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one in whom we have very definite evidence that he is making very great use of it in his inscriptions and so it is altogether possible that he originated as an instrument of military policy. You can well imagine, then, when the Assyrian kings from this time on carried on this policy, you can well imagine the effect upon the people far to the west as they heard of the coming of the Assyrian army.

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You can imagine how it frightened people to think of their coming and naturally most of them would scurry together to make alliances and plans to resist and efforts at all possible hazards to hold them off. Occasionally you would find one like Ahaz who would think that he could protect himself from the neighboring people by making an alliance with the Assyrians behind them and such schemes were never successful for a very long time, as Isaiah pointed out. Now Ashurnasirpas was succeeded by his son Shalmaneser III, and Shalmaneser III had a name which is somewhat more important for our history, for our Biblical history, than the name of Ashur-Nasirpas, though in the history of Assyria he may not be any more important, just as important though, because he came nearer to Palestine, than did his father, and he claims to have received tribute from the kings of Palestine. He describes his first approach to Palestine in a year which is figured out as 854 B. C. and this is rather important because this gives us our first definite date which scholars feel can be dated absolutely from archeological sources, this date 854 B. C. and so it is a key date in the dating of Biblical events. He says that in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of \_\_\_\_\_, the way he entitles the year, which scholars figure as being 854 B. C., in the month of \_\_\_\_\_, in the fourteenth day, I departed from the city of Nineveh. Though Ashur was the first great city of the Assyrians, Nineveh was another of their great cities and by this time had come to be their leading city. It was also one of their very oldest cities and he described in this tablet, which was doubtless posted at many places in the empire, how in that year he approached the city of Qarqar and