

IV

SGRAFFITI OF ENDERE

THE following sgraffiti were found scratched on the walls of the temple cella (E. i) and the open hall east of the latter (E. iii) at Endere. Photographs and eye-copies were made by Dr. Stein, from which it has been possible to decipher a certain amount of the text. Many of the characters, however, are uncertain, and not a few are wholly illegible. Doubtful characters are bracketed.

I. *Inscriptions in the Temple Cella.*

A. On the northern wall, near the north-eastern corner. The letters are from two to four inches high, of a fairly good majuscule type.

1. ≡[ར] [ལ]ག་ལྷ་ཕུག་
2. ཡན [མཚ]སྐྱོ། དར་སྐྱ་དང་ལོར་བུ་བཟང།
3. [ལུ]སྐྱ་གསོལ་དུ་ལོ་ཕུག་ཀྱང་འཚལ།

1. In ལ [sic!] only the vowel is distinctly visible.
2. The third and fourth letters were read by Dr. Stein as མཚ; the photographs do not render them very clearly, but on the whole support the reading.

Mr. Francke renders the inscription into modern Tibetan as follows:—

1. [ལ]ག་ལྷ་ལ་(or ལོ་ལ)ཕུག་གི་
2. ཡན མཚསྐྱོ། དར་སྐྱ་དང་ལོར་བུ་བཟང།
3. [ལུ]སྐྱ་གསོལ་དུ་ལོ་ཕུག་ཀྱང་འཚལ།

Mr. Francke translates thus:—

1. . . . 'of the hand [of] *Wug lgal*' (or *oBrug rgal*?)
2. . . . 'an offering . . . it is; divers silks and good jewels';
3. . . . 'different offerings; as a prayer (offering) the annual rent also [will be] offered.'

Upon this Mr. Francke remarks:—'In the name *Wug lgal* (or *obrug rgal*) the interchange of *r* and *l* (although with regard to this name there is no security at all) would not be impossible according to West-Tibetan phonetics. With regard to གསོལ་དུ་, I believe that it stands for གསོལ་ལ་དུ་, and that གསོལ་དུ་ in Inscription I. B. is for གསོལ་ལ་དེ་. The final consonant of the syllable is written below the first consonant. An exactly parallel case we find in my *Dritte Sammlung von Felszeichnungen von Unter-Ladakh* (Harrassowitz, Leipzig, 1902), Tafel I. 2, where in the name *Rinchen* the second consonants of the two syllables are written below the first consonants, placed slightly to the right. In the case of གསོལ་དུ་ the *l* is also placed slightly to the right, but in གསོལ་དེ་ it is placed exactly below the *s*. This may be due to careless writing; the two words are apparently the same. The frequent occurrence of the word *gsol ba* in the votive records of erection of ancient Ladākhī stūpas is also remarkable.'