

whence the Gk. *Ἐυφράτης*. From the Akk. come the Heb. פֶּרַת and Syr. ܦܪܬܐ, whence in all probability the Ar. فُرَات, if indeed this was not an early borrowing from Mesopotamia.

فِرْدَوْس (Firdaws).

xviii, 107 ; xxiii, 11.

Paradise.

The authorities are agreed that it means a garden—بستان (Jawharī, *Ṣiḥāḥ*, i, 467 ; *LA*, viii, 43), but they differed considerably as to what sort of a garden it means.¹ There are also divers opinions as to its precise location and significance as referring to the celestial Paradise.

It was early recognized as foreign (Siddiqi, *Studien*, 13, and note Fraenkel's remark, *Fremdw*, 149), though some claimed that it was genuine Arabic derived from فِرْدَسَة meaning *width* or *amplitude*.²

Some said it was Nabataean,³ where the reference is possibly to the פֶּרַת of late Jewish legend. 'Ikrima held that it was Ethiopic,⁴ and many said it was Syriac,⁵ but the favourite theory among the philologers was that it was of Greek origin. as-Suyūṭī, *Itq*, 323; *Muzhir*, i, 130, 134, gives this as the prevalent theory, it is given by al-Jawālīqī, 110 ; ath-Tha'ālibī, *Fiqh*, 318 ; and al-Khafājī, 148, and we learn from the Lexicons (cf. *LA*, viii, 44) that it was supported by such authorities as az-Zajjāj, Mujāhid, Ibn Sida, and al-Kalbī.

Obviously فردوس represents the Gk. παραδεισος, and on the ground of the plu. فراديس G. Hoffmann⁶ would derive it directly from the Greek. It seems, however, merely a coincidence that this

¹ Lane, *Lex*, 2365 ; and Tab. on xviii, 107.

² *Vide* Qāmūs, sub voc. ; *LA*, viii, 44 ; *TA*, iv, 205. This was the theory of al-Farrā' and it was supposed to be supported by the fact that it occurs as a name for Damascus. The verse of Jarir quoted in Bekri, *Mu'jam*, p. 368, is post-Islamic, however, and doubtless influenced by the Qur'ān.

³ as-Suddī in al-Jawālīqī, *Mu'arrab*, 110.

⁴ Bagh. on xviii, 107.

⁵ Qāmūs, sub voc. *TA*, iv, 105, and al-Jawālīqī.

⁶ *ZDMG*, xxxii, 761, n. ; Lagarde, *GA*, 76 and 210 ; Pautz, *Offenbarung*, 215, n. ; but see A. Müller in Bezzenberger's *Beiträge*, 280, n.