

shower him with honors. The wise men were called in and no one of them was able to give the interpretation, give a satisfactory interpretation. Then the Queen Mother heard of the king's agitation and informed him that a man who had been prominent in the preceding reign, named Daniel, might be able to solve the matter. The king, the chapter tells us that the king called in Daniel and told him that if he could give, , if he could explain the writing he would shower him with many honors and make him the third ruler in the kingdom. Daniel proceeded to tell the king that the writing meant that God had condemned him, that his kingdom would be taken away from him and given to the Medes and Persians. The chapter then tells us that the king recognized the truth of Daniel's interpretation, to such an extent that he carried out his promise, covered him with the honors which had previously been listed and made him the third ruler in the kingdom.

Now it has been widely held, since sometime in the last century, it has been held by many, by most of interpreters of the divisive school that the book of ~~Daniel~~ ~~the~~ Daniel was not written at the time of the Babylonian kingdom but comes from 400 years later, at the time of the Maccabean uprising. Consequently it did not seem at all strange when Babylonian material began to come to light, it was found that ~~the~~ the last king of Babylon was not named Belshazzar but Nabonidus. It was further discovered that Nabonidus was not killed in the destruction of Babylon but that he was sent into exile and allowed to live in retirement. What a marked contrast to the statement in the book of Daniel. It is hardly conceivable if the chapter was a contemporary account but quite natural if it represents the ideas of 400 years later. Further investigation, however, has greatly altered this situation. Dr. Pinches, in the British Museum, made, investigated many hundreds of clay tablets bearing contracts and ephemeral