

in a great fortress, but were finally conquered and driven still farther.

As we have noticed, the Egyptians did not put up monuments to celebrate the driving out of the Hyksos. What we know of the events of this period, we learn from inscriptions inside the tombs of some of the Egyptian leaders who described there the great part that they had taken in the battles in which the Hyksos were driven out.

After the Hyksos kings had been driven out, the ordinarily comparatively peaceful Egyptians found they had had to develop quite a powerful military system. The natural tendency was to press on and utilize this military efficiency in conquering other lands.

The period which is called the New Kingdom and also called the Empire Period, includes the 18th to the 20th dynasty. During the 18th dynasty, a large part of Palestine, Phoenicia and Syria were conquered. During this period many expeditions were made by the Egyptians through Palestine and Syria. At the end of the 18th dynasty, Amenophis IV. made an attempt to establish a monotheistic religion. He deserted Thebes which was the center of the ancient Egyptian polytheism and built a new capital in Middle Egypt at what is now called El-Amarna. After his death the old party succeeded in regaining control of Egypt and the capital was soon moved back to Thebes, leaving El-Amarna a deserted city.

The result has been that we have been able to find in El-Amarna the fairly well preserved remains of this particular period of Egyptian history and among these the archives of the king containing the famous letters on clay tablets of which we have already spoken.

A son-in-law of Amenophis IV. who died very young, was one of the less important of the Egyptian kings, but it happened that his tomb near Thebes was better hidden than most of the tombs there