word most widely used. In particular المحكمة is used in precisely the same senses as سلطان is used in the Qur'ān, and it was doubtless from this source that both the Ar. سلطان and Eth. هما were derived.

The word is clearly an Aram. borrowing, for it has no root in Arabic and can only be explained from Aram. אולסס, as Schwally has noticed (ZDMG, liii, 197). The word does not occur in Syriac, but its currency in N. Arabia is evidenced by a Palm. inscription—with this stairway seven columns "(De Vogüé, No. 11, line 3).2 It would probably have been a fairly early borrowing, and as the word seems to be originally Akkadian, one cannot lose sight of the possibility of the Arabic word having been an early borrowing from Mesopotamia.

The word is found only in connection with the story of the manna and quails sent as provision for the Children of Israel in their desert wanderings.

Some of the Muslim philologers endeavoured to derive it from איל to console (cf. Zam. on ii, 54), but there can be no reasonable doubt that it is from the Heb. ייל ליין through the Aram. The Jewish Aram. מלין נולון. סלין. וולון is little used, so all the probabilities are in favour of its

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fischer, Glossar, 56, gives it from Aramaic.

There is some doubt, however, as to whether the reading should be recall or though in the facsimile it certainly looks like = 0 and not = 1.

<sup>3</sup> See Schwally, ZDMG, liii, 197; Horovitz, JPN, 210.

<sup>4</sup> Horovitz, KU, 17, n. Lagarde, Ubersicht, 190, n., however, curiously regards as borrowed from the Arabic.