**TIGRANES,** or Dikran, king of Armenia (c. 95-55 B.c.). Armenia had by the conquests of Alexander the Great become **a** province of the Macedonian Empire ; but it was never thoroughly subjected to the foreign rule. A Persian family, that of Hydarnes, one of the associates of Darius Hystaspis, which possessed large domains in Armenia and had been invested with the satrapy for several generations, was dominant in the country, and assumed the royal title in defiance of the Seleucid. Antio­chus III. the Great put an end to this dynasty about 211 and divided Armenia into two satrapies, which he gave to two generals of Persian origin, the district of Sophene in the west (on the Euphrates and the sources of the Tigris) to Zariadres, the eastern part, called Armenia Major (round the lake of Van) to Artaxias (see Armenia). After the battle of Magnesia (190) both made themselves independent; Artaxias conquered the valley of the Araxes, where he founded his new capital Artaxata (“ town of Artaxias,” said to be built by the advice of Hannibal, Strabo xi. 528; Plut. *Luc.* 31). He was defeated and taken prisoner by Antiochus IV. *Epiphanes* in 1Ó5 (Àppian, *Syr.* 45, 66), but soon became independent again in the troubles which followed his death (cf. Diod. xxxi. 22, 27a); and his successors extended their power even farther against Media and the districts on the Kur. But from 140 the Parthians became the dominant power east of the Euphrates. King Artavasdes of Armenia was attacked by Mithradates II. the Great about 105 b.c. (Justin xlii. 2). He had to give his son Tigranes (b. 140 b.c. according to Lucian, *Macrob.* 15; by Appian, *Syr.* 48, he is called “ son of Tigranes ”; if that is correct, he probably was the nephew of Artavasdes) as hostage to the Parthians, and he obtained his freedom only by ceding seventy valleys bordering on Media (Strabo xi. 532; cf. xvi. 745; Justin xxxviii. 3). This sketch of the earlier history of Armenia is principally based upon the data given by Strabo xi. 528, 531 seq. The traditions preserved by the Armenian historians (who fancy that an Arsacid dynasty ruled over Armenia since the time of Alexander) have no historical value whatever.

Tigranes, who ascended the throne in 95 or 94 B.C. (Plut. *Luc.* 21), immediately began to enlarge his kingdom. He deposed Artanes, the last king of Sophene from the race of Zariadres (Strabo xi. 532), and entered into close alliance with Mithradates VI. Eupator of Pontus, whose daughter Cleopatra he married. In 93 he invaded Cappadocia in the interest of Mithradates, but was driven back by Sulla in 92 (Plut. *Sulla,* 5, Justin xxxviii. 3). During his first war with Rome, Mithradates was supported by Tigranes, although he abstained from interfering openly. But he meanwhile began war with the Parthians, whose empire was weakened after the death of Mithradates II. (about 88) by internal dissensions and invasions of the Scythians. Tigranes reconquered the valleys which he had ceded, and laid waste a great part of Media, down to Ecbatana (Isidor. Charac. 6), and the districts of Nineveh and Arbela; the kings of Atropatene, Gordyene (the country of the Carduchi, now Bohtan), Adiabene (the former Assyria) and Osroene (Edessa) became his vassals, who attended him like slaves wherever he went; northern Meso­potamia also was torn from the Parthian Empire (Strabo xi. 532, 747; Plut. *Luc.* 32). In 83 he invaded Syria, defeated the last successors of Seleucus and occupied Cilicia, of which the eastern parts still belonged to the Seleucids (Justin xl. 1; Appian, *Syr.* 48; Plut. *Luc.* 14, 21). In the war between Mithra­dates and Sulla he did not interfere, but after the death of Sulla (78) he occupied Cappadocia again and expelled King Ariobarz- anes I., the vassal of the Romans (Appian, *Mithr.* 67; Strabo xii. 539). During the next years wars are mentioned in Syria, where the princess Cleopatra Selene attempted in vain to restore the Seleucid rule, but was besieged in Acco and afterwards killed (Joseph. *Ant.* xiii. 16, 4; Strabo xvi. 749), and in Cilicia, where he destroyed the Greek town of Soli (Plut. *Pomp.* 28; Dio Cass. xxxvi. 37). Tigranes now had become “ king of kings ” and the mightiest monarch of Asia. So he built a new royal city, Tigranocerta, on the borders of Armenia and Mesopotamia, between Mt Masius and the Tigris, where he accumulated all his wealth and to which he transplanted the inhabitants of twelve Greek towns of Cappadocia, Cilicia and Syria (Plut. *Luc.*

21, 26; Appian, *Mithr. 67;* Strabo xi. 522, 532, 539; Plin. vi. 26 seq.; for the situation, which is much disputed, cf. Tac. *Ann.* xiv. 24, xv. 5, ed. Furneaux). He also transplanted many Arabic tribes into Mesopotamia (Plut. *Luc.* 21; Plin. vi. 142). But the Romans could not tolerate encroachment upon their sphere of power, and in 69 Lucullus invaded Armenia. Tigranes was beaten at Tigranocerta on the 6th of October 69, and again near Artaxata in September 68. The recall of Lucullus gave some respite to the two kings, who even invaded Asia Minor again. But meanwhile a son of Tigranes and Cleopatra, called Tigranes, like his father, rebelled against him (as the old man had already killed two of his sons, he had reason enough to be afraid for his life) and found refuge with the Parthian king Phraates III., whose daughter he married and who sent him back with an army (Appian, *Mithr.* 104; Plut. *Pomp.* 33; Dio Cass. xxxvi. 51). The old king now gave up all hope of resistance; he put a price on the head of Mithradates, and when Pompey advanced into Armenia and united with the younger Tigranes, he surrendered himself to the Roman general (66 b.c.). Pompey now changed his policy; he received the old Tigranes graciously and gave him back his diadem, while he treated the son very coolly and soon made him prisoner. The younger Tigranes was led in triumph into Rome, where he found his death when he tried to escape from his confinement by the intrigues of P. Clodius in 58 (Dio Cass. 38, 30). The father after his defeat ruled about ten years longer over Armenia, as vassal of the Romans. He died about 56, and was succeeded by his son Artavasdes. (See also Mithra­dates.) (Ed. Μ.)

**TIGRÉ,** a northern province of Abyssinia; one of the three principal divisions of the country, the others being Amhara or Gondar in the centre and Shoa in the south. The *ras* (or prince) of Tigré has been often a more powerful potentate than the nominal emperor. Tigré contains the town of Axum (*q.v.),* capital of the ancient Ethiopic Empire. Adua (Adowa, *q.v.*) is the capital of the province. (See Abyssinia.)

Tigrina, the dialect spoken in Tigré and Lasta, is nearer the ancient Geez than is Amharic, the official and more widely diffused language of Abyssinia. See J. Schreiber, *Manuel de la langue tigrai* (Vienna, 1887-1893); and L. de Vito, *Grammatica della lingua tigrigna* (Rome, 1895).

**TIGRIS** (Old Persian *Tigrā, Diklat* of the cuneiform inscrip­tions, *Hiddekel* of the Old Testament, *Diglath* of the Targum, *Digla* of the Arabs), a great river of western Asia, rising from two principal sources. The more western of these is about 10 m. S. of Lake Geuljik (Colchis of the ancients), at an altitude of 5050 ft., some 2 or 3 m. only from the channel of the Euphrates, which here forms a peninsula by a great bend (38° 10' N., approxim­ately 39° 20' E.). The eastern source, which joins the main stream at Til (37° 45' N., 41° 46' E.), is itself divided into two branches, or rather it may be said to consist of a network of small streams, the most northerly of which has its origin in about 38° 40' N. to the west of Lake Van, and close to the headwaters of the Murad Su, the eastern branch of the Euphrates, while the most easterly point is situated in a region about 42° 50' E., southward of the same lake. The two sources together drain the region south as the Euphrates drains the region north of the Taurus mountains. After the junction of the two branches the river pursues a winding course, generally south-east, for about 800 m. to the point of union with the Euphrates at Garmat Ali, whence it is known as the Shatt-el-Arab until it empties into the Persian Gulf some 70 m. lower down. For some five or six centuries before 1908-1909 the junction with the Euphrates was at Koma, some 30 m. above Garmat Ali. On the western side there are no tributaries at the present day. As late as a.d. 1200, however, the Arabian geographers mention a tributary, the Tharthar, navigable in flood time, which flowed from the Jaghi- gagh branch of the Khabur, a tributary of the Euphrates, to the Tigris. Ormsby, in 1832, also reported a river, the Asās Amir, as coming down from the Sinjar hills and joining the Tigris near Kal-’at Shergat, about 35° 30' N.; but this seems now to be a dry bed. On the eastern side of the river, on the other hand, there are several important tributaries descending from the Persian