Winckler, Arabisch-Semitrsch-Orientalisch, p. 79 (i.e. MVAG, vi, 229), suggested that it was an Ethiopic borrowing, and Grimme, Mohammed, 1904, p. 48, wants to link the Ḥanīfs on to some S. Arabian cult. The Eth. AGA, however, is quite a late word meaning heathen, and can hardly have been the source of the Arabic. Nor is there any serious ground for taking the word as a borrowing from Heb. profane, as Deutsch suggested (Literary Remains, 93), and as has been more recently defended by Hirschfeld.

The probabilities are that it is the Syr. Lin, as was pointed out by Nöldeke. This word was commonly used with the meaning of heathen, and might well have been known to the pre-Islamic Arabs as a term used by the Christians for those who were neither Jews nor of their own faith, and this meaning would suit the possible pre-Islamic passages where we find the word used. Moreover, as Margoliouth has noticed, in using the word of Abraham, Muḥammad would be following a favourite topic of Christian apologists, who argued from Rom. iv, 10-12, that Abraham's faith was counted for righteousness in his heathen days before there was any Judaism. (See Ahrens, Christliches, 28, and Nielsen in HAA, i, 250.)

(Ḥawārīyūn). حَوَّارِيُّونَ

iii, 45; v, 111, 112; lxi, 14.

Disciples.

It is used only of the disciples of Jesus and only in late Madinan passages.

as-Suyūṭī, Itq, 320, includes it in his list of foreign words, but in this he is quite exceptional.⁶ He says, "Ibn Abī Ḥātim quoted from aḍ-Daḥḥāk that $Ḥaw\bar{a}r\bar{i}y\bar{u}n$ means washermen in Nabataean." ⁷

¹ Dillmann, Lex, 605.

² Noldeke, Neue Beiträge, 35.

³ Beiträge, 43 ff. New Researches, 26; cf. also Pautz, Offenbarung, 14.

⁴ Neue Beuräge, 30. It has been accepted as such by Andrac, Ursprung, 40; Ahrens, Muhammed, 15, and Mingana, Syriac Influence, 97.

⁵ JRAS, 1903, p. 478. Margoliouth also notes that there may have been further influence from the prophecy that Abraham should be the father of many nations, as this word is sometimes rendered by منف formed منف formed from this.

⁶ Also Mutaw, 59, and given by al-Khafājī in his supercommentary to Baid. on iii, 45.

مُوَّ ارَى al-Alūsī, iii, 155, quotes the Nab. form as ...