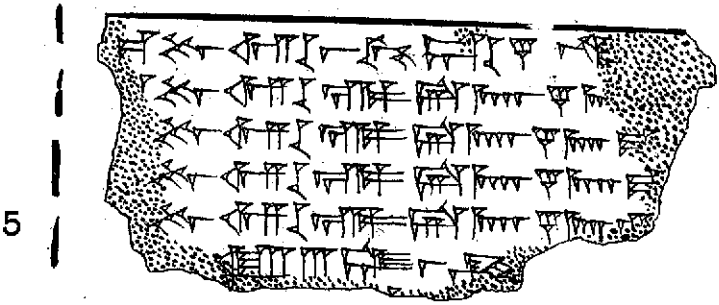


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

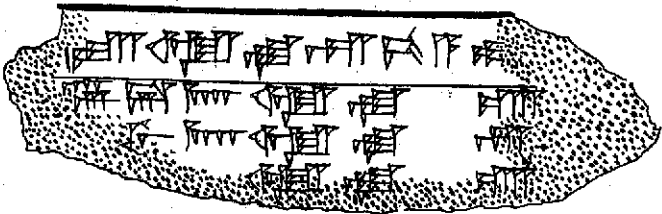
82-5-22, 522.



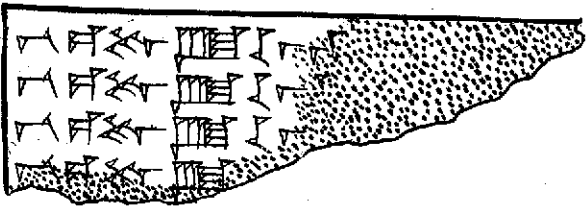
K. 12001.



K. 12749.

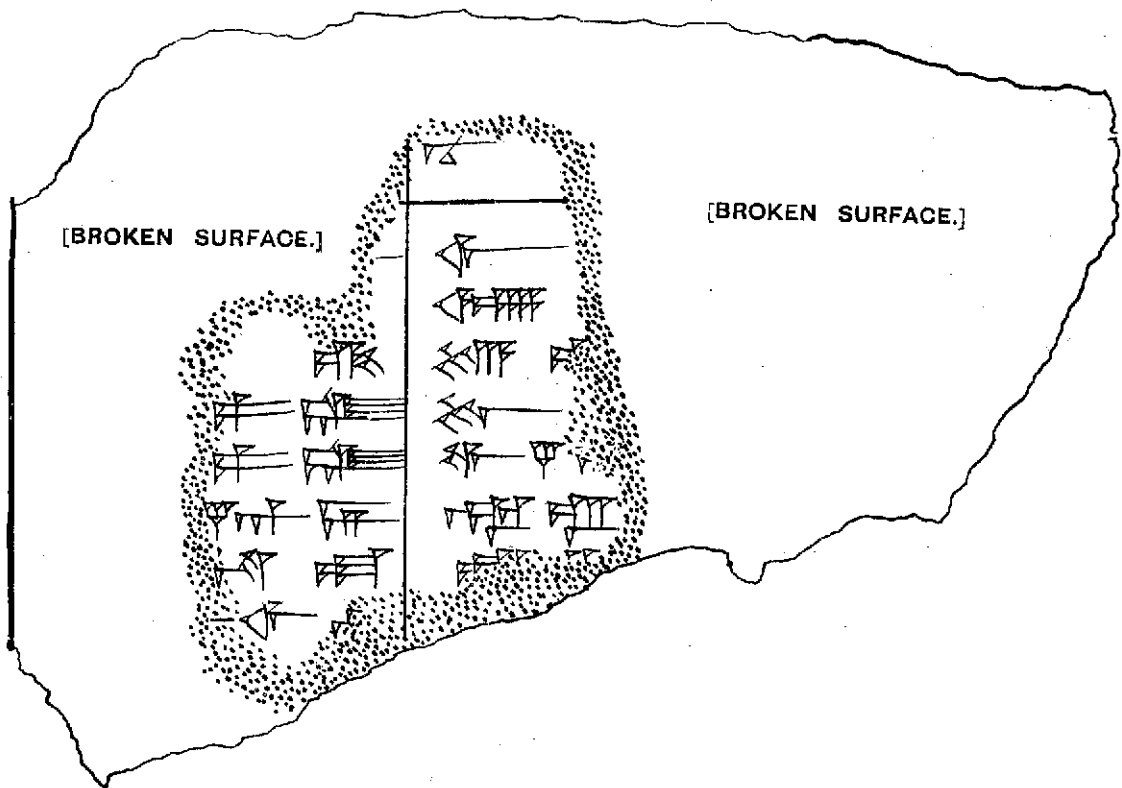


K. 12859.

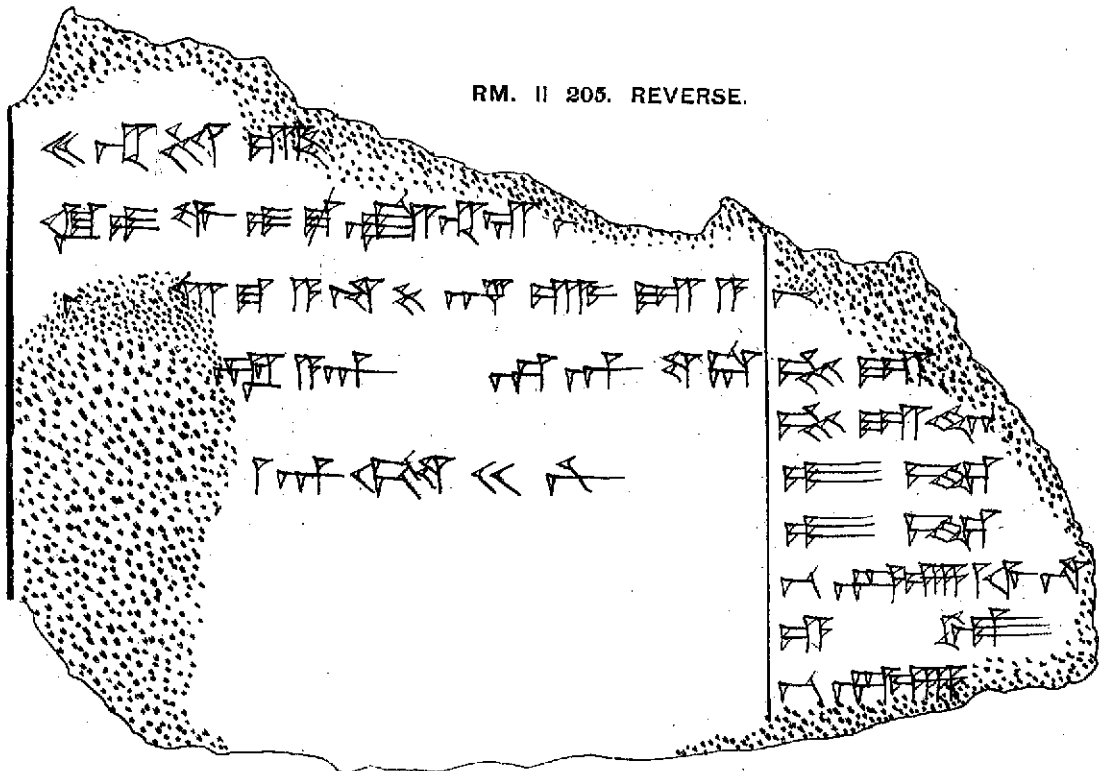


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

RM. II 205. OBTVERSE.



RM. II 205. REVERSE.

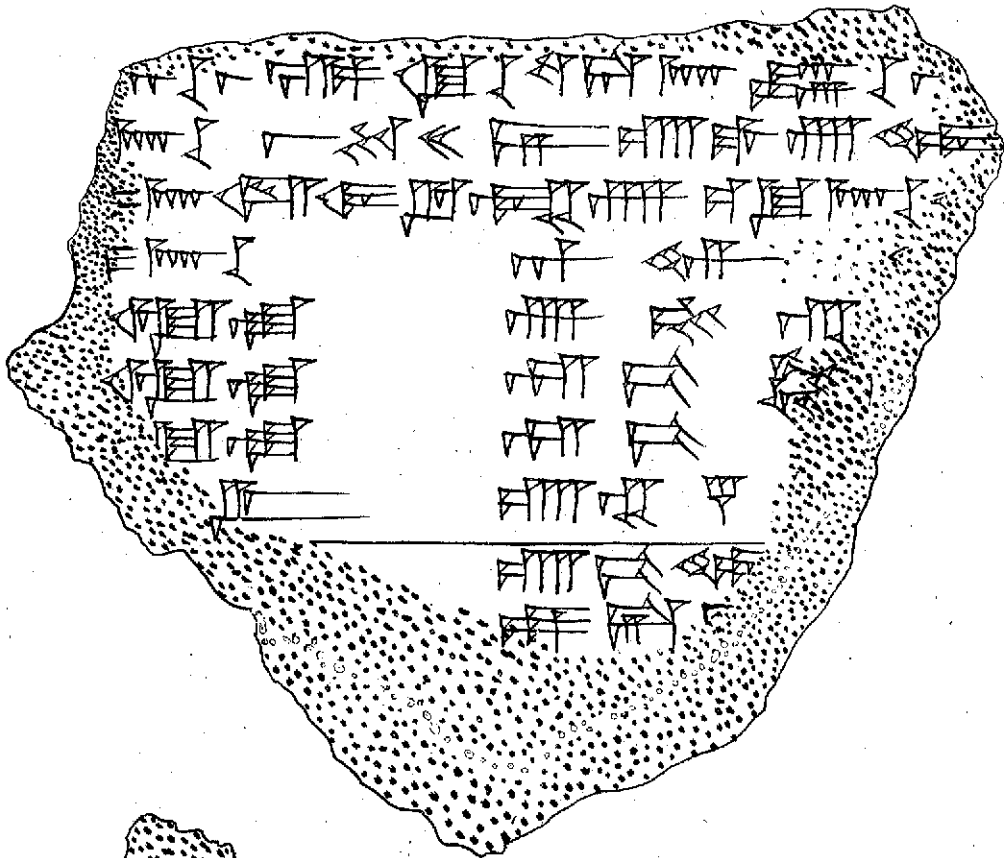


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

S. 1101.

5

10

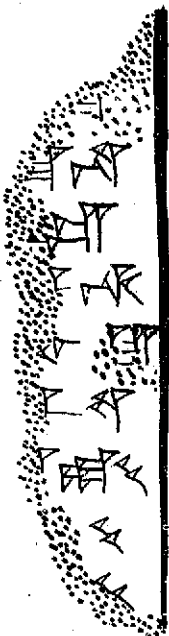
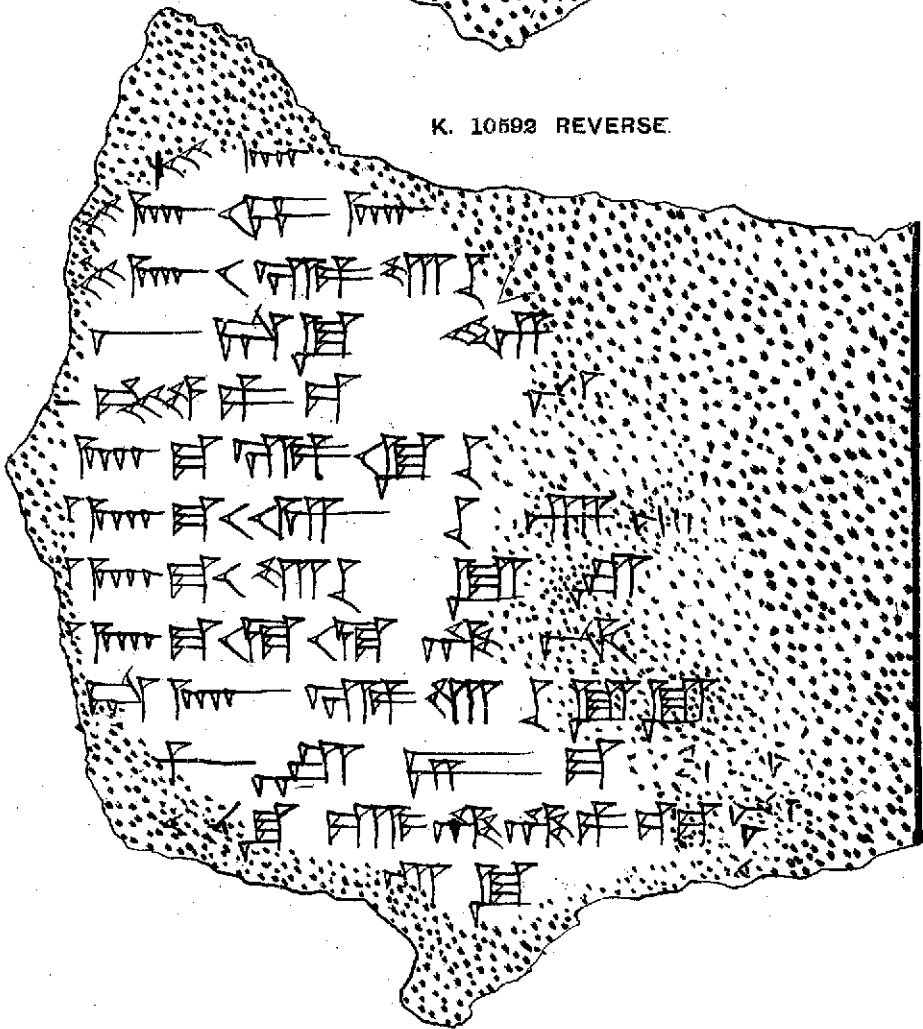


K. 10592 REVERSE.

K. 10592  
OBVERSE

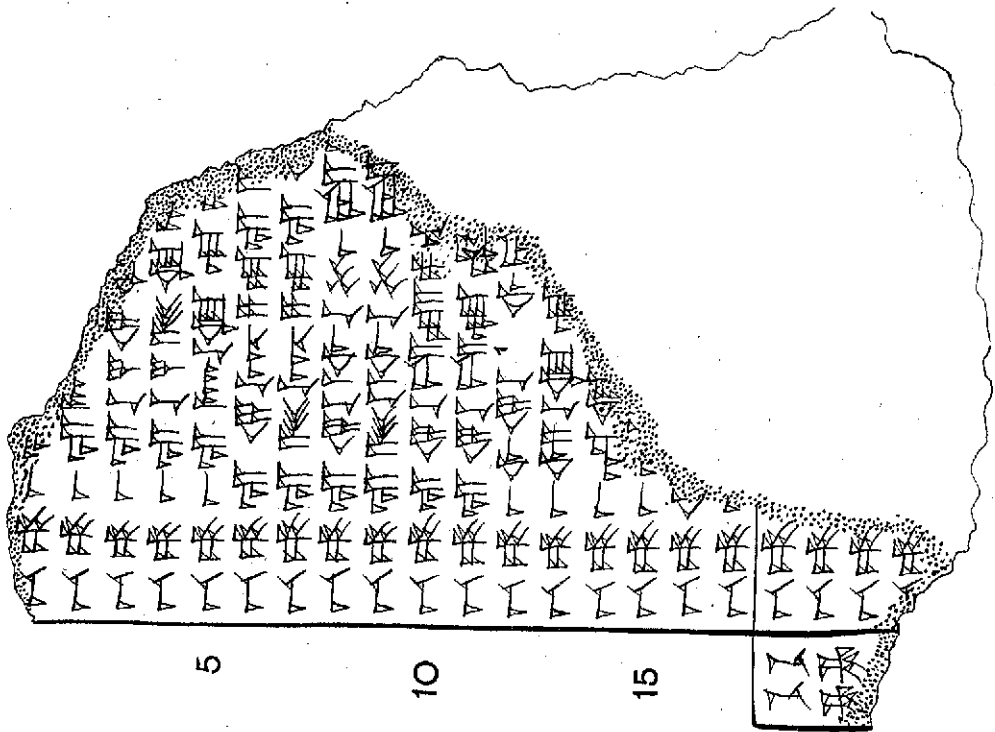
5

10



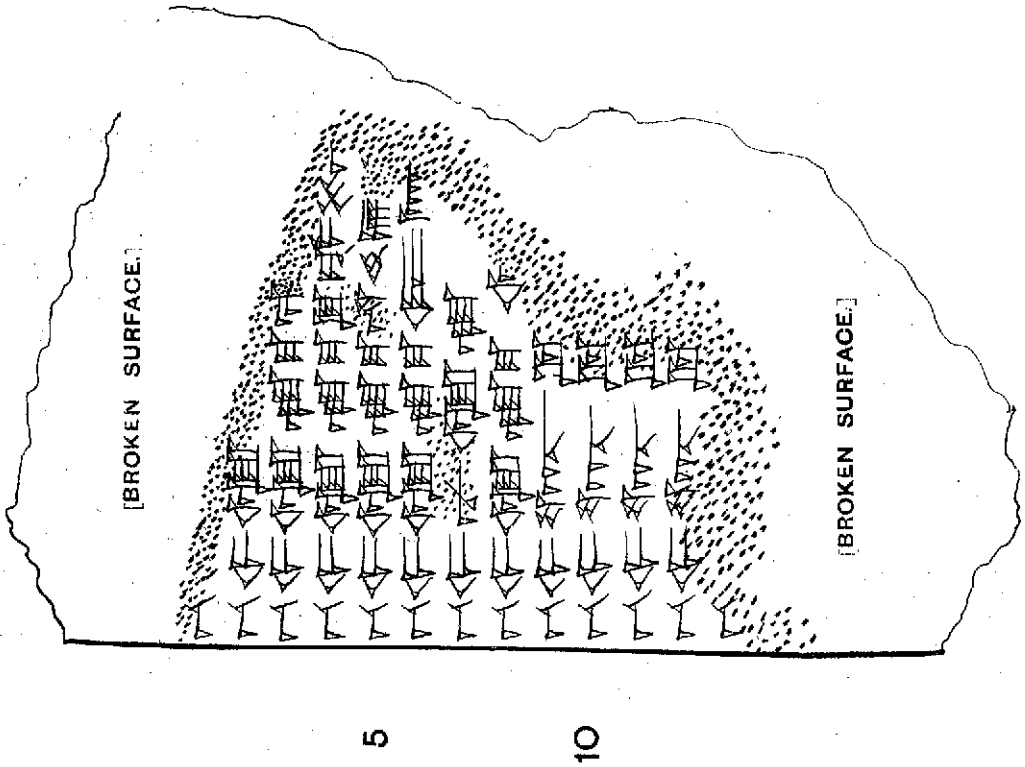
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 8296 REVERSE.



1. Erasure by the Scribe.

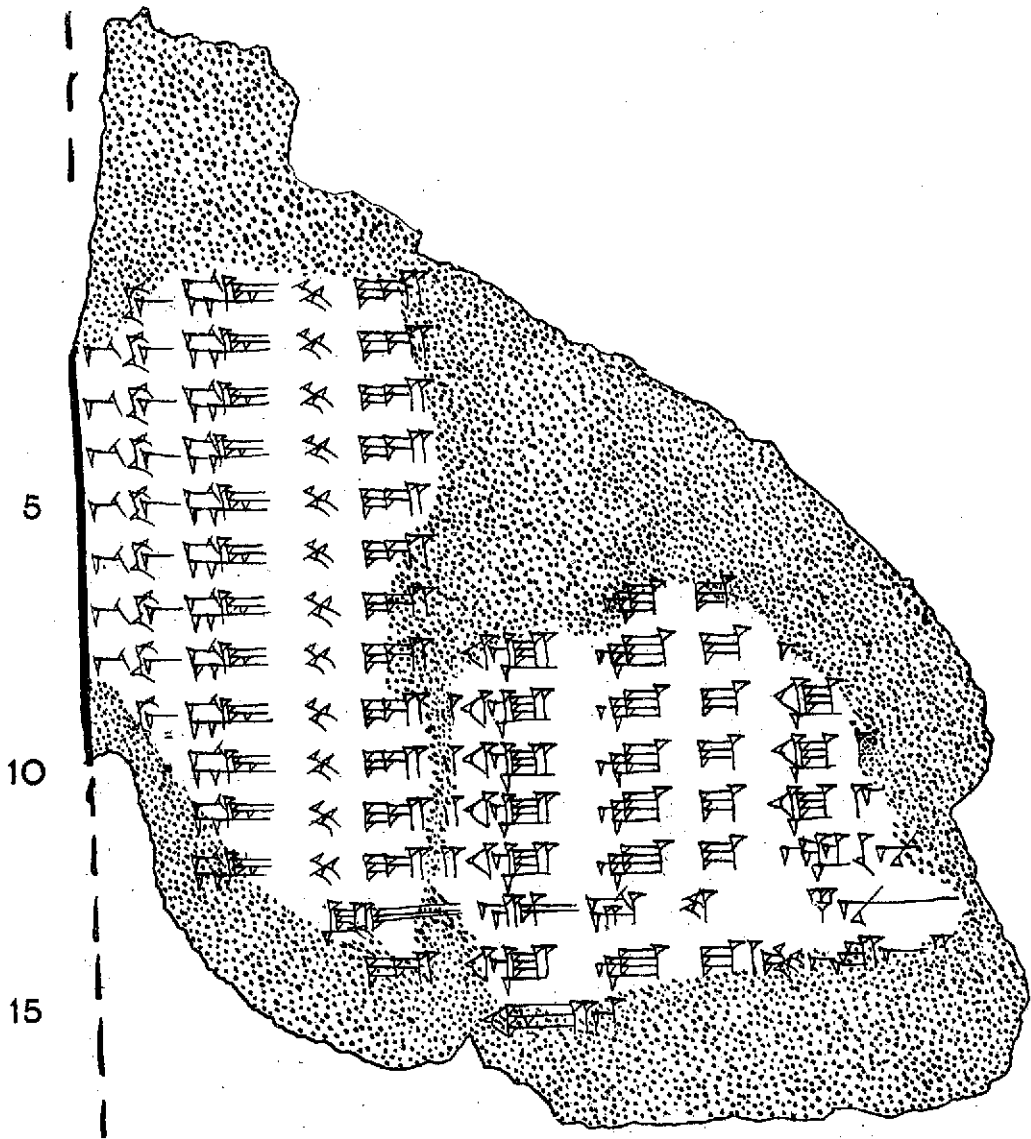
K. 8296. OBVERSE.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

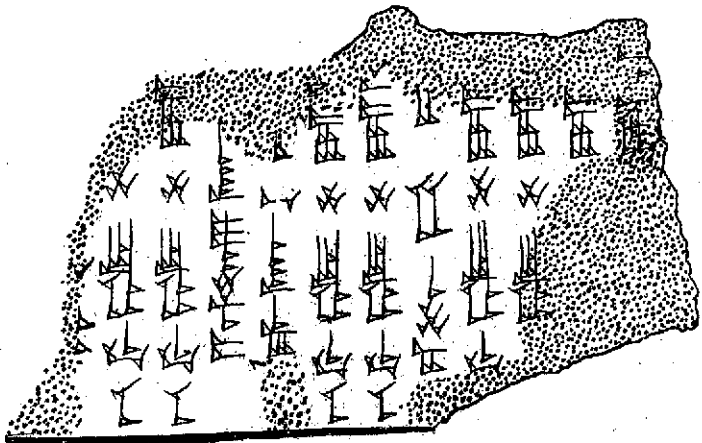
K. 12865. + K. 12884. + K. 13960.

REVERSE.



K. 12865. + K. 12884. + K. 13960.

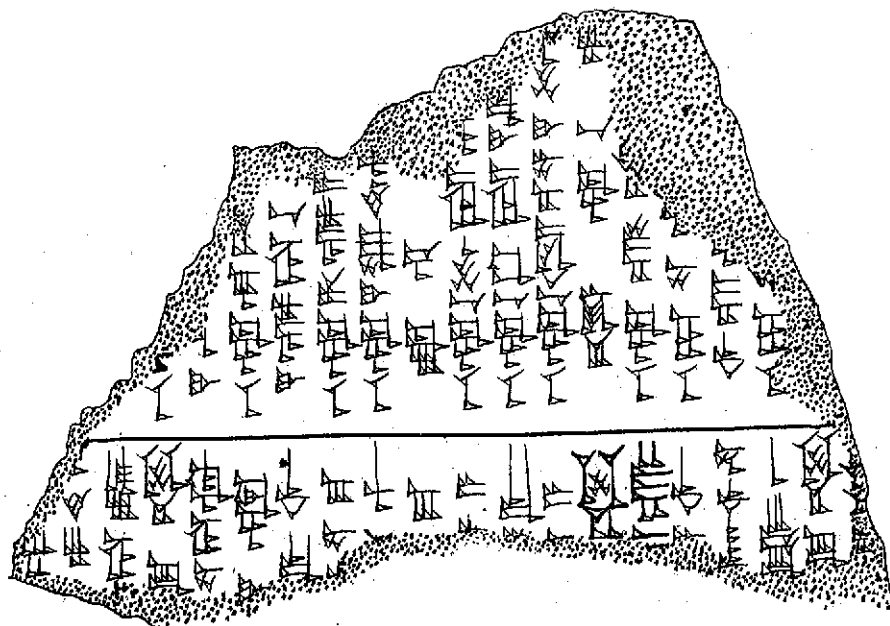
OBVERSE.



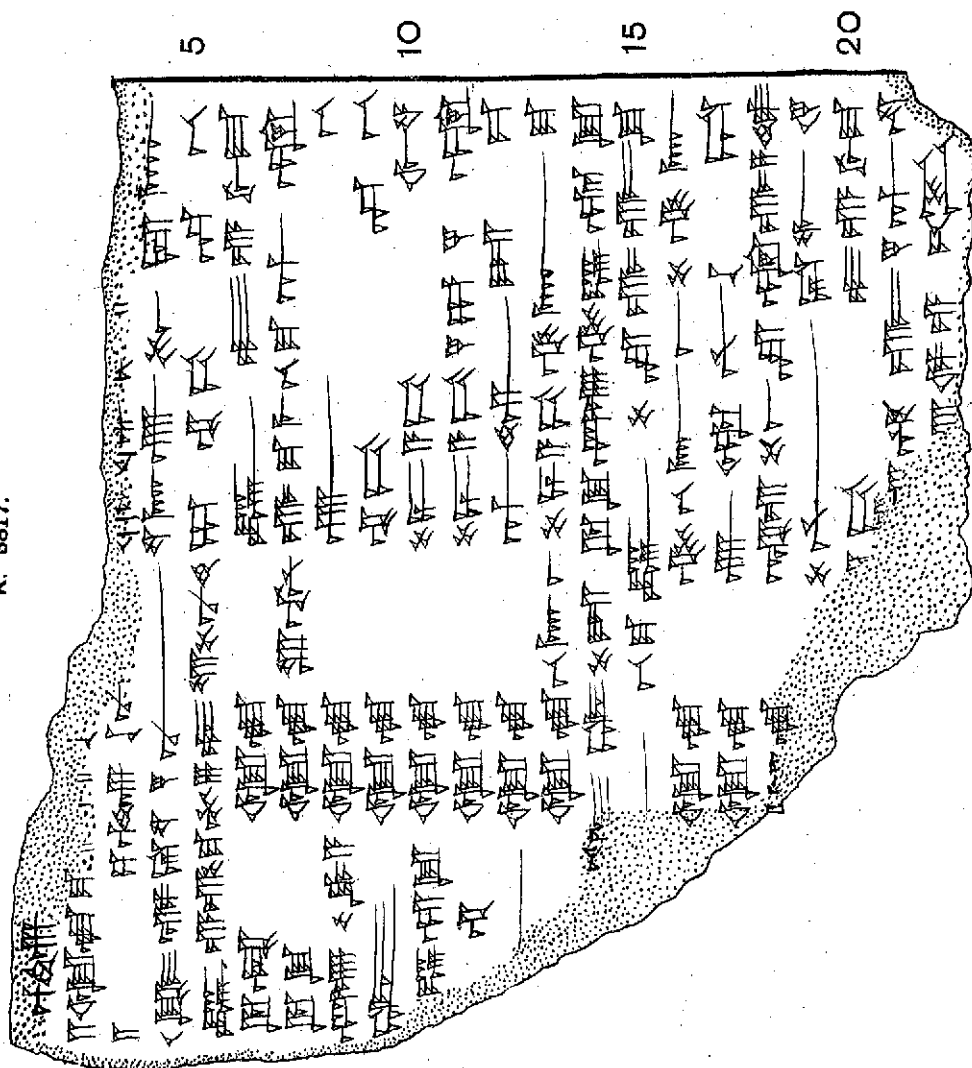
1. Erasure by the Scribe.

OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

82-3-23, 38.



K. 3817.



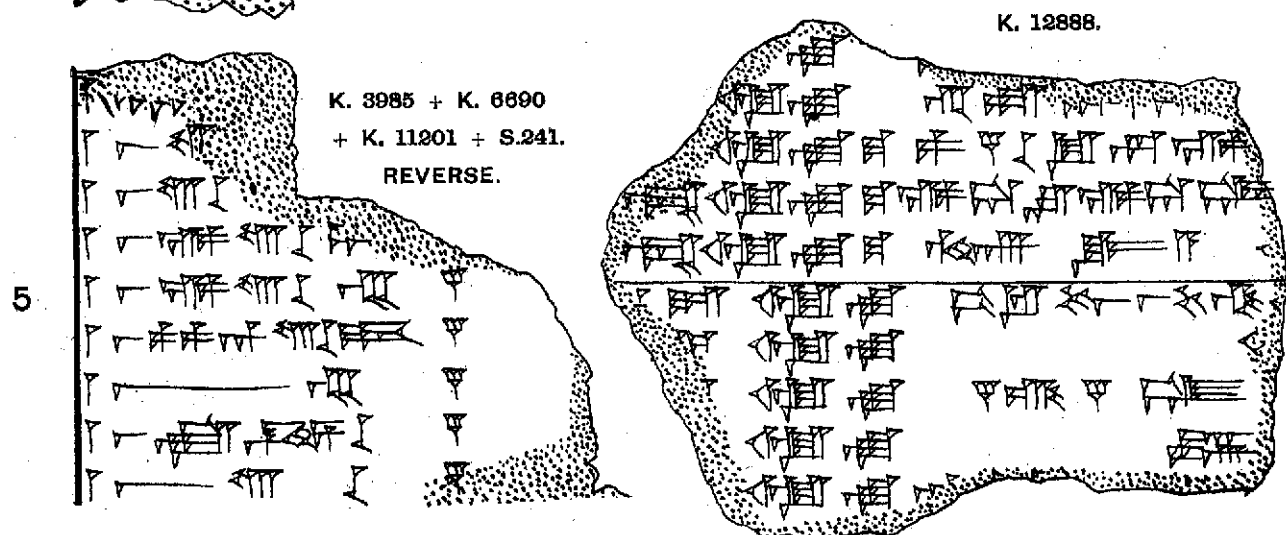
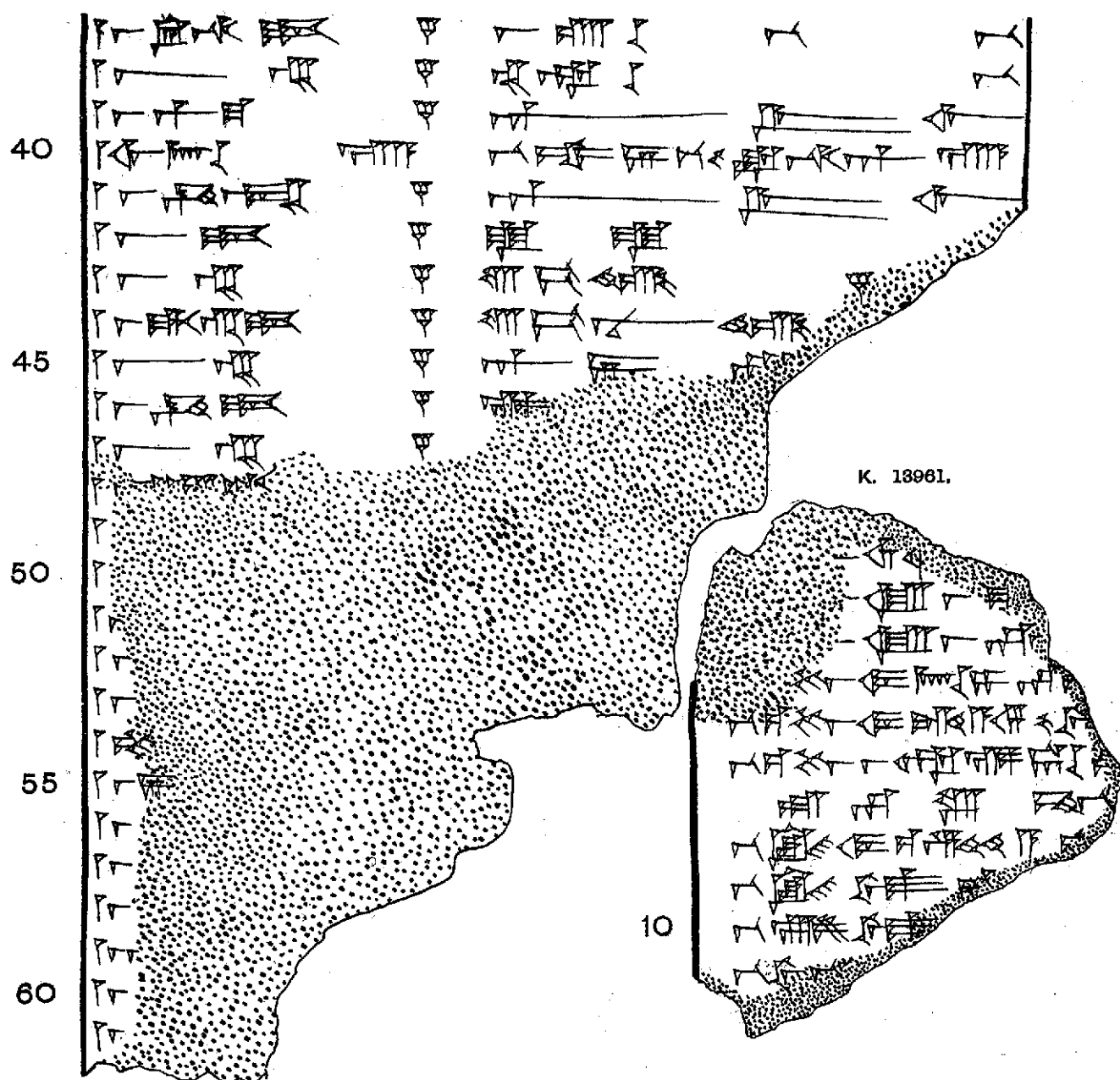




## OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3985 + K. 6890 + K. 11202 + S. 241.

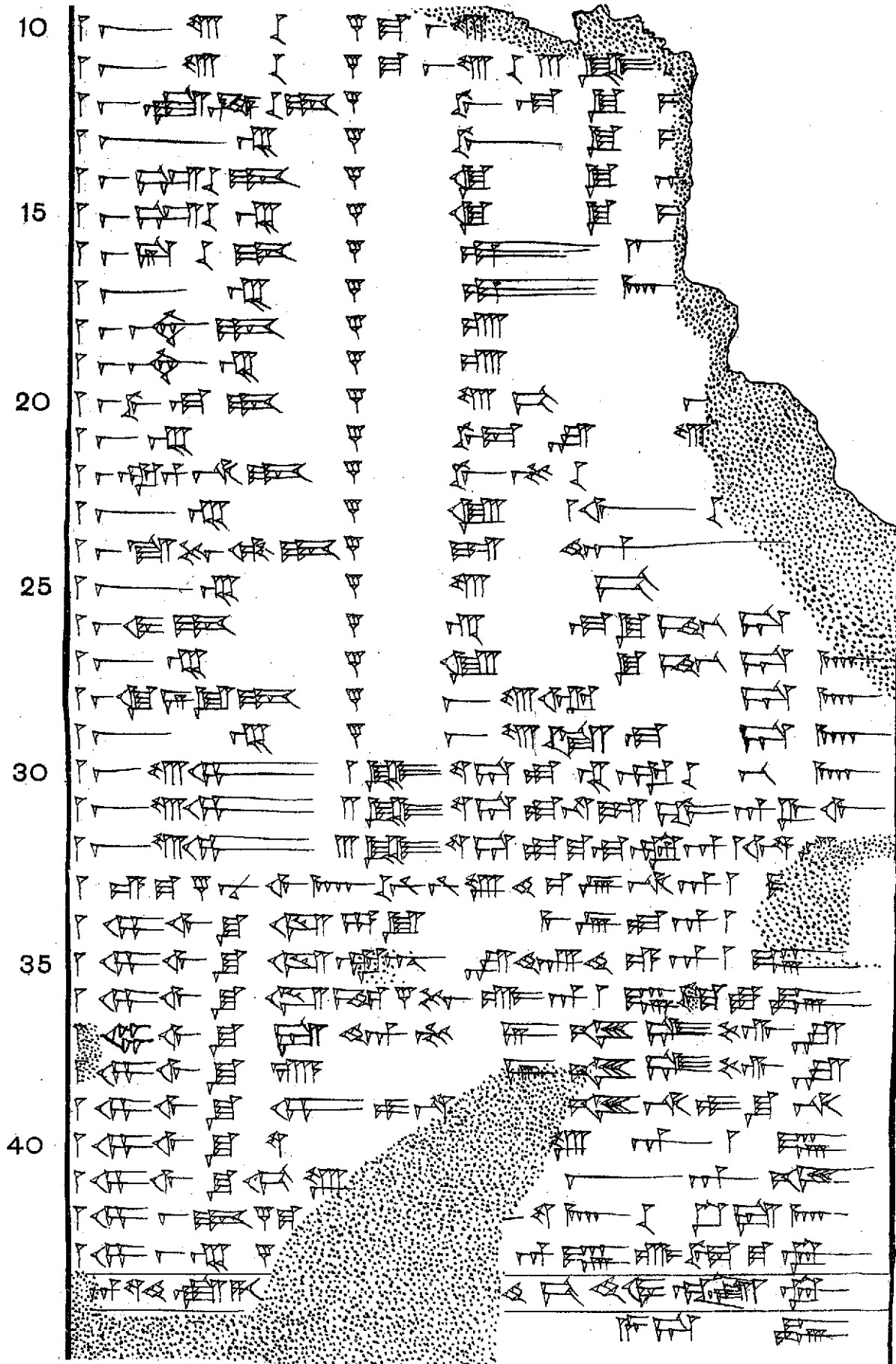
**OBVERSE (CONT.).**



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3985 + K. 6690 + K. 11202 + S. 241.

REVERSE (CONT.).

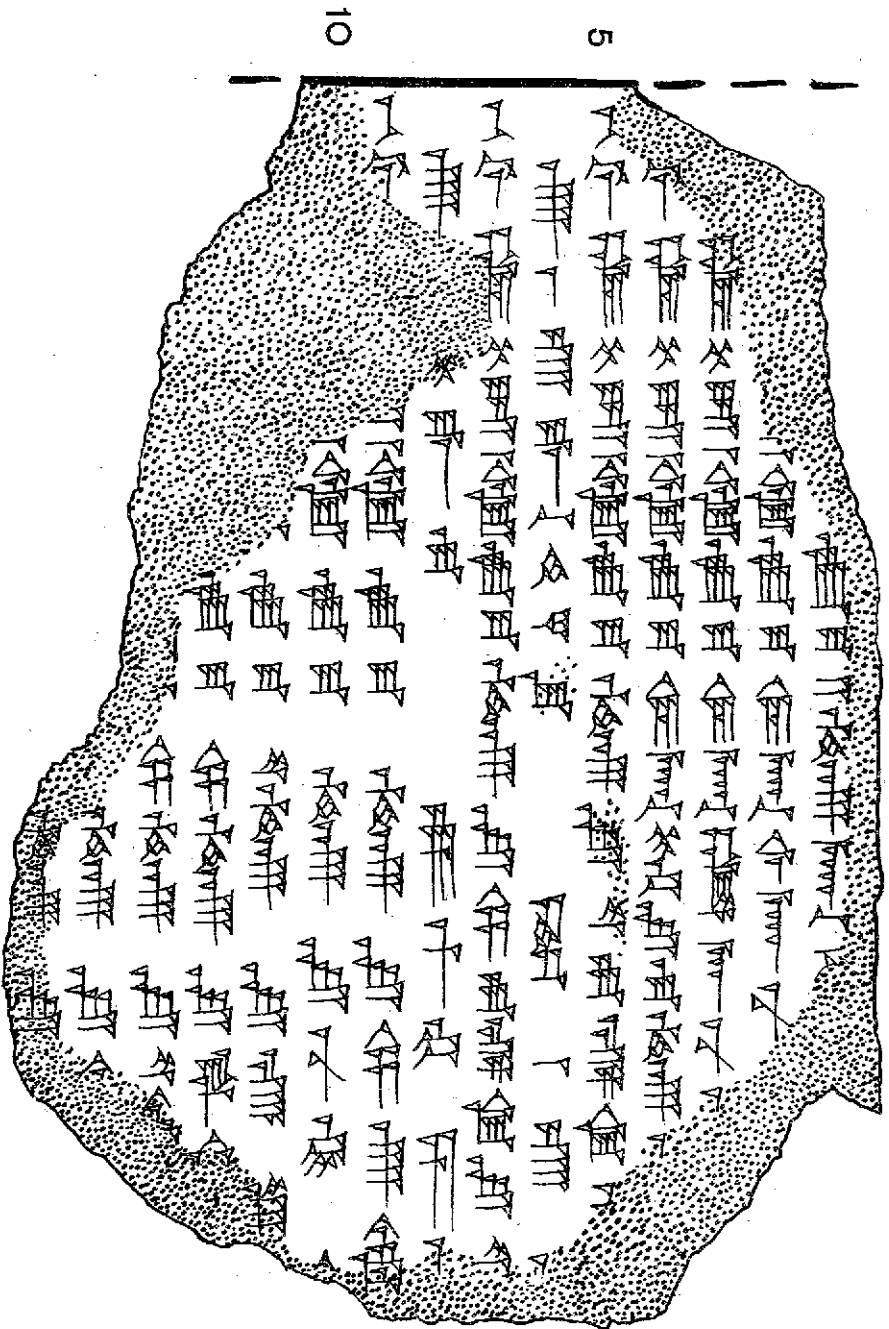




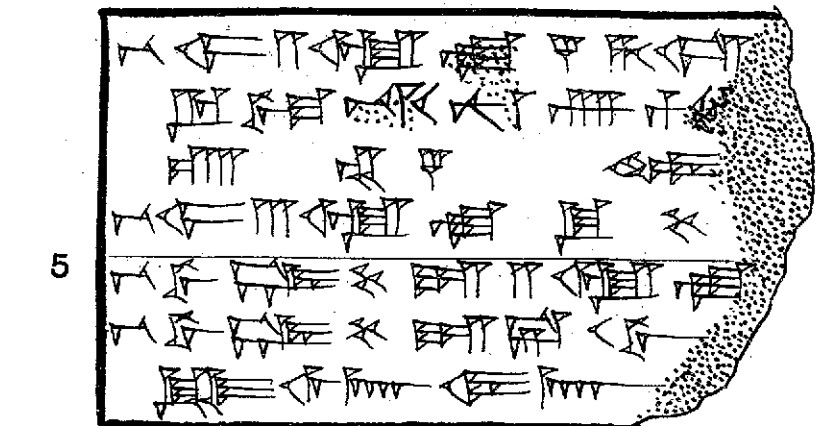


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

Rm. 2, 107.

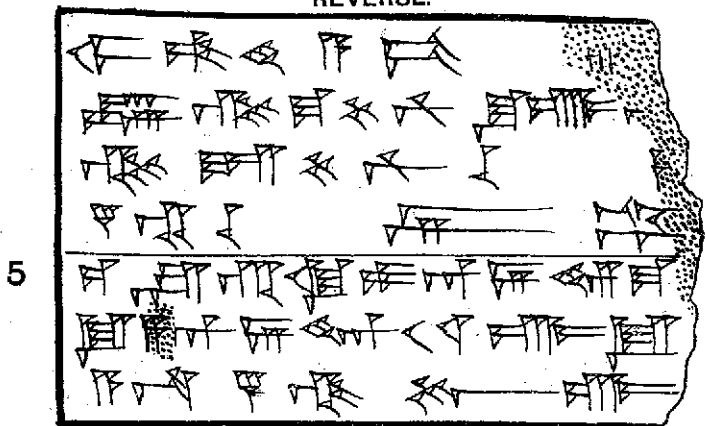


K 849, OBVERSE.



EDGE.

REVERSE.

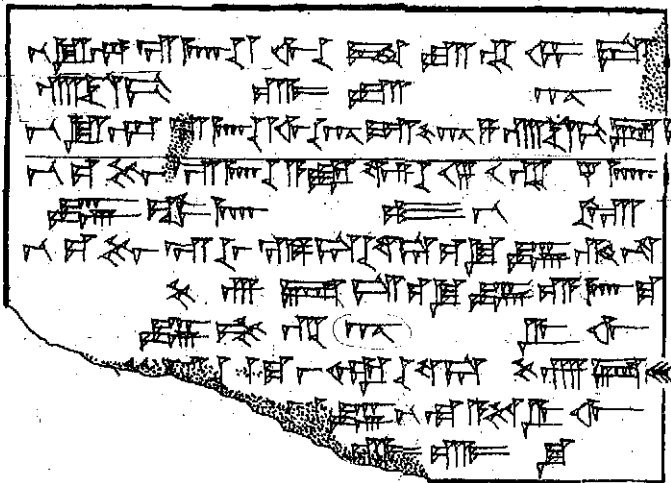
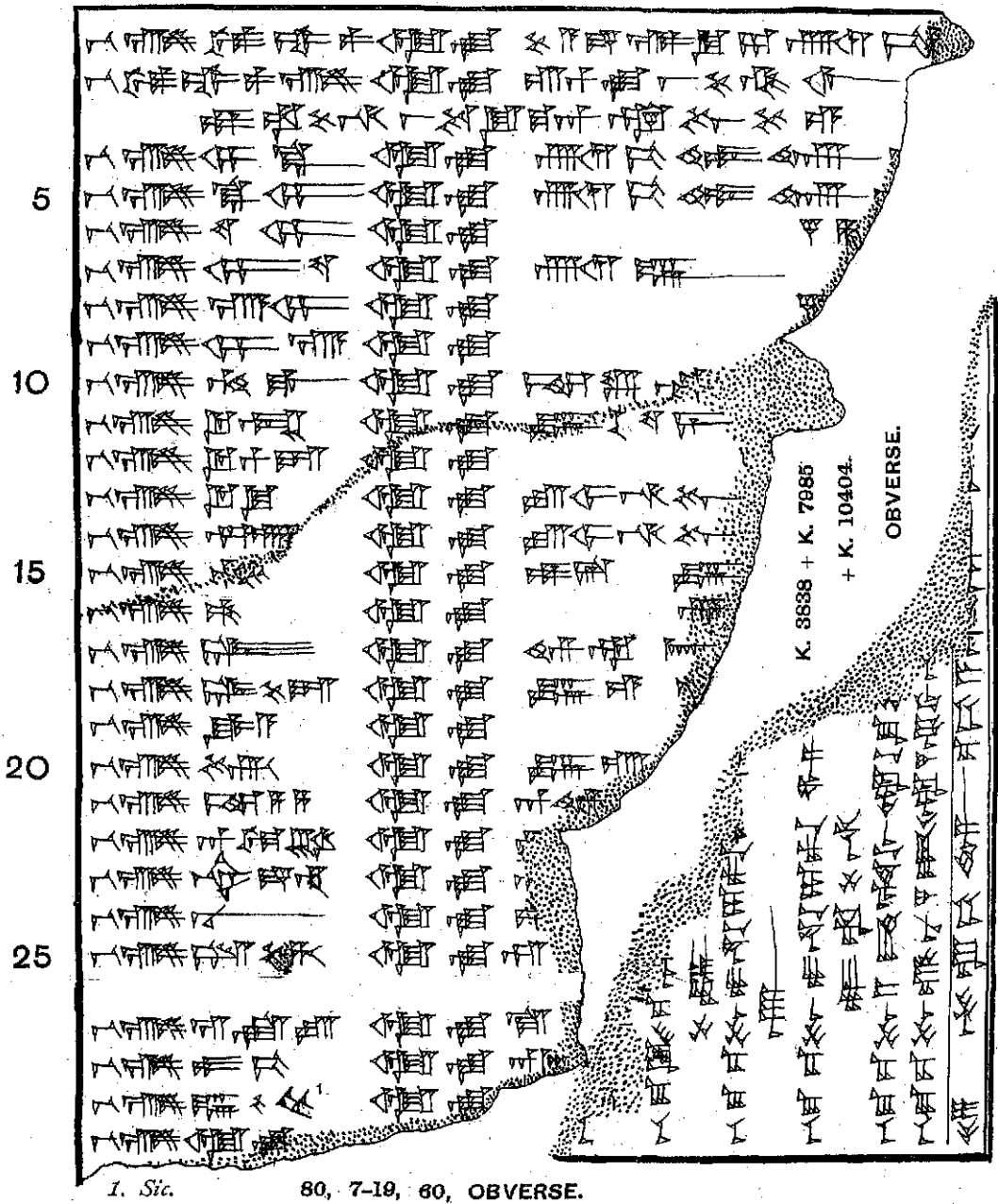




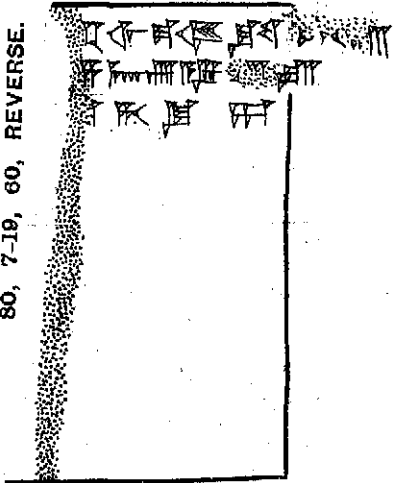
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 3838 + K. 7985 + K. 10404.

REVERSE.



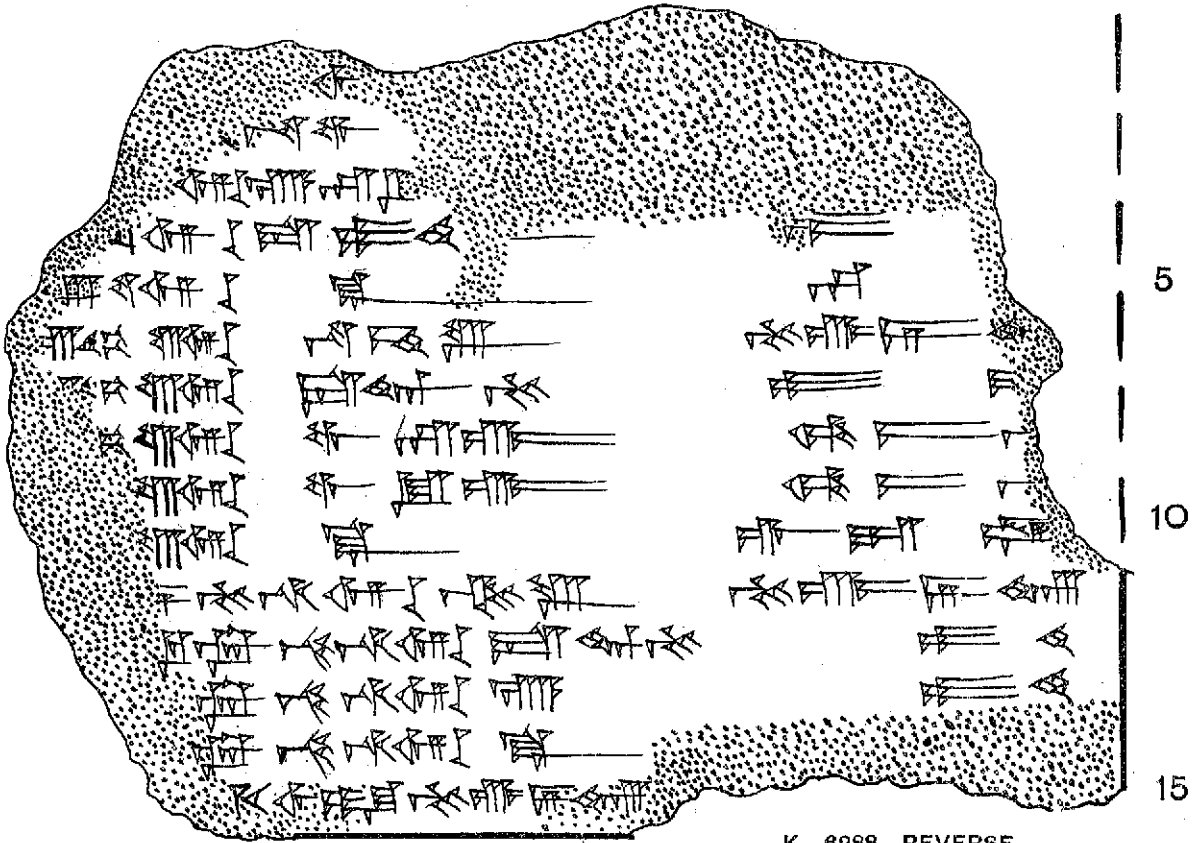
80, 7-19, 60, REVERSE.



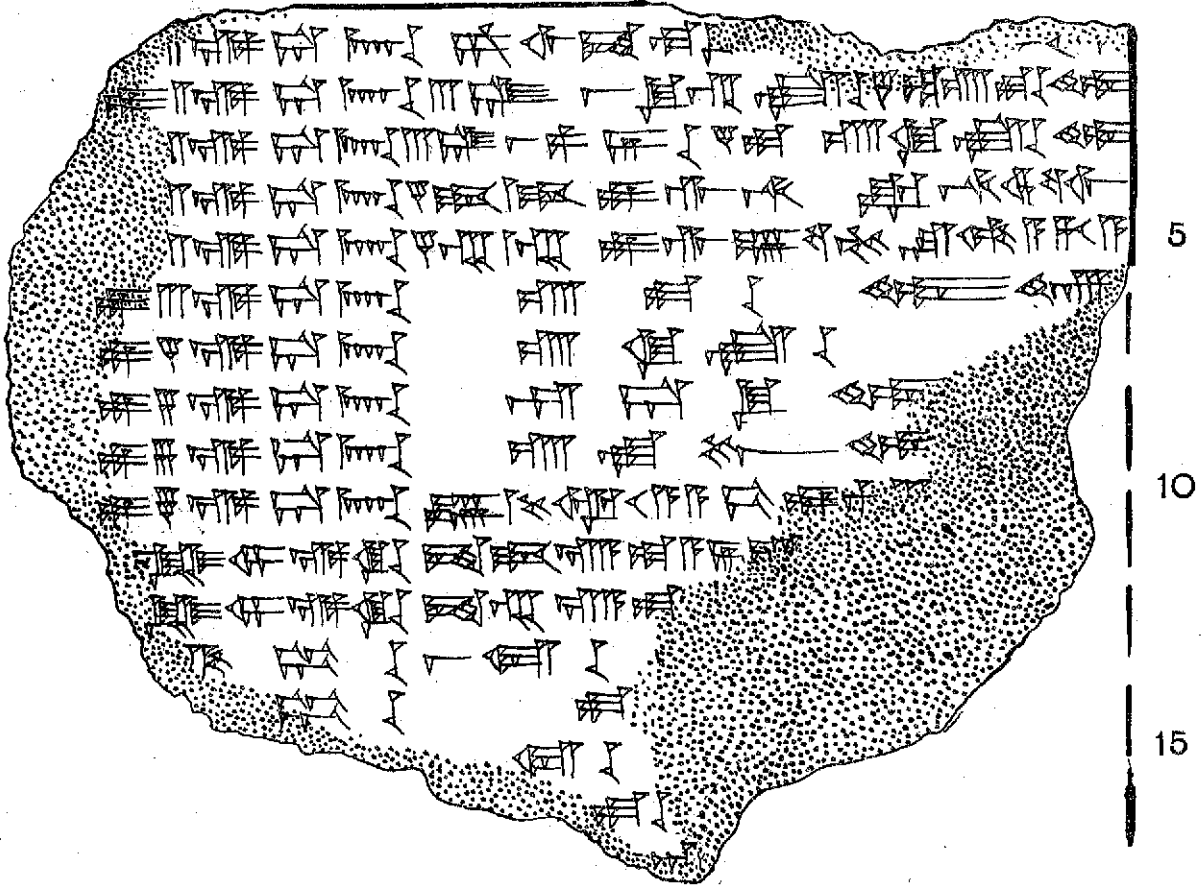


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 6288, OBERSE.



K. 6288, REVERSE.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 12886 + S. 1743.

K. 8274.

K. 11090.

K. 7035.

5

10

15

20

25

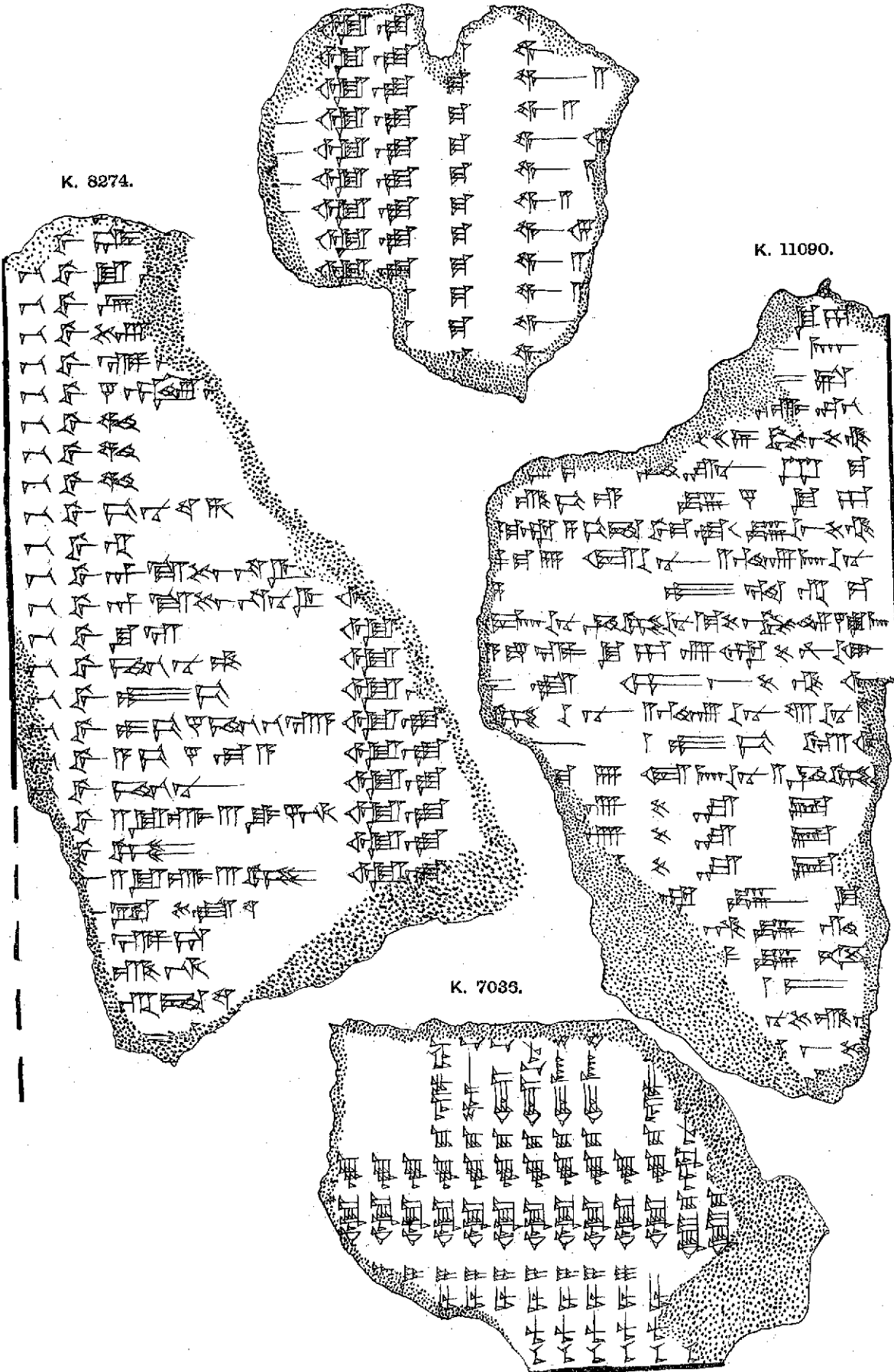
5

10

15

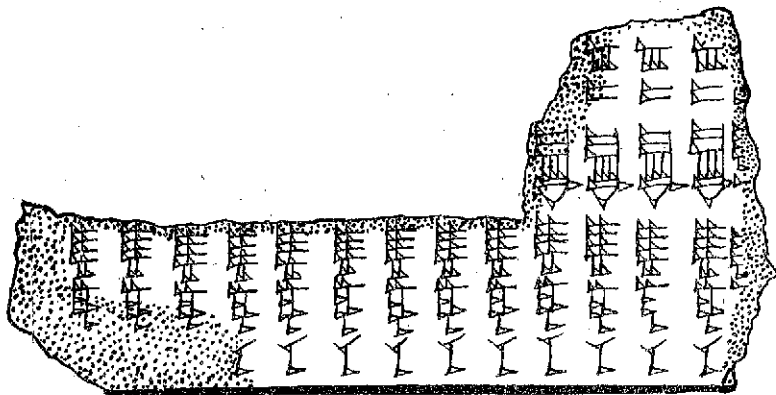
20

25



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

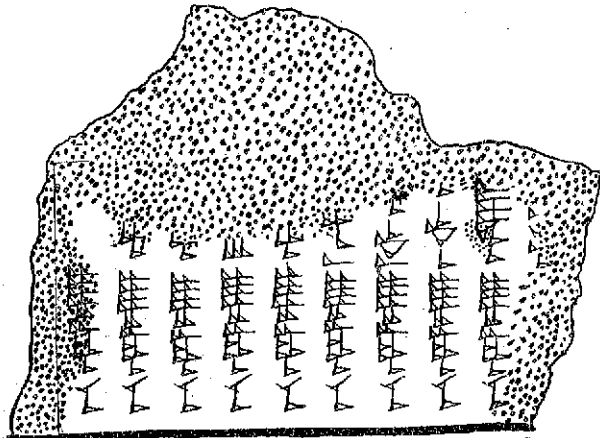
K. 12840.



5

10

S. 502, OBVERSE.



5

10

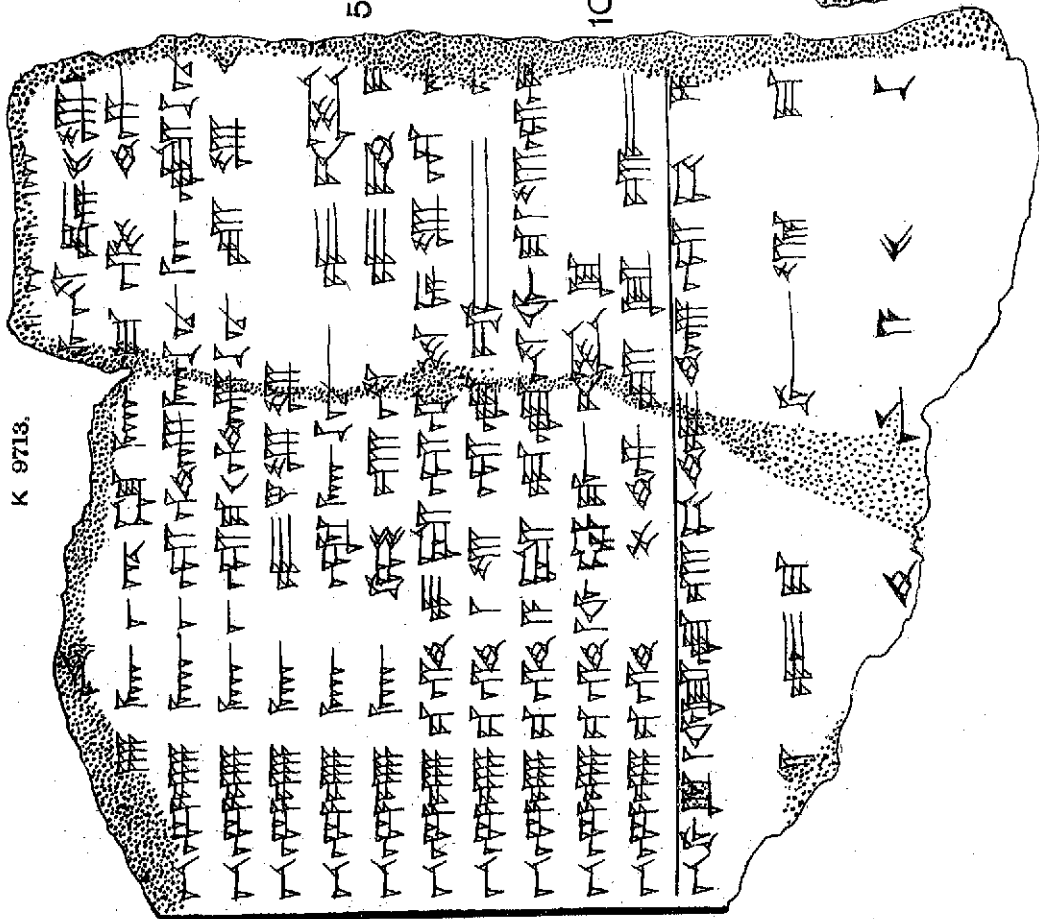
S. 502, EDGE.



S. 502, REVERSE, nine beginnings of U. only:



K. 9713.



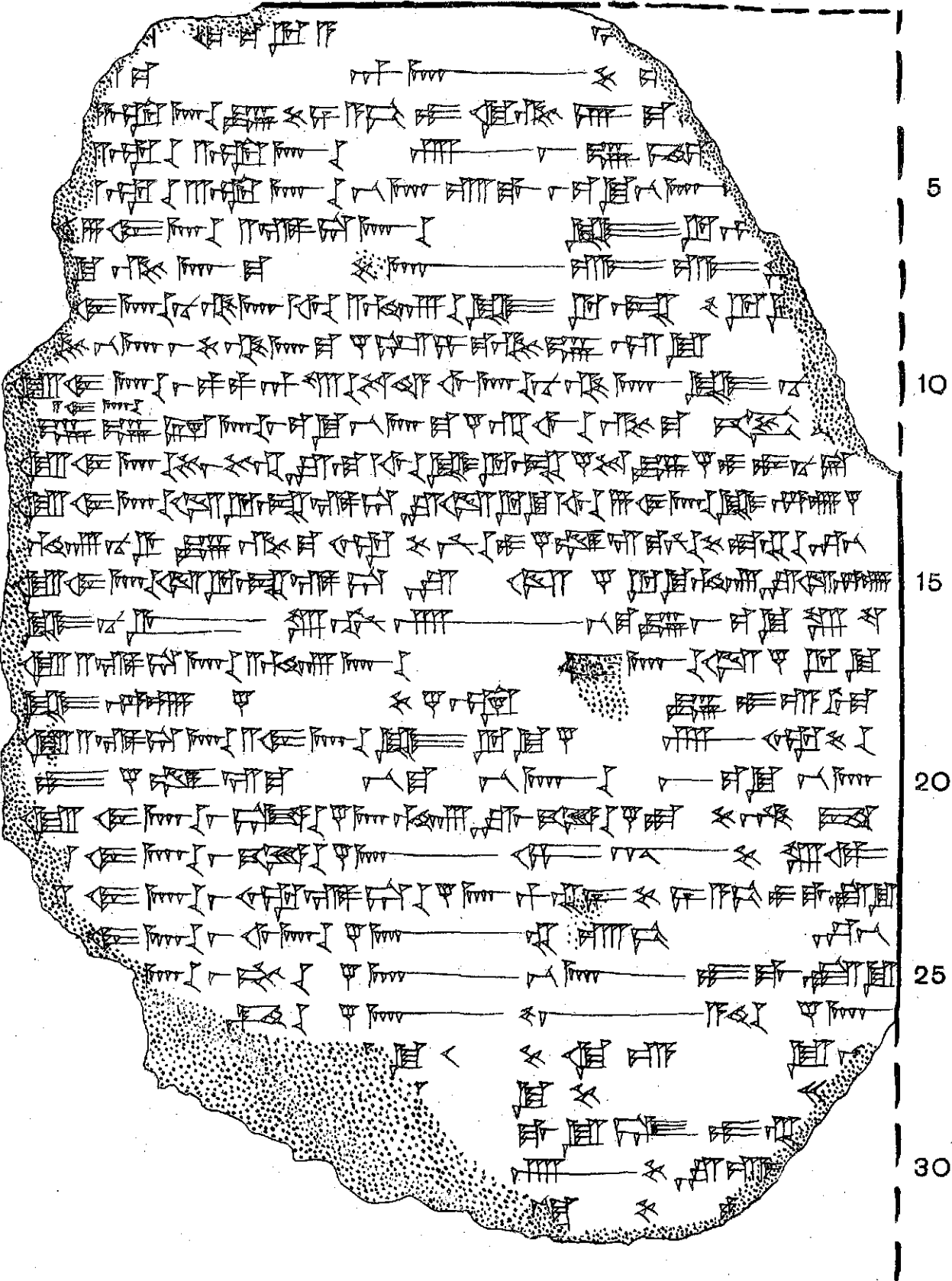
5

10

15

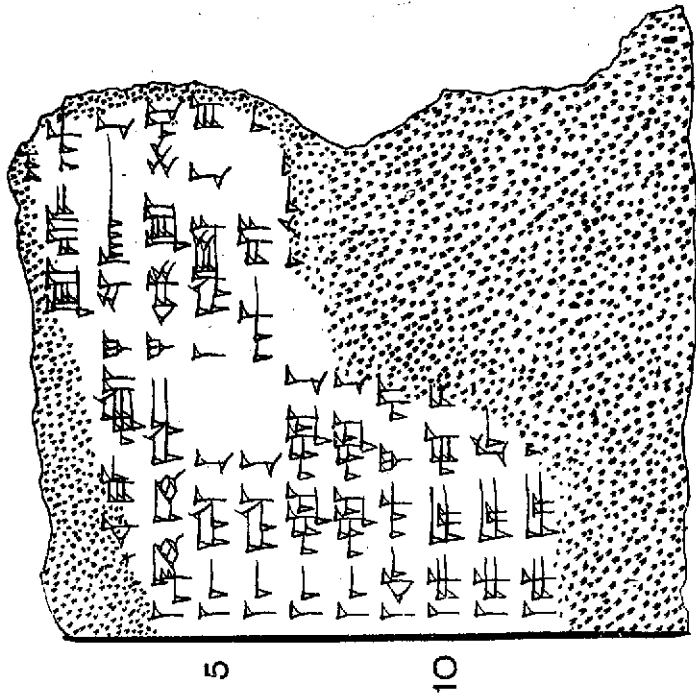
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 8336.

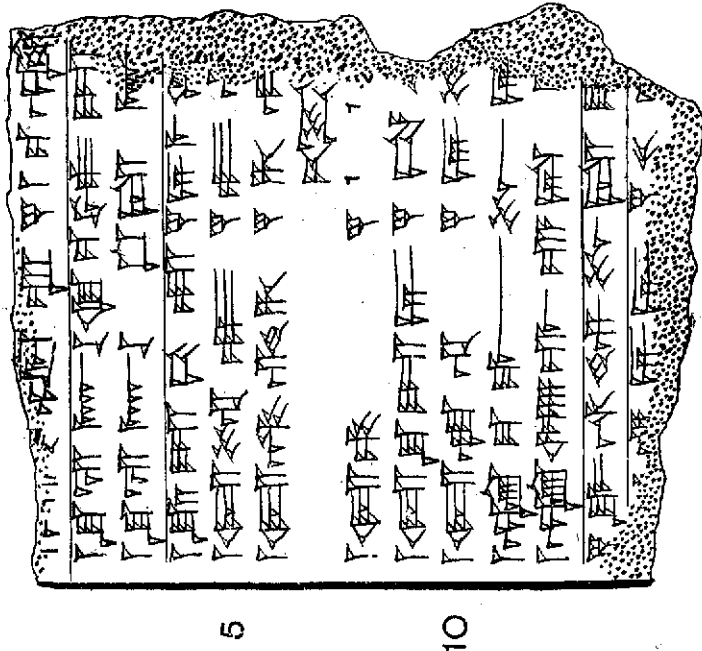


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

79, 7-8, 89, OBTVERSE.



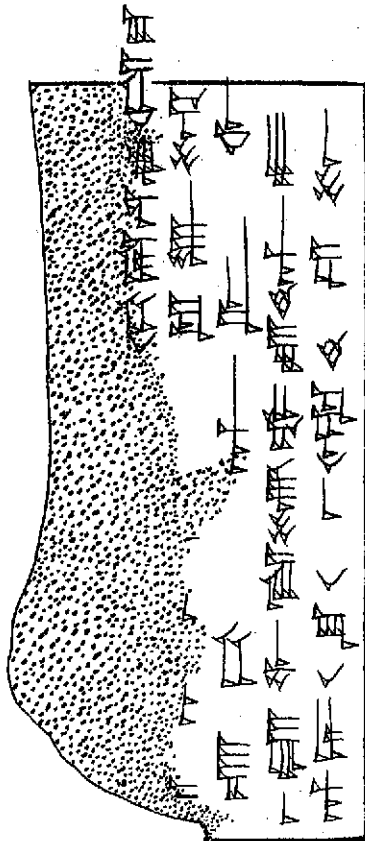
79, 7-8, 89, REVERSE.



K. 798, OBTVERSE.

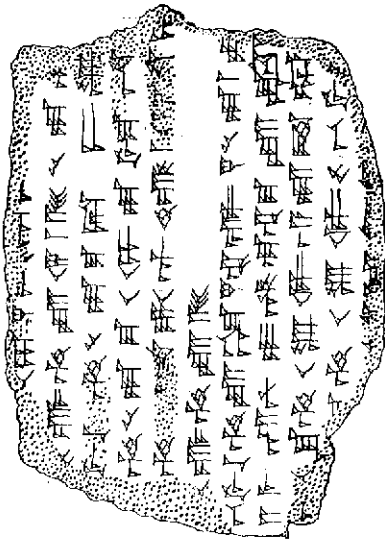


K. 798, REVERSE.

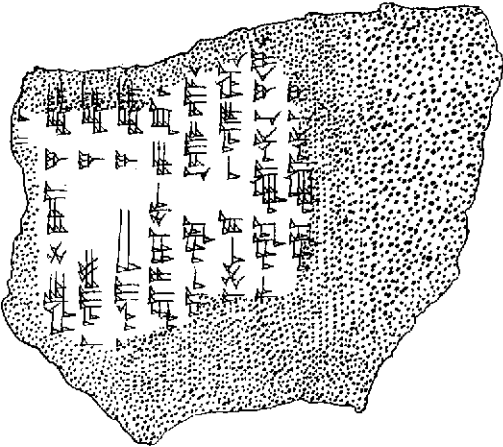


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

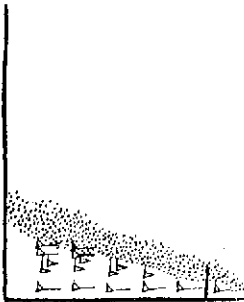
K. 3143.



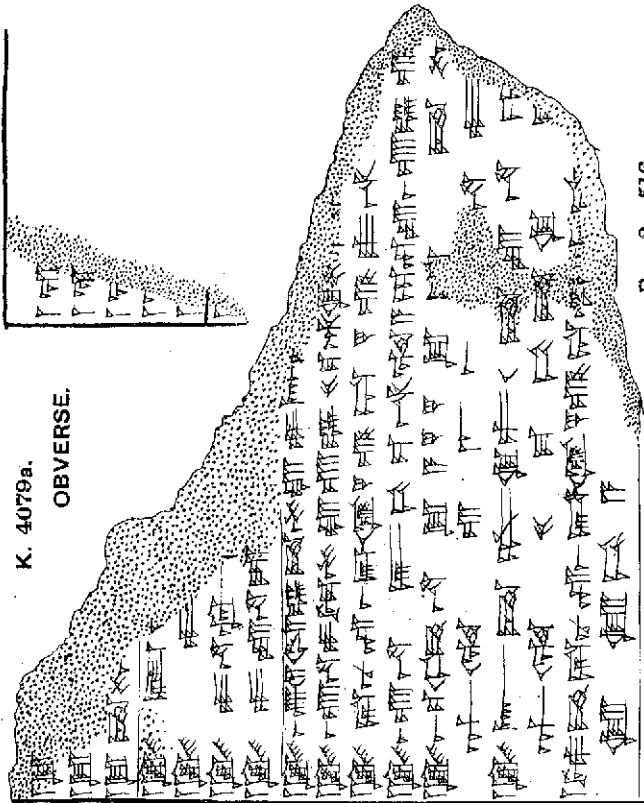
81, 7-27, 108.



K. 4079a, REVERSE.



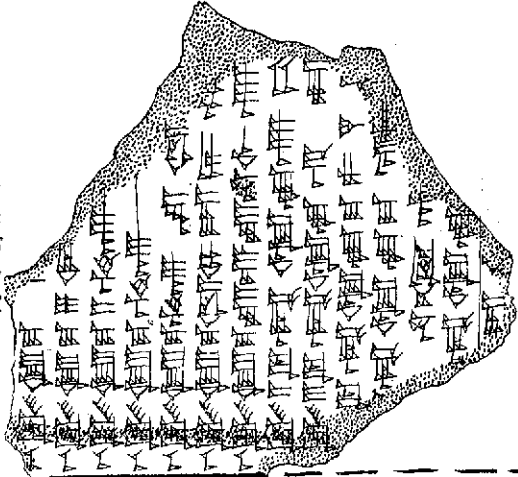
K. 4079a.  
OBVERSE.



Rm. 2. 516.



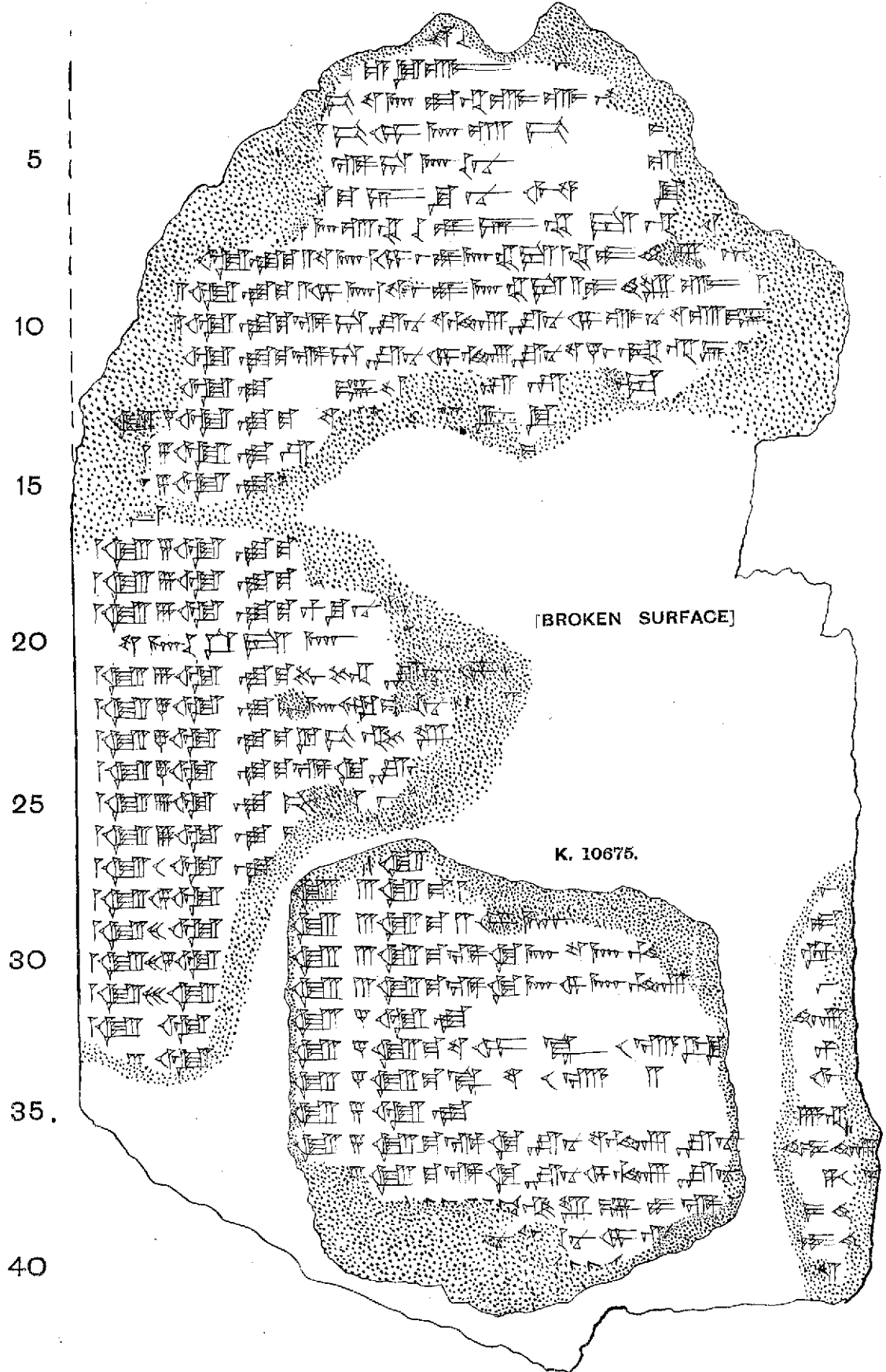
79-7-8, 113.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

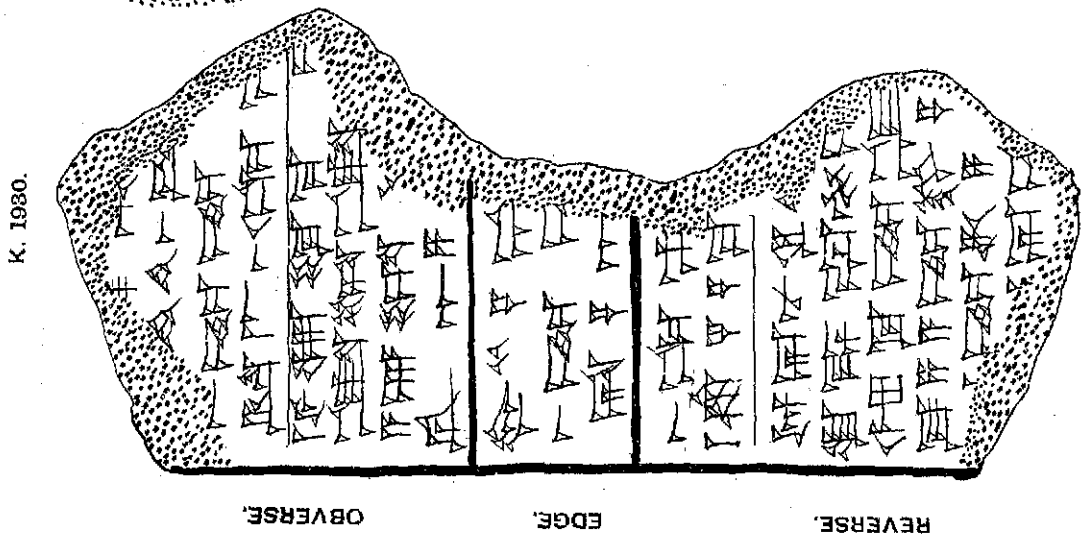
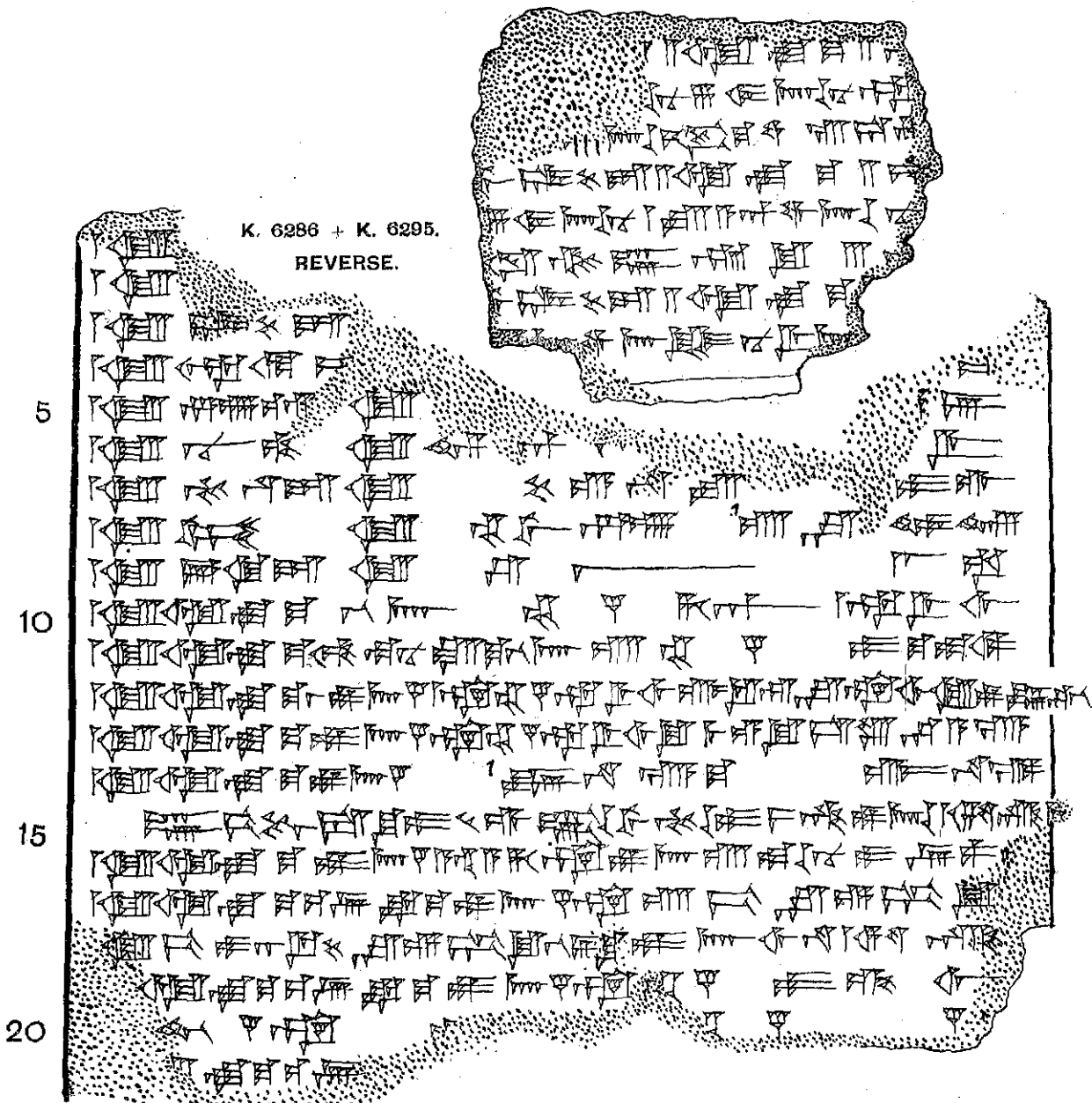
K. 6286 + K. 6295.

OBVERSE.



OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

79-7-8, 237.

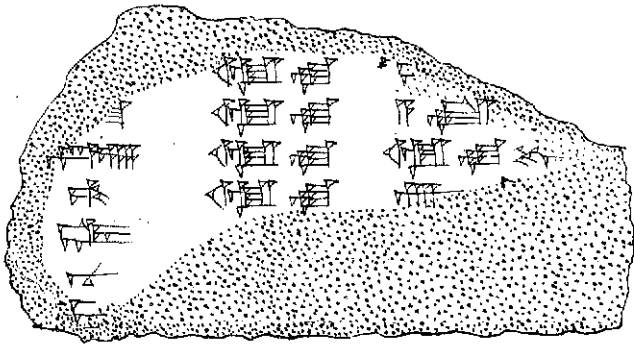
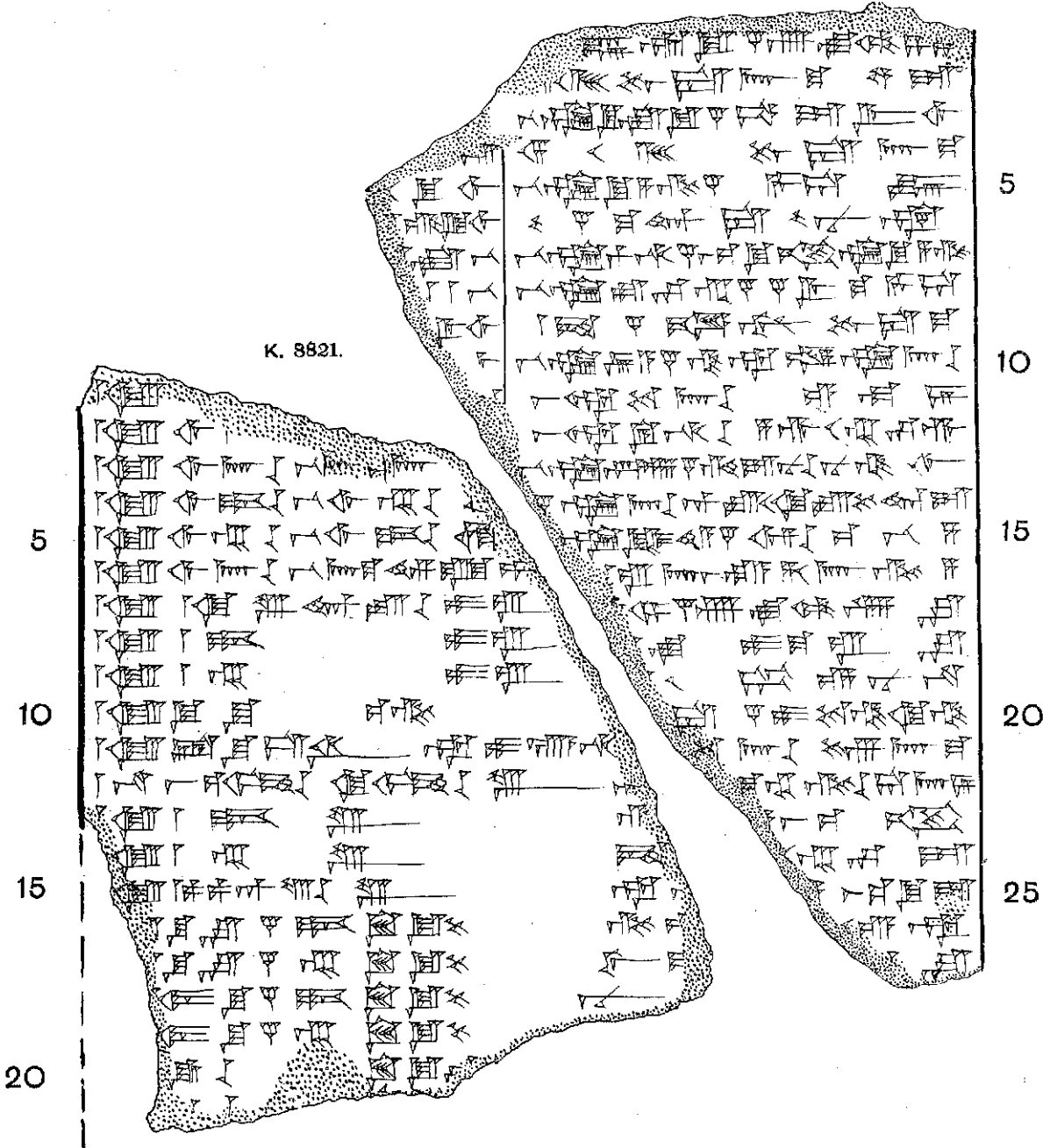


1. Erasure by the Scribe.



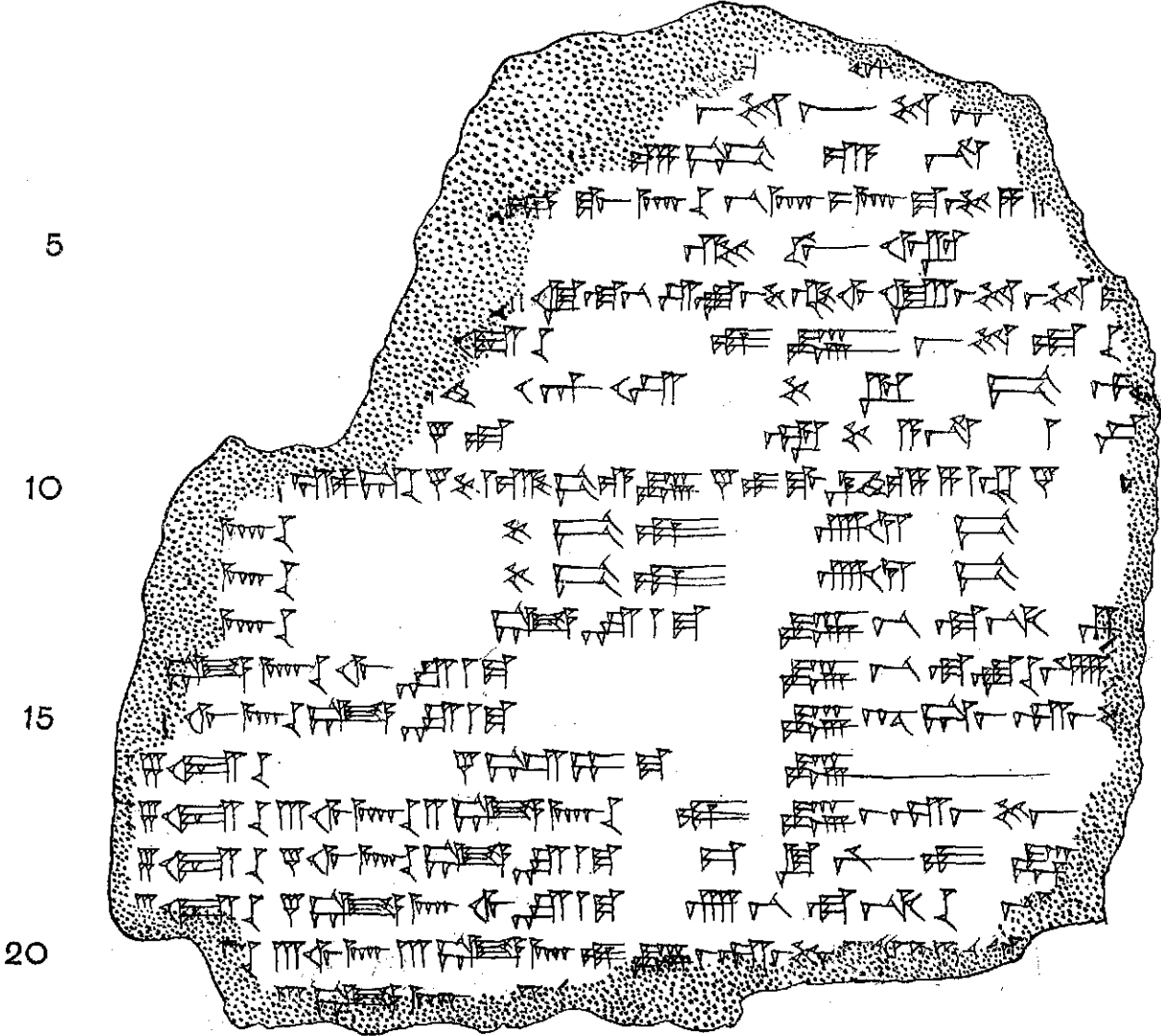
OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

81-2-4, 199.

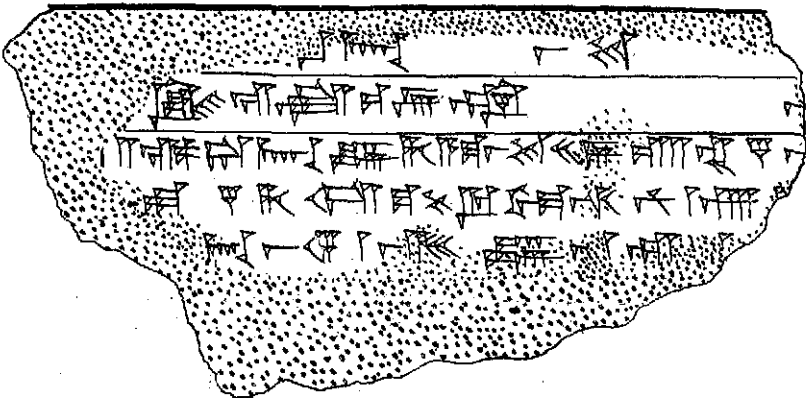


OMENS FROM BIRTHS.

K. 6221.



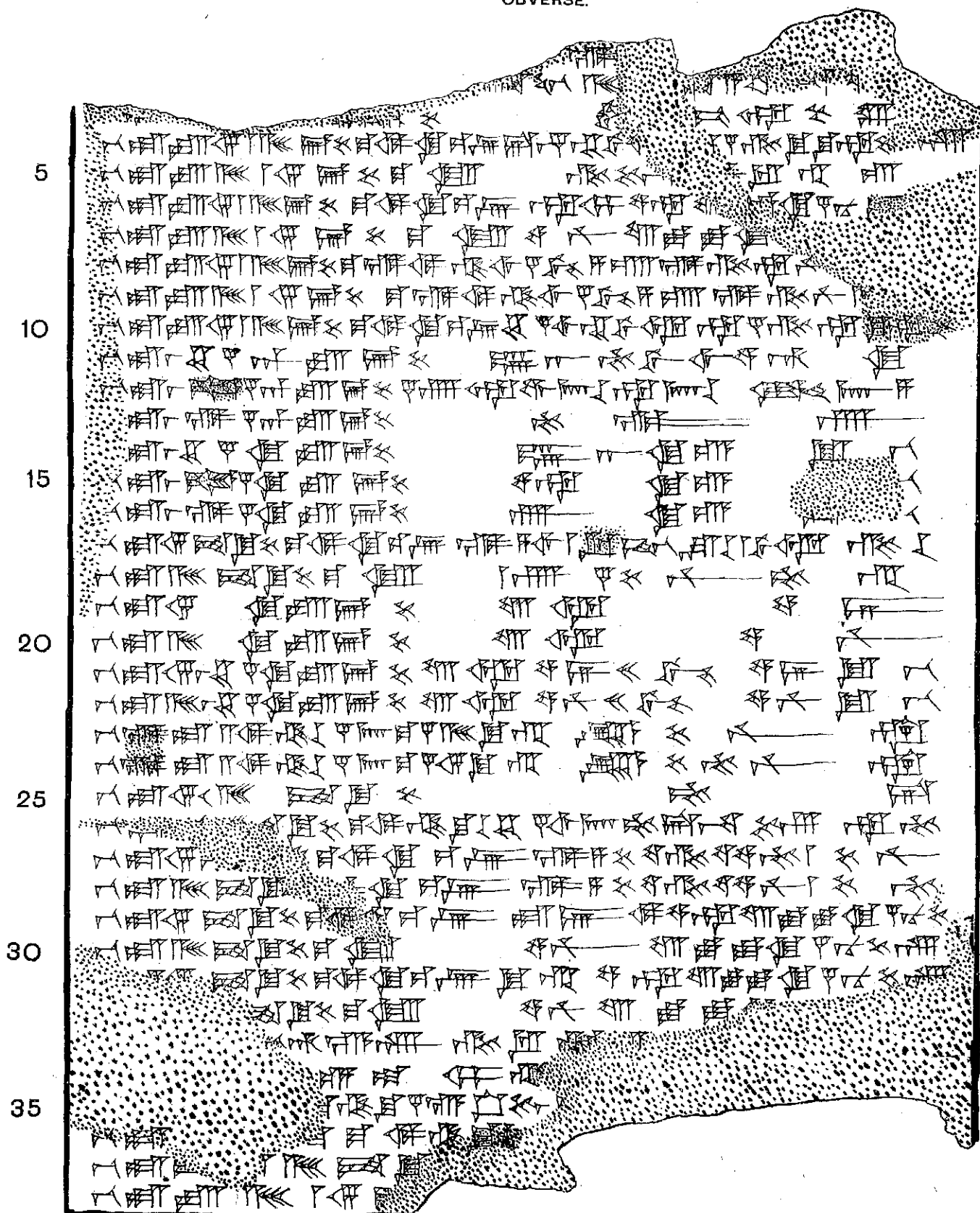
K. 12278, REVERSE.



OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

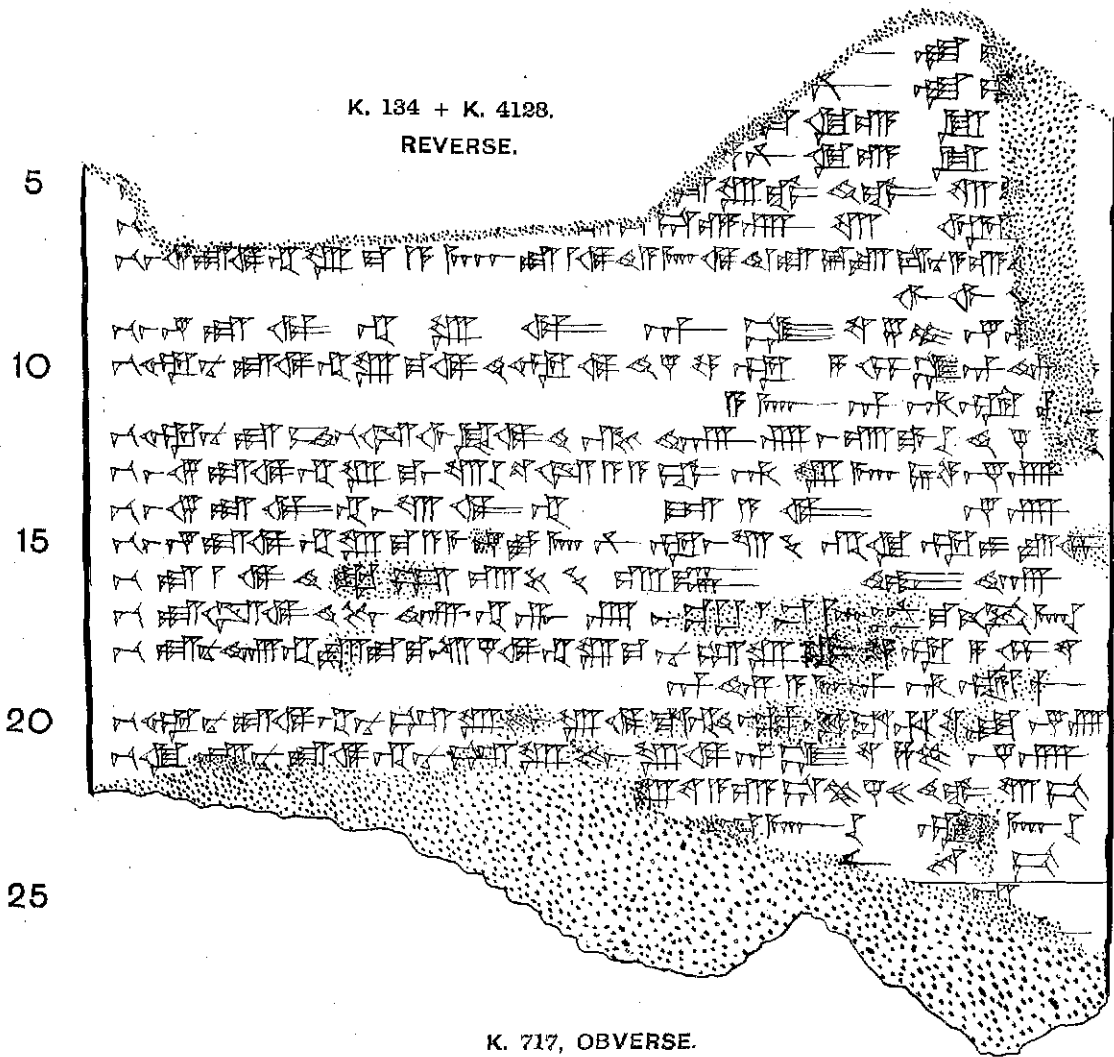
K. 134 + K. 4128.

OBVERSE.

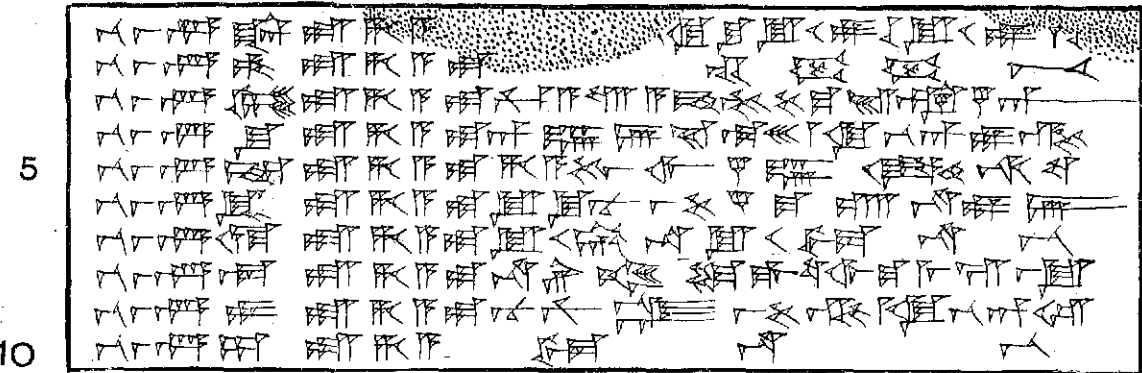


OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

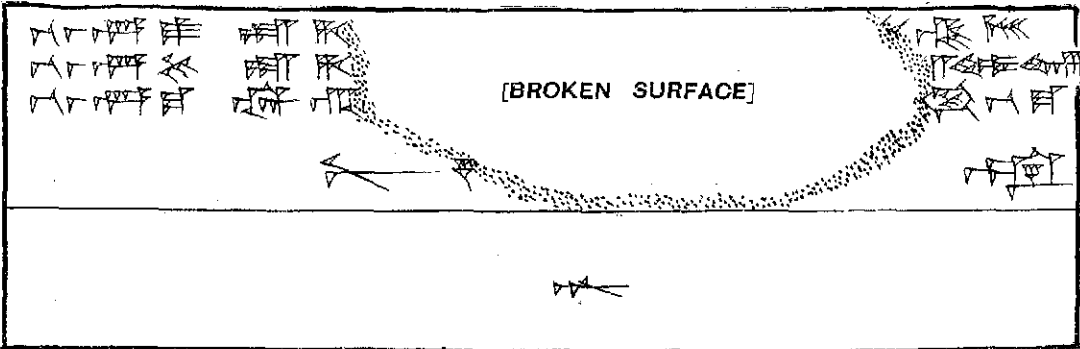
K. 134 + K. 4128.  
REVERSE.



K. 717, OBVERSE.



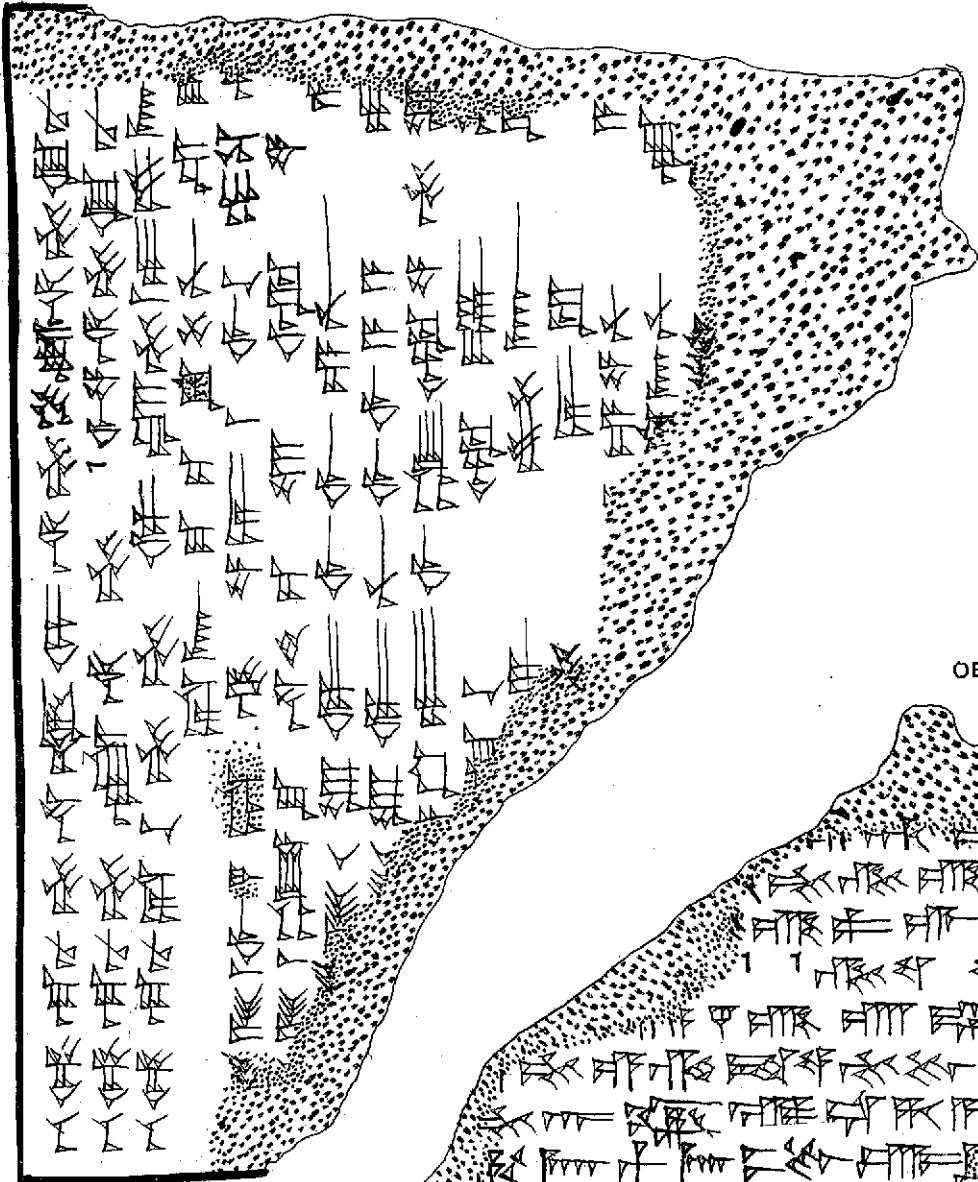
K. 717, REVERSE.



OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

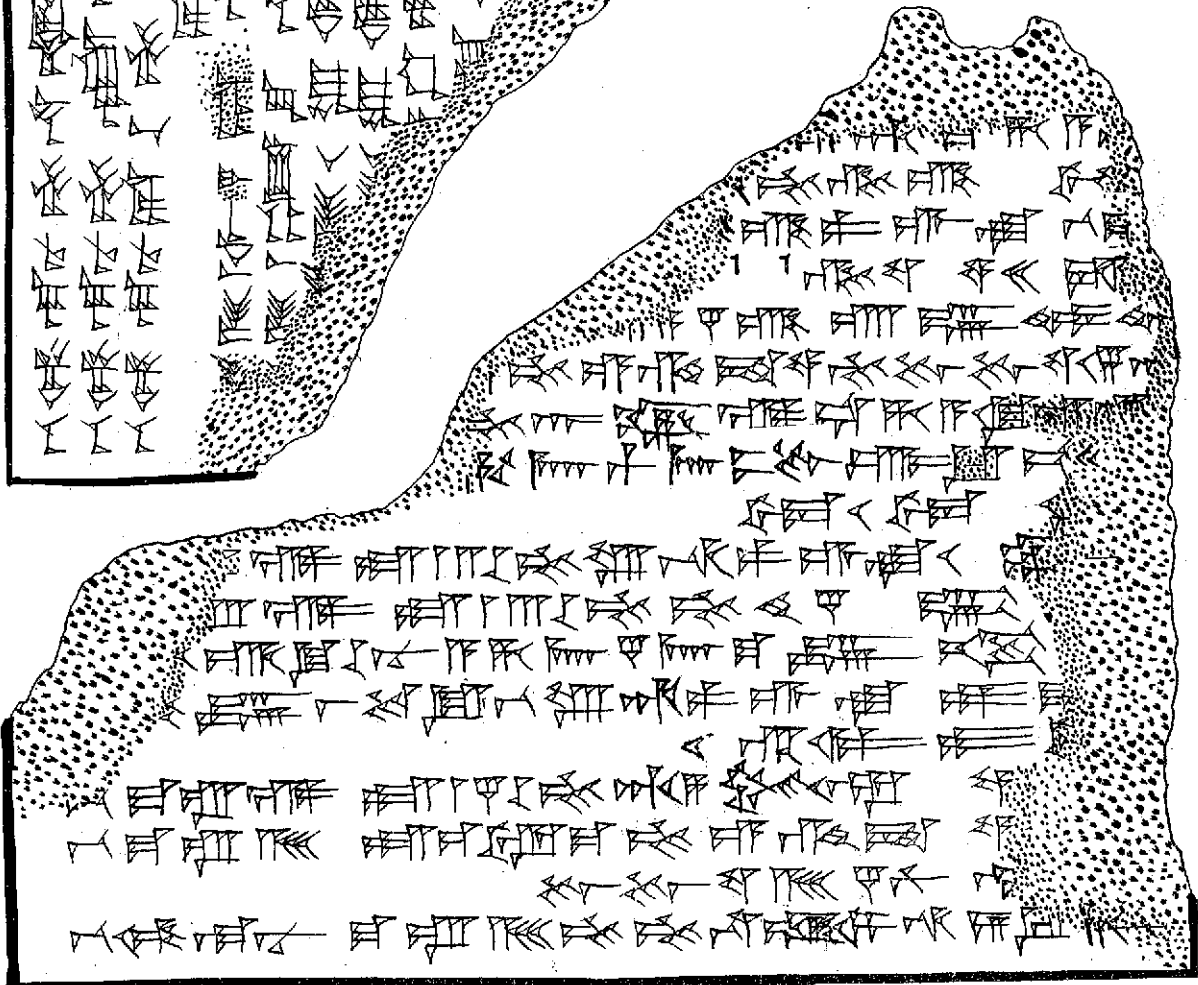
K. 4064.

REVERSE.



1 Erasure by the Scribe.

OBVERSE.

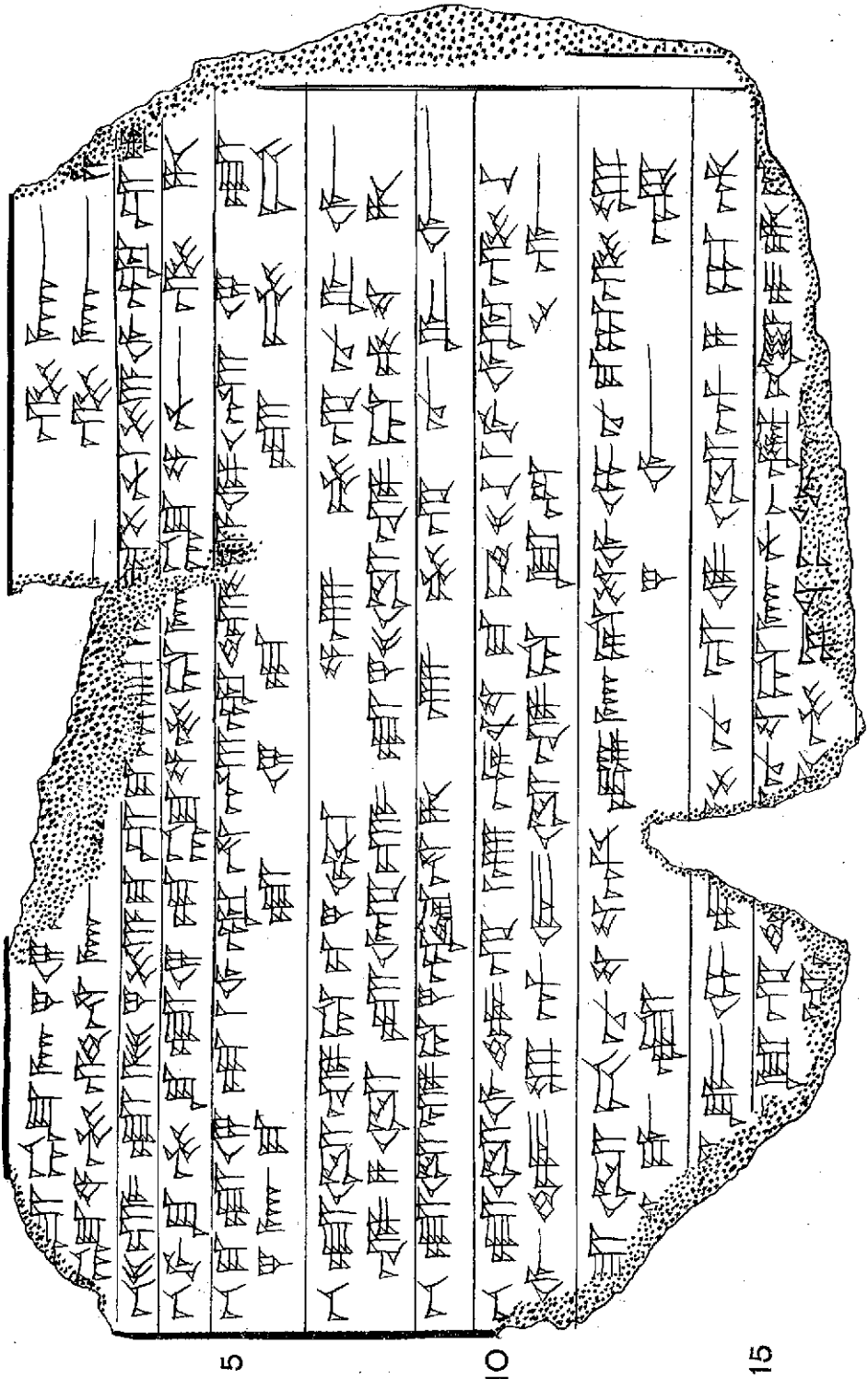


K. 4064.

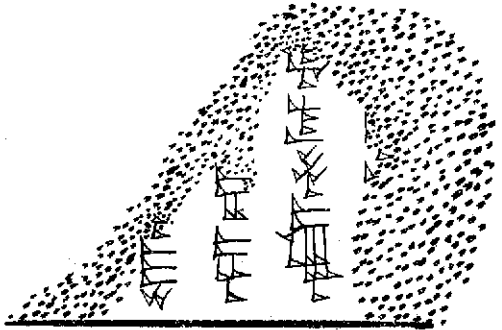
1. An erasure by the Scribe.

OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

K. 8100.  
OBVERSE.



K. 8100.  
REVERSE.

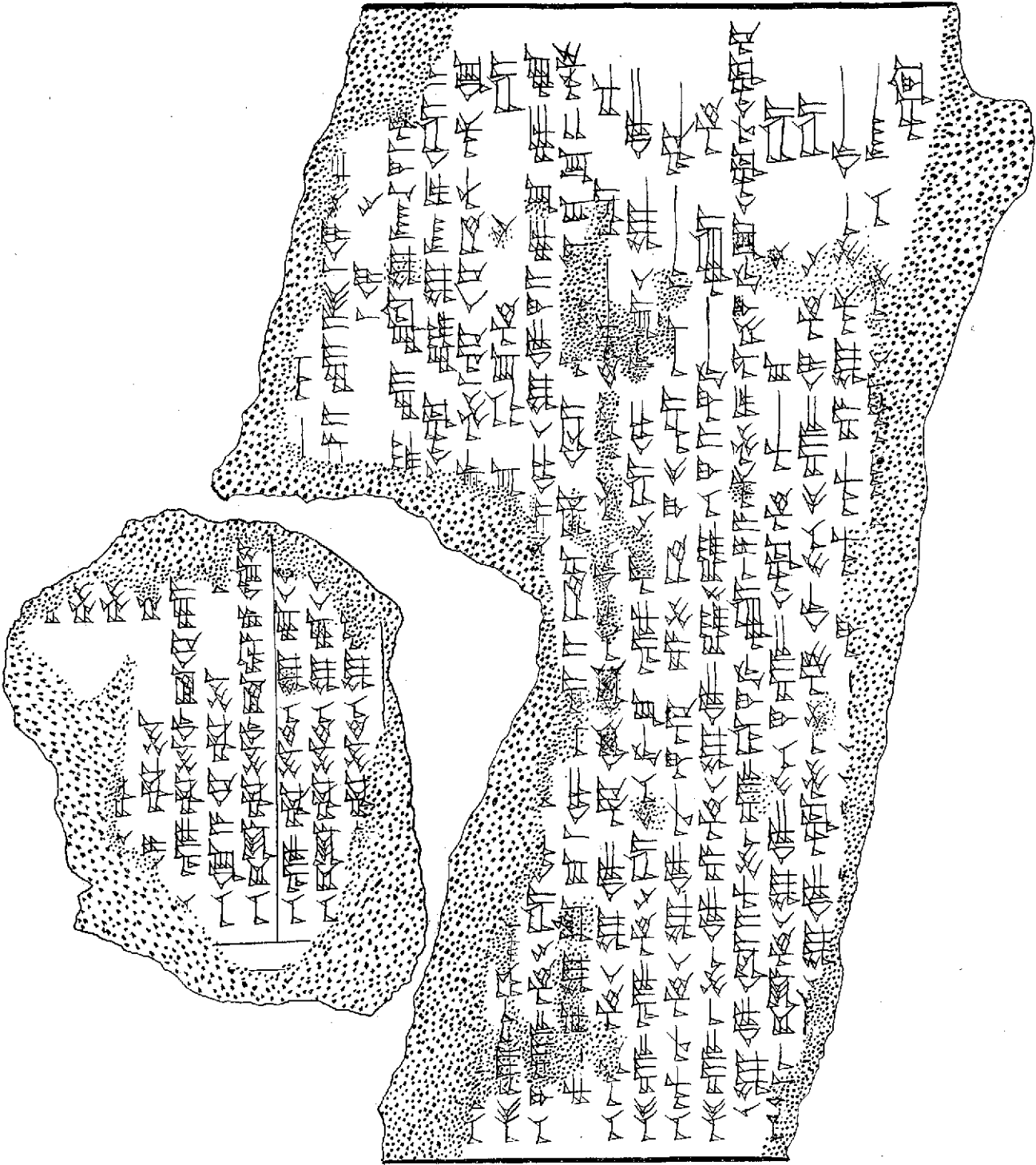


OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

K. 182 + K. 3038.

OBVERSE.

83-1-18, 448.



OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

K. 182 + K. 3038, REVERSE.

5  
10

5

5

S. 826.

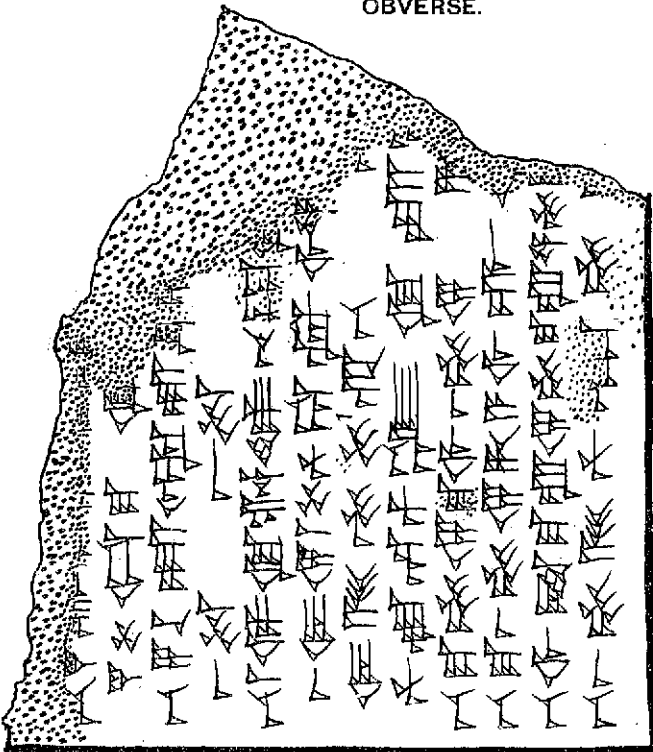
1. At the head of each section a space has been left by the Scribe.

K. 12074.



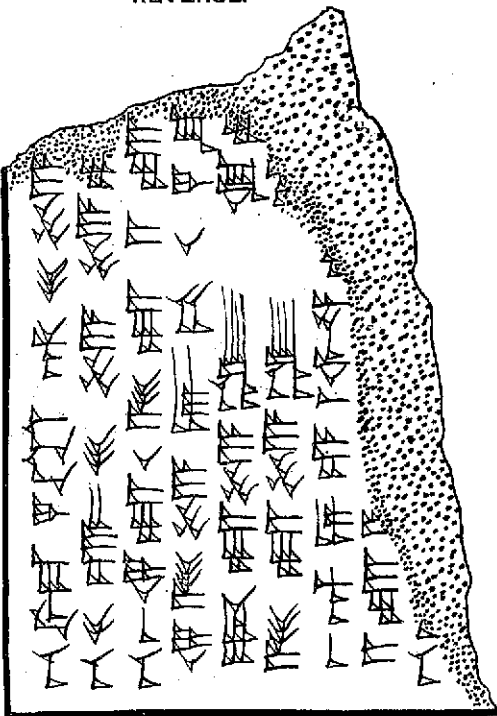
OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

K. 6231.  
OBVERSE.



5

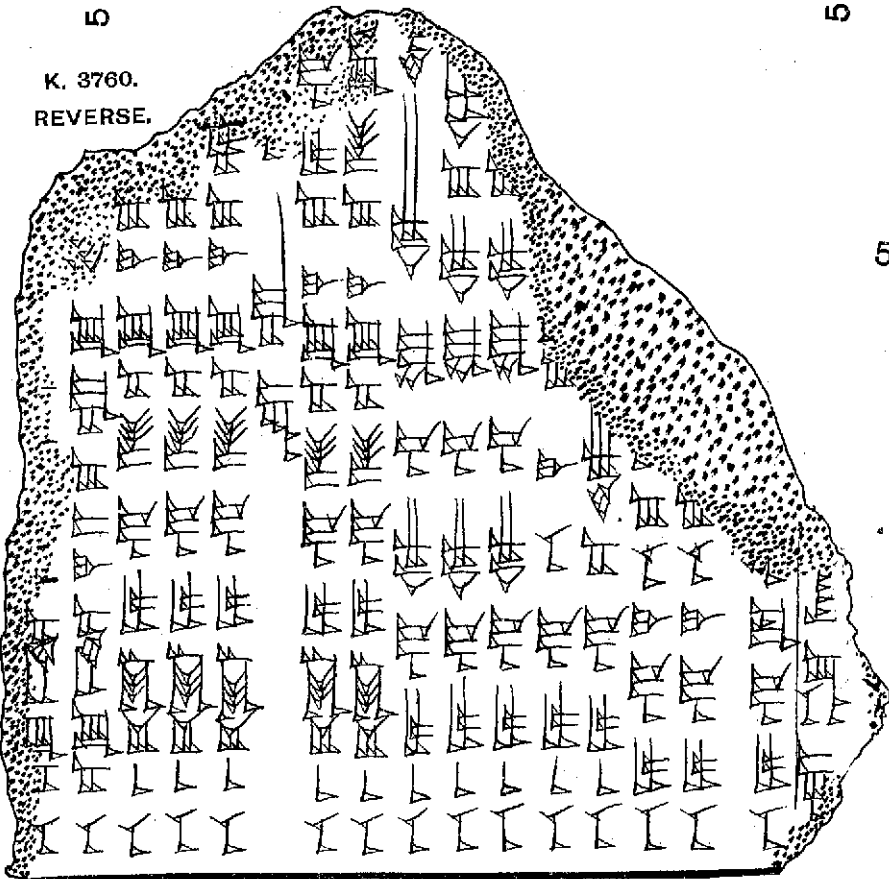
K. 6231.  
REVERSE.



5

1. Written over an erasure.

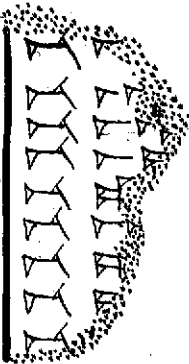
K. 3760.  
REVERSE.



5

10

15

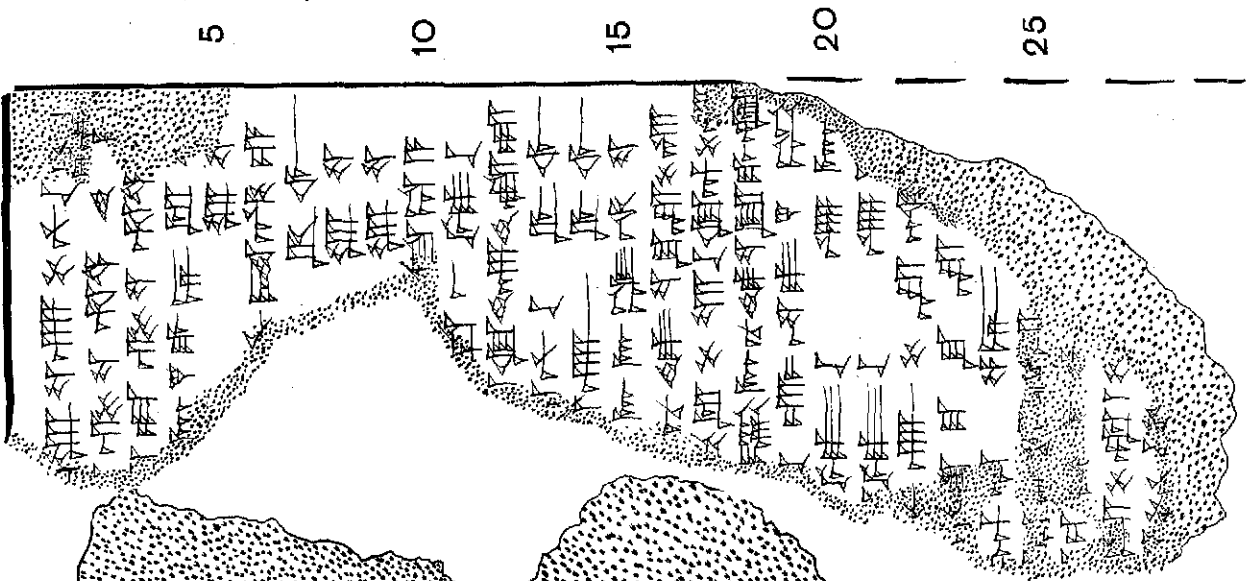


5

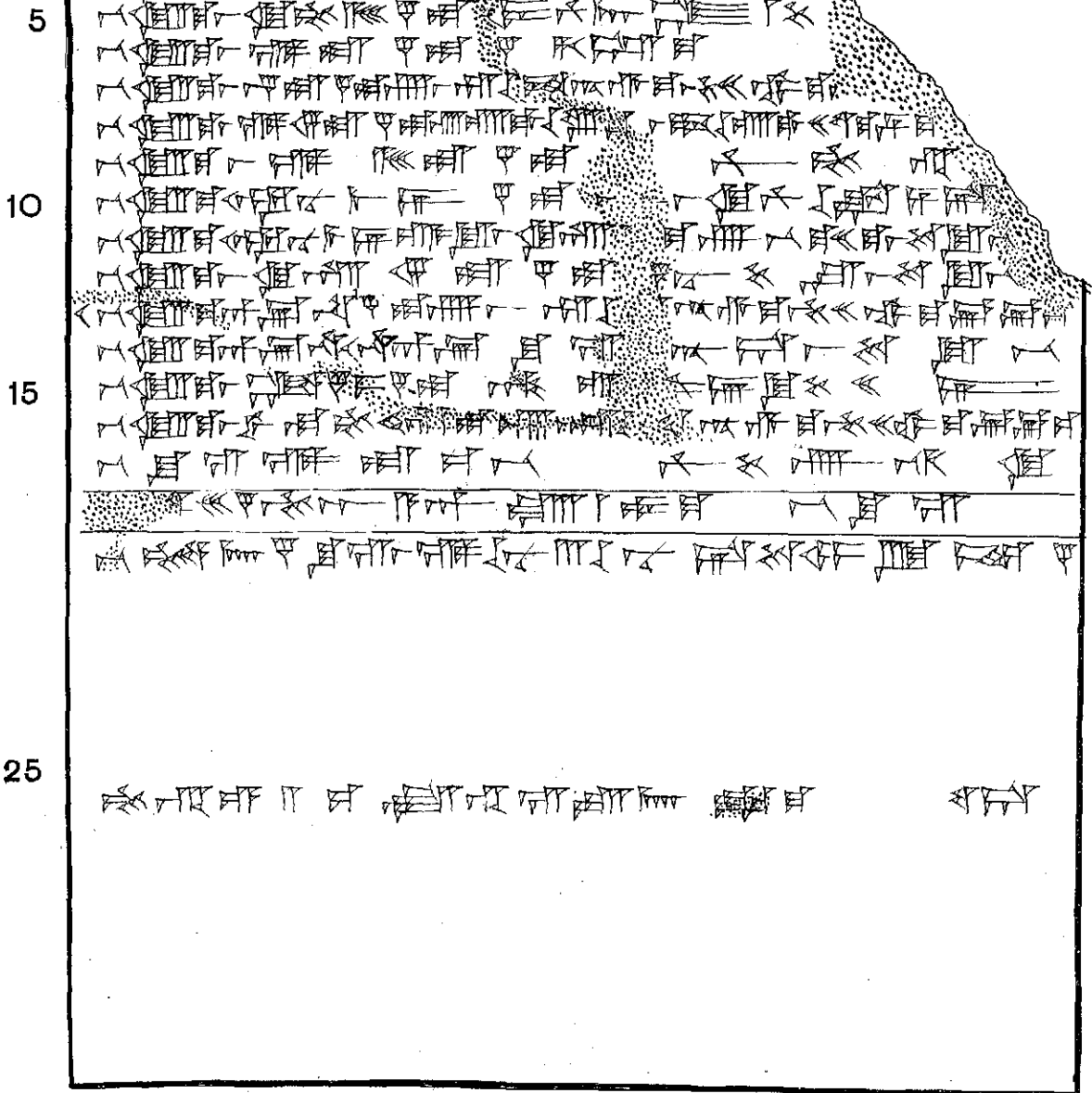
K. 3760, OBVERSE.

OMENS FROM THE LIVER.

K. 2714 + K. 3831. + K. 4062. OBVERSE.



K. 2714 + K. 3831  
+ K. 4062.  
REVERSE.



1. Written over an erasure.

Electronic publication prepared by

[Kelvin Smith Library](#)

Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, Ohio

for

ETANA Core Texts

<http://www.etana.org/coretexts.shtml>

