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son who became a king had the same name. So you see what a clue we have. It means that there was a man who was a king, a father of a dynasty; he had a son who was also

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but Cyrus's father had the same name as Cyrus's son, so that it was quite clear that this was an inscription put up by the founder of the first of these two dynasties, put up by Cyrus and you must have the name of Cyrus and the name of his son and you knew what letters corresponded to his name. Now, of course, to figure this out simply out of whole cloth would have been extremely difficult. One aid to it was the fact that later Persian kings writing in a system of writings that was known to them had used a similar form in inscription, and so this form, "So-and-so, the great king, son of so-and-so, the great king", was a rather, was a form that suggested itself as a possibility, and when you found the word "king" repeated, "king of kings", in these inscriptions and various clues like that it was a pretty good guess that that was what these inscriptions meant. You had then the word for "king" but you didn't know how to pronounce it, but you knew what letters represented the word for "king", and you knew what word represented the word "great", and you knew the difference between the word "king" and the word "kings", but you had the names of two kings with them and you had a general idea how to pronounce those two names, and so it was possible from that, comparing the letters, Cyrus and Cambyses, comparing the letters in the two names, to get certain guesses as to what some of the letters were and it was quite a tedious task, it took them a great deal of time and study but the s very skillfully worked out the meaning of a great many