

José Pérez and Sample Peresianus Page(s) of 1859

by Randa Marhenke (April 8, 2010; Last revision: September 3, 2011)

Having read in George Stuart's *Quest for Decipherment* (1992) and in Glass' articles in the *Handbook of Middle American Indians* (1973, 1975) that a certain José Pérez had published an illustration of a page from the Paris Codex in 1859, I decided to pursue it. I thought it should be a fairly simple matter to find the publication, get a copy of the page, and ask to have it put it up on FAMSI. Though it was remarkably easy to find, I was amazed by the variety of what I found, both in what was shown, and in how it was shown.

I found three copies of the article written by Pérez on Google, and one in a local library. Four samples altogether, and all different. The libraries represented were the Widener Library of Harvard University, the New York Public Library (NYPL), the University of Michigan Library, and the McHenry Library of the University of California at Santa Cruz. All examples did state in the table of Plates ("Planches") listed at the back of the volume that there was a "fac-simile d'un ancien manuscrit américain" [facing] page 36. There we had some uniformity. But actually, though three of the examples had a plate of the Paris Codex facing page 36, two of them had a plate facing page 56. Perhaps typically, Paris page 22 was shown, with the upper center-left figure in bright blue-green, perhaps turquoise, with darker spots of the same blue-green, and the encircling cord in the blue-green. (The example from the Michigan library was missing some of the blue-green coloration in the cord). One (the NYPL example) had no color; it was a plain outline drawing. (I verified this with an e-mail to the NYPL; fortunately, not only does Google generally copy everything of the book, including its covers, but it also states what institution loaned the book for copying). Apparently, the color was to be added separately and after the printing of the plain outline, but this copy never received it. One example had two plates of the Paris, one facing page 36, another facing page 56! The others only had one, though one example was missing the page after page 56 on through page 58, that is, the volume went directly from page 56 to page 59, so I don't really know if another plate *would have* been facing page 56 or not, if the book had not been defective. I could guess this *volume* was actually missing the pages, and that this was not a fault of the Google copying, since one of the most common (of the now rare) problems that Google scans has is that two leaves, instead of one, get turned together, with an even-odd (not odd-even) numbered sequence of pages missing. I verified my reasoning by telephoning the University of Michigan Library, and found out that yes, the pages were actually missing from the volume.

What about the copy with *two* plates? This was the most surprising of all. This copy was from the Widener Library at Harvard University. The Google scans showed not only Paris page 22, but Paris page 21 also, as a sort-of unannounced bonus. None of the volume copies checked listed showing any more than one plate of the Paris Codex. Telephoning the Widener Library, I found that the Paris page 21 was indeed included, facing page 36, and on a different type of paper. The *paper stock* was brown-tan (somewhat as shown in the Google scan that was obtained from the Google PDF file); the browning appeared *not* to be from acidification. The Paris page 22 appeared in the Google *scan* to be uncolored and shaded in gray. It turns out that the Google scan of that page had been a black-and-white scan of a colored page (as they frequently are), for in the volume itself, there was a darkish or muddyish green (anyway, certainly not a shade of turquoise) on the upper center-left figure and within the cord. The figure seemed to be covered with *black* spots, with the green perhaps applied as a wash (personal communications: Cynthia Hinds, Widener Library, March 19-April 2, 2010).

On the pages following the references for this paper, are a table, summarizing these results, and copies of the renditions from the four examples. I think the renditions of the two Paris pages were done quite well, and produced very clear copies of rather complicated scenes. But though I had succeeded in finding the Paris page(s) as shown in the José Pérez article, I must admit that this search has, perhaps more importantly, resulted in quite a lesson on printing and publishing practices of the mid-19th century.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to credit Harvard College Library for permission to use their copy of *Revue orientale et américaine*, t.1, Sci 3080.30 in making the color scan shown in the last plate of this paper.

Thanks go to Karl Marhenke, my husband, who took the photograph of the Plate of the volume in the University of California at Santa Cruz—and then used his expertise in Paint Shop Pro to straighten out the slight keystone effect.

I thank Google, for providing, in Google Books, copies of so many old volumes, which otherwise would be close to impossible to consult and enjoy.

I cannot begin to express my appreciation for the librarians consulted for this paper. All were remarkably courteous and helpful. When I telephoned Carol McKendry, of the Buhr Shelving Facility of the University of Michigan Library, she immediately got the book off the shelf and answered my questions, confirming that their copy was indeed missing some pages (March 17, 2010). She also, unbeknownst to her, gave me the confidence to try telephoning the other libraries.

Stephen Shepard, of the NYPL, took the time to write me an e-mail, confirming that their volume indeed had no coloring in the Plate (March 22, 2010).

Nicholas Nardini of the Widener Library of Harvard University, called up their volume from the depository (March 17, 2010). Cynthia Hinds, from the same library, put up with my frequent calls, answered my numerous questions (various communications between March 19 and April 14, 2010), and even sent me scans from their volume--one of which I have included herein (the last picture of a Plate shown in this paper).

Hooray for librarians!

REFERENCES

- Glass, John B. *A Census of Native Middle American Pictorial Manuscripts*, in Cline, Howard F. Robertson, (Volume Editor), *Guide to Ethnohistorical Sources, Part Three*, in Wauchope, Robert Donald (General Editor), *Handbook of Middle American Indians*, vol. 14, University of Texas Press, Austin, p. 179.
1975
- Glass, John B. *Annotated References*, in Cline, Howard F. (Volume Editor), *Guide to Ethnohistorical Sources, Part Four*, in Wauchope, Robert (General Editor), *Handbook of Middle American Indians*, vol. 15, University of Texas Press, Austin, p. 675.
1975
- Pérez, José *Sur un ancien manuscrit américain inédit*, in Léon de Rosny (editor), *Revue orientale et américaine*, t. 1, Challamel aîné, Paris, pp. 35-39, and sometimes: page facing p. 56.
1859
- Accessible from:
- <http://books.google.com/books?id=AWQFAAAAMAAJ>
- <http://books.google.com/books?id=PBoYAAAAAYAAJ>
- <http://books.google.com/books?id=JVQ8AAAAAYAAJ>
- Stuart, *Quest for Decipherment: A Historical and Biographical Survey of Maya Hieroglyphic Investigation*, in Elin C. Danien , Robert J. Sharer, *New Theories on the Ancient Maya*, University Museum Monograph 77, University Museum Symposium Series Volume 3, Philadelphia , p21.
George E.
1992

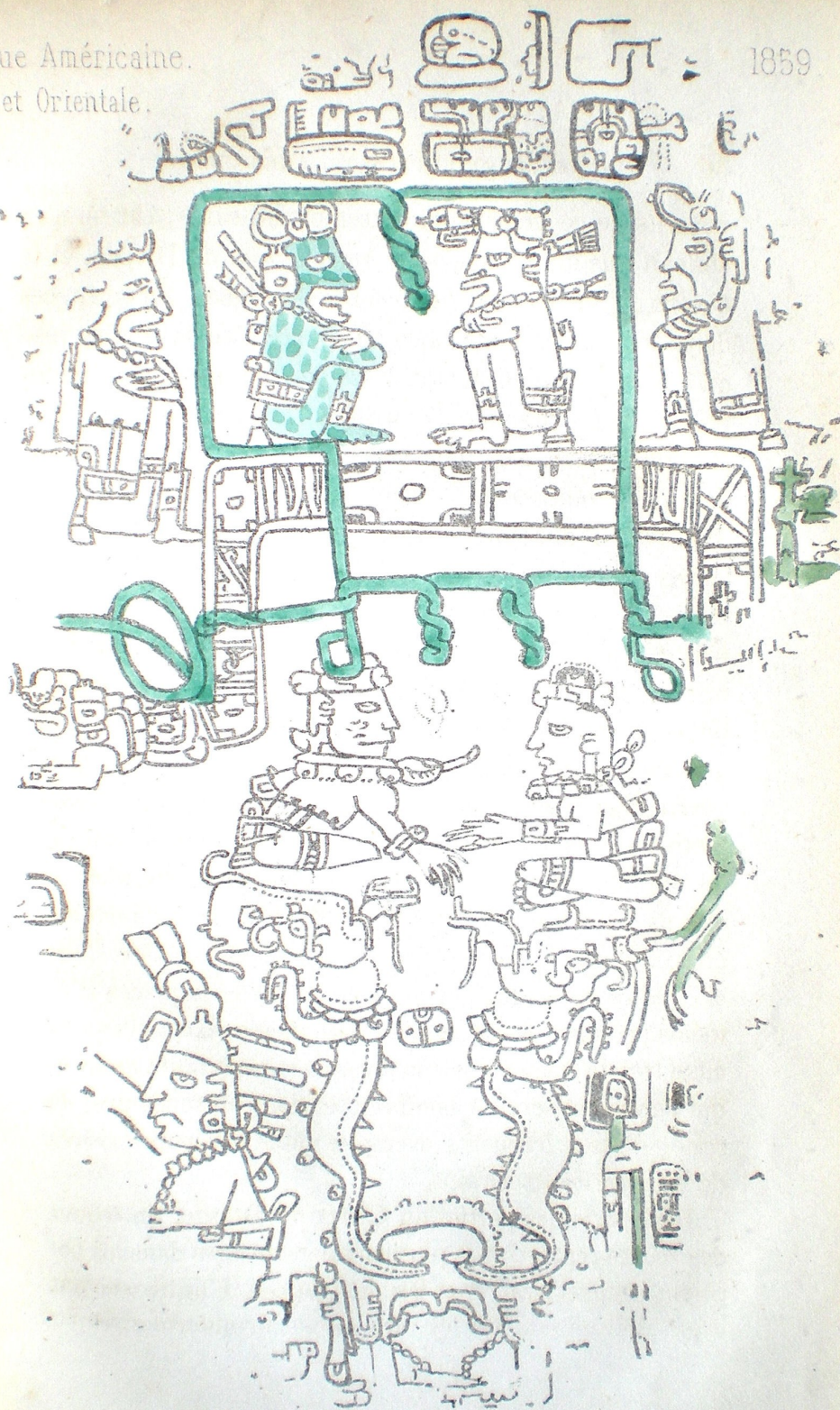
Table of Paris Renderings in Different Examples of José Pérez's Paper

Identification Labels for Volume ^a	Contributing Library	Location of Paris p. 21 in volume	Location of Paris p. 22 in volume	Type of Drawing (for Paris p. 22) -----	
				Plain Outline	Color Present
Call No.: AP20.R4, vol. 1	University of California at Santa Cruz (McHenry Library)	(absent)	facing p. 36	no	yes
Call No.: GN2.S678, vol. 1 B 910.225 (number on cover) Google: AWQFAAAAMAAJ	University of Michigan. (Acquired from the Henry Vignaud Library). Now in the university's Buhr Shelving Facility.	? (missing pages after p. 56 through p. 58 from the volume)	facing p. 36	no	yes
Call No.: OAA (Revue orientale et amér- icaine) v. 1 (1859) Bar Code: 3 3433 08188207 2 Google: PboYAAAAYAAJ	New York Public Library (Astor Library) (Schwarzman Building)	(absent)	facing p. 56	yes	no
Call No.: Sci 3080.30 t. 1 (1859) Bar Code: HX3K3L [or: HX 3K3L B] Google: JVQ8AAAAYAAJ	Harvard (Widener Library)	facing p. 36	facing p. 56	no	yes ^b

Notes to table:

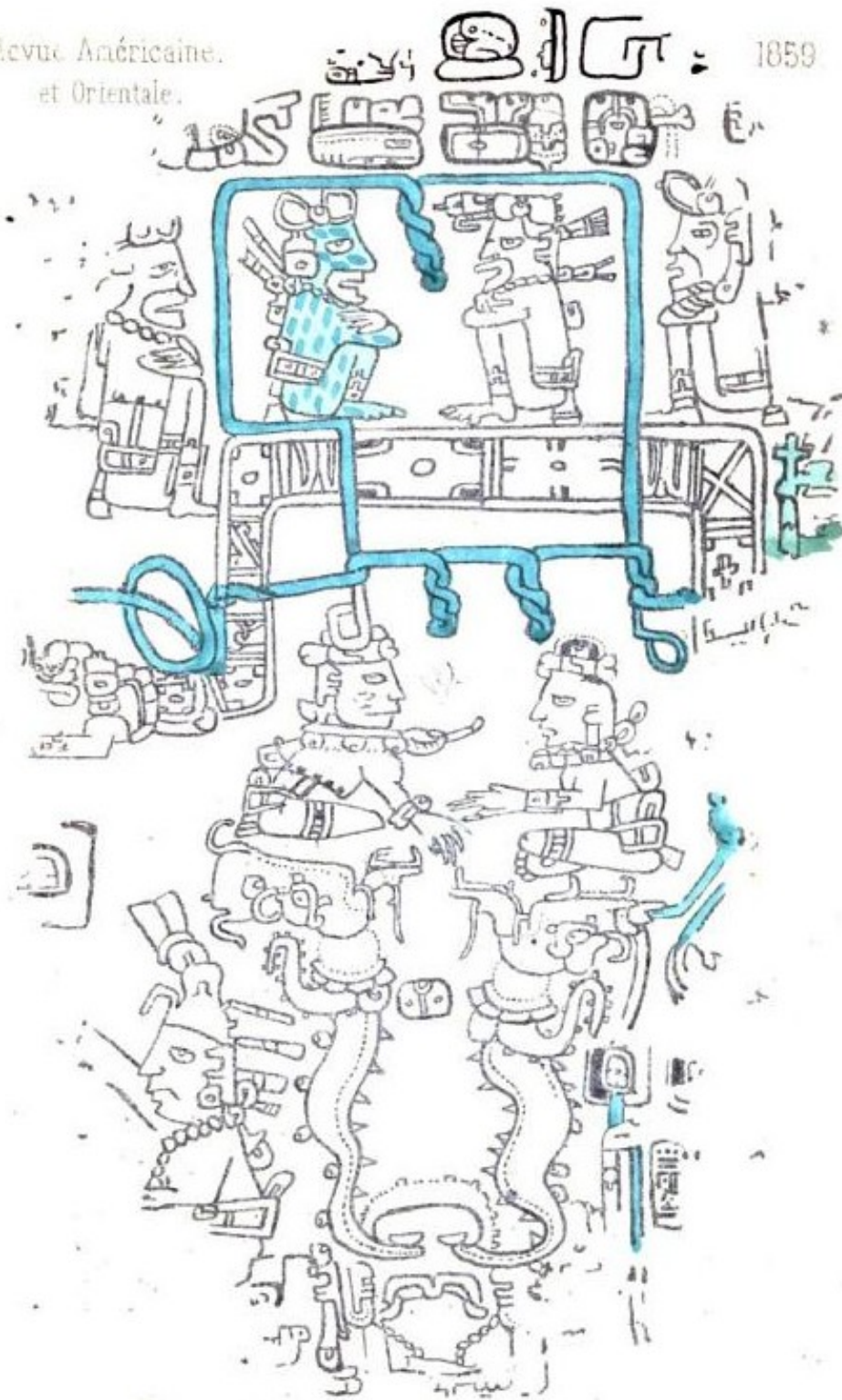
a. Call numbers (each one labelled as "Call No.") are given. Other library numbers, such as bar codes, are given when possible. For the Google scans, part of the Google URL is also given, labelled as "Google".

b. This rendition of Paris p. 22 was shown with gray shading in the Google scan online, but the book itself showed it with color.



FAC-SIMILE D'UN ANCIEN MANUSCRIT AMÉRICAIN.

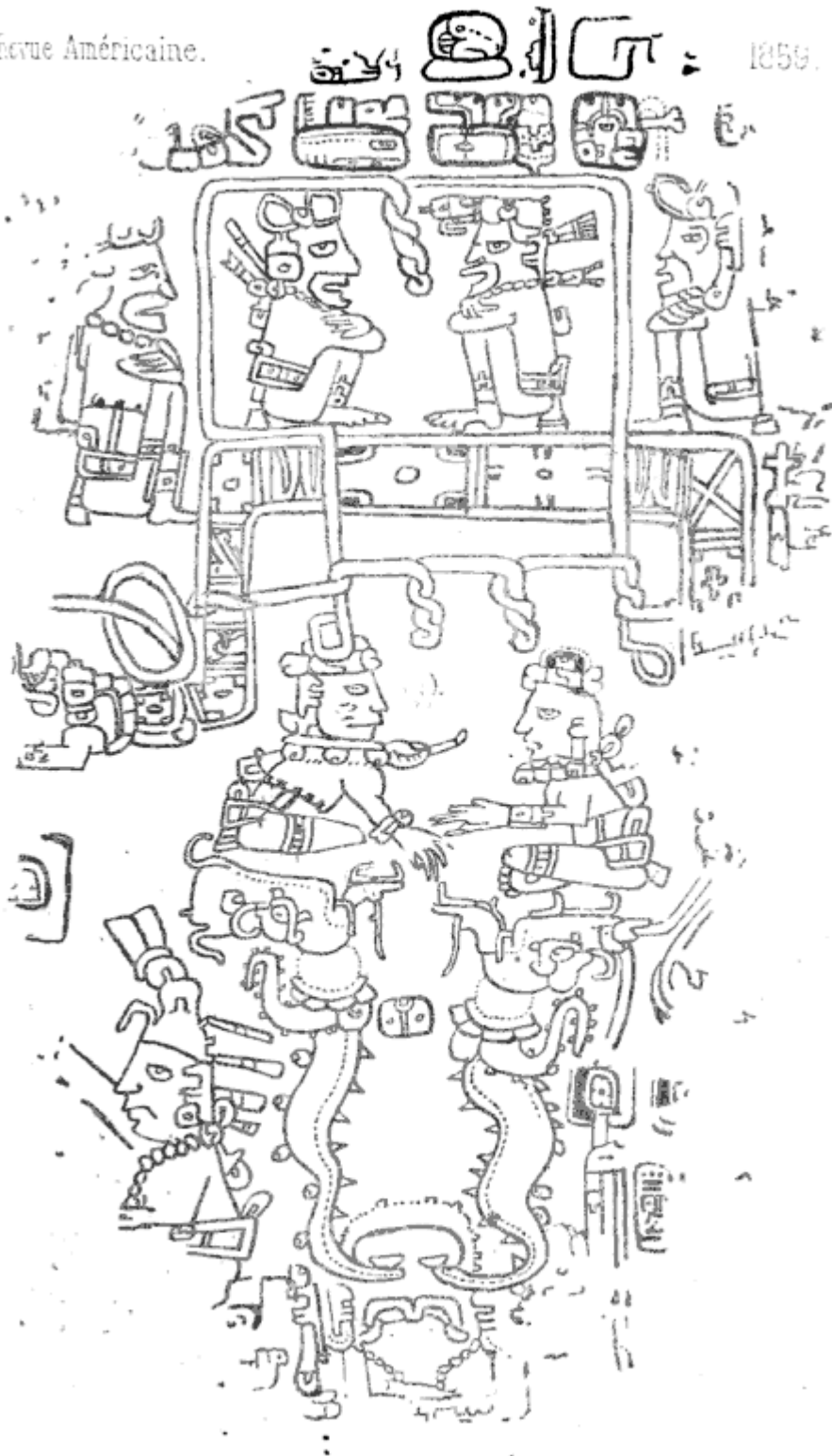
A photograph of the rendition of page 22 of the Paris Codex shown in Volume 1 (1859) of the *Revue orientale et américaine* that is held by the McHenry Library at the University of California at Santa Cruz, California
Photographed by Karl Marhenke



FAC-SIMILE D'UN ANCIEN MANUSCRIT AMÉRICAIN.

Digitized by Google

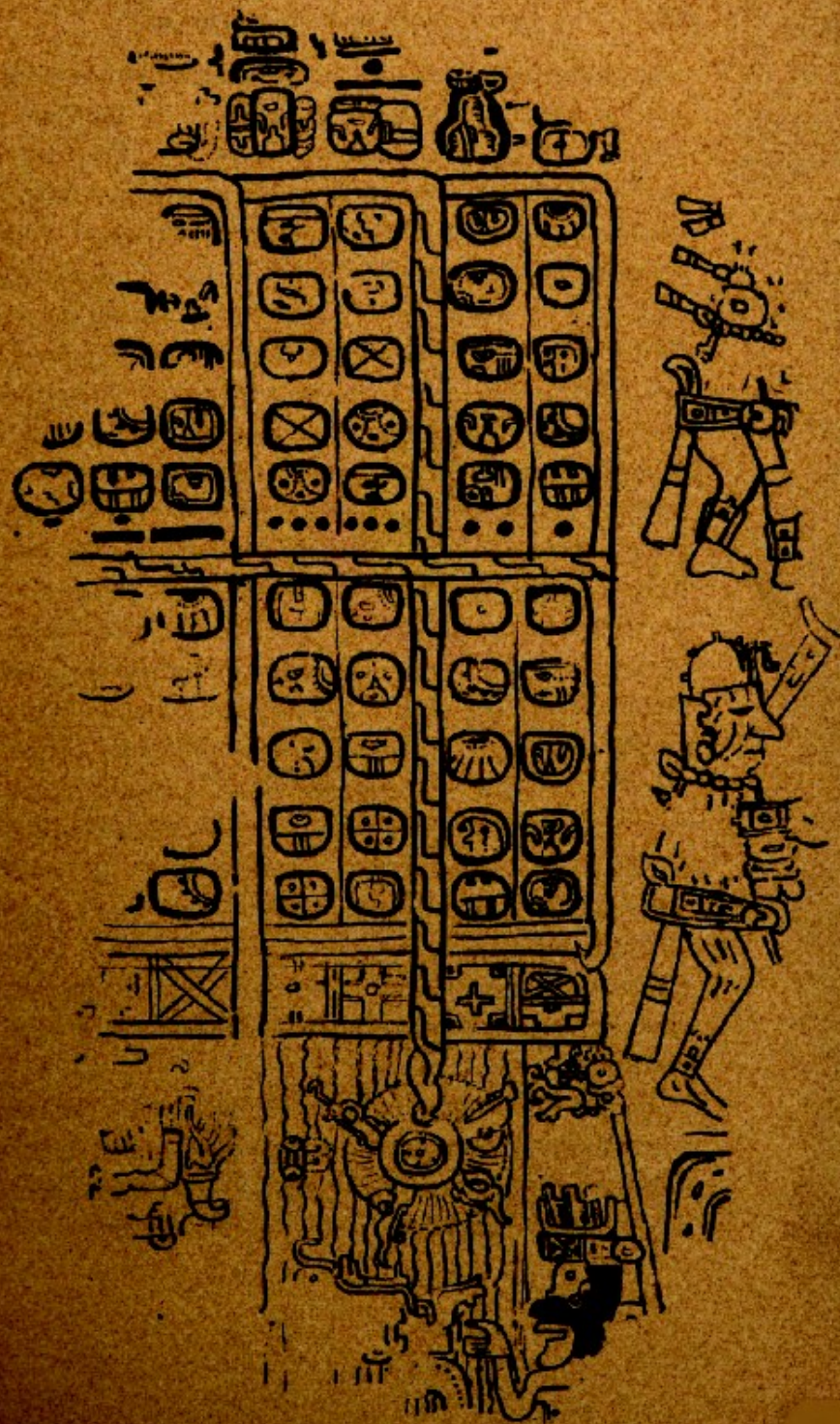
A Google scan taken of the rendition of page 22 of the Paris Codex shown in Volume 1 (1859) of the *Revue orientale et américaine* that is held by the Library of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan



FAC-SIMILE D'UN ANCIEN MANUSCRIT AMÉRICAIN.

Digitized by Google

A Google scan taken of a rendition of page 22 of the Paris Codex shown in Volume 1 (1859) of the *Revue orientale et américaine* that is held by the New York Public Library, New York



FAC-SIMILE D'UN ANCIEN MANUSCRIT AMÉRICAIN.

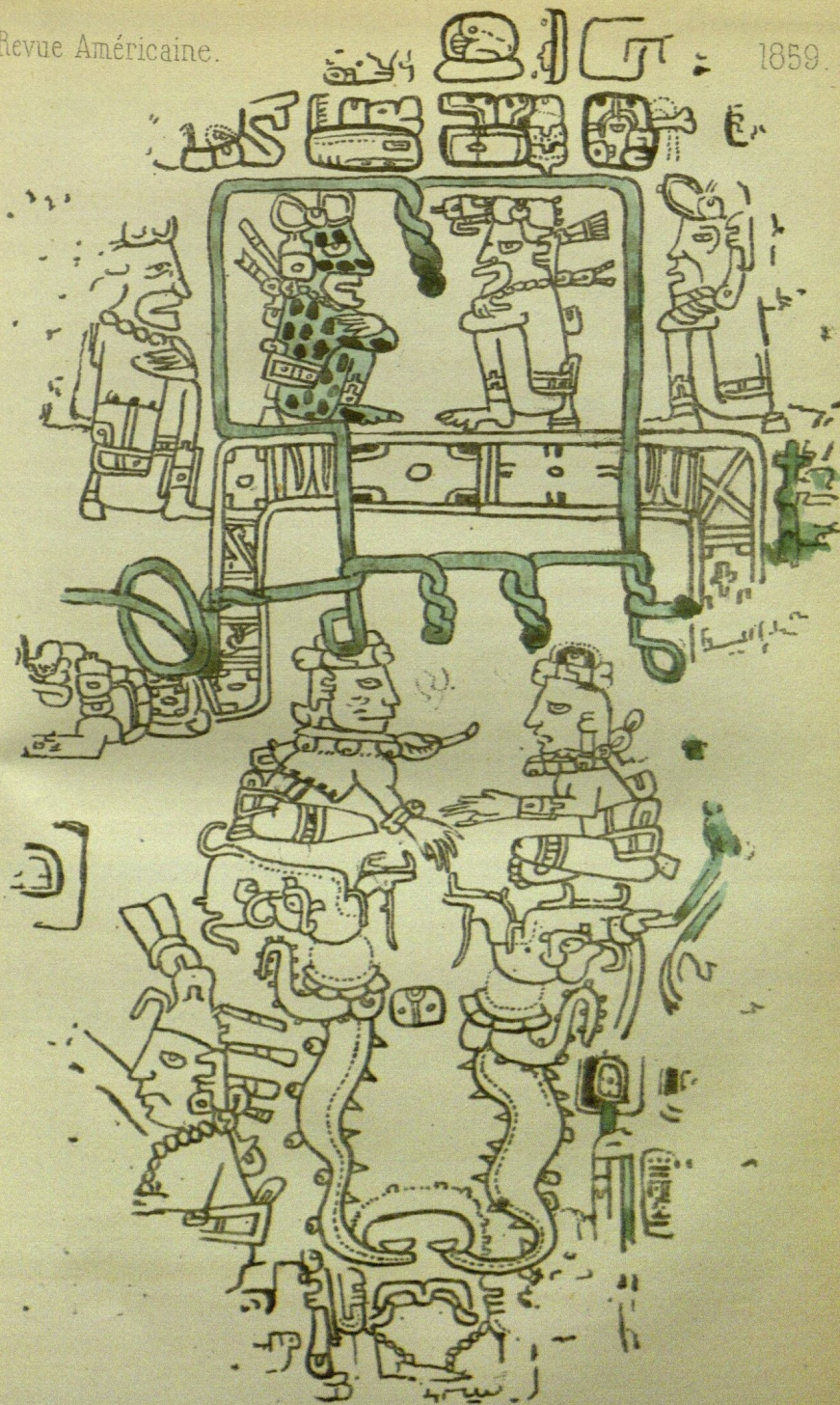
A screen-capture taken of the rendition of Paris Codex page 21 which was in the PDF file downloaded from Google, ultimately from Volume 1 (1859) of the *Revue orientale et américaine* that is held by the Widener Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

es,
et

o-
u-
on
Le
ur
si-
ur
es
re
le
-

u
e

a
r
e
e
t
s
e



FAC-SIMILE D'UN ANCIEN MANUSCRIT AMÉRICAIN

A scan of Paris Codex page 22 from the Harvard College Library copy of *Revue orientale et américaine*, t.1, Sci 3090.30

Scanned by Cynthia Hinds of the Widener Library of Harvard University

REVUE ORIENTALE

ET

AMÉRICAINÉ

PUBLIÉE AVEC LE CONCOURS

DE MEMBRES DE L'INSTITUT, DE DIPLOMATES, DE SAVANTS
DE VOYAGEURS, D'ORIENTALISTES ET D'INDUSTRIELS

PAR

LÉON DE ROSNY



TOME PREMIER

PARIS

CHALLAMEL AINÉ, ÉDITEUR

COMMISSIONNAIRE POUR L'ALGÉRIE ET L'ÉTRANGER

30, RUE DES BOULANGERS

1859

Digitized by Google

INDEX DES ARTICLES.

	Pages
Amérique et Orient.....	1
Épisode de l'Épopée du Monténégro, traduit pour la première fois du Serbe, par ALEXANDRE CHOZKO.....	4
Fables indiennes traduites pour la première fois sur une ancienne version chinoise, par STANISLAS JULIEN, de l'Institut.....	20
Fragment du Mahābhārata, grande épopée indienne, traduit pour la première fois du <i>sanskrit</i> , par PH. ED. FOUCAUX.....	25
Madagascar et la France, par L. DE FOUCQUEVILLE.....	31
Sur un ancien manuscrit américain inédit, par JOSÉ PÉREZ.....	35
Le Déluge et les livres bibliques, par H. DE CHARENCEY.....	39
La Cochinchine et l'occupation française du port de Tourane, par LÉON DE ROSNY.....	57
Appendice. Documents sur l'empire annamite. Géographie — Chronologie — Numération, poids et mesures.	72
Études sur la constitution du Nouveau-Monde et sur les origines américaines, par CHARLES DE LABARTHE.....	77
La descente aux enfers. Épisode du Mahābhārata, traduit du <i>sanskrit</i> par F. G. EICHHOFF, correspondant de l'Institut.....	91
Découverte des Scandinaves en Amérique du Xe au XIIIe siècle. Fragments de Sagas islandaises traduits pour la première fois par E. BEAUVOIS.	97, 157
Al-raouï, scène de la vie arabe, traduite en français par A. KUHLE.....	114
L'île de Bornéo, par LÉON RODET.....	135
Saint-Grégoire, légende du XIe siècle traduite pour la première fois du <i>paléo-slave</i> par A. CHOZKO.....	167
Les émeraudes et leur culte en Amérique, par FERDINAND DENIS.....	173
L'île de Yéso et ses habitants, d'après les géographes japonais, par LÉON DE ROSNY.....	177, 350
Les Monténégrins. Étude historique, par FRANÇOIS LENORMANT.....	217
Voltaire, Catherine II et Moustapha III, par ALEXANDRE BONNEAU (de la Presse).....	237
Le Bostan, poème persan, de Saadi, par GARCIN DE TASSY, de l'Institut.....	259
Quelques remarques sur le Chili, par E. CORTAMBERT.....	379
La régence de Tunis, par H. DE CHARENCEY.....	297
Le percement de l'isthme de Suez réussira-t-il? par le Dr CORREA DE SERRA... ..	316
La ville et les monuments d'Édesse (aujourd'hui <i>Orfa</i>) en Mésopotamie, par CH. TAYLOR, de l'Institut.....	516
Essai historique sur les sources de la philologie mexicaine et sur l'ethnographie de l'Amérique centrale, par BRASSEUR DE BOURBOURG.....	354
Légende du prophète Adam, traduite pour la première fois du <i>malay</i> , par LÉON RODET.....	390
L'ascension au ciel. Épisode du Mahābhārata, traduit du <i>sanskrit</i> , par F. G. EICHHOFF, correspondant de l'Institut.....	395

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.—NOUVELLES ET MÉLANGES.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE. Histoire des nations civilisées du Mexique, par *Brasseur de Bourbourg*, 43. — Mémoires de Hiouen-Tsang, trad. par *Stanislas Julien*, 45. — *Trübner's Bibliotheca glottica*, 46. — Géographie universelle, par *Cortambert*, 122. — Légendes slaves, par *Al. Chodzko*, 123. — Inscriptions cunéiformes, par *de Gobineau* (J. OFFERT), 191. — Grammaire française-arabe, par *Soliman-al-Harairi*, 199. — Scènes de la vie des États-Unis, par *Assolant* (J. MAHLAS), 286. — Études d'agriculture algérienne, par *de Rosny* (LABARTHE), 287.

CHRONIQUE ORIENTALE (1858-59). — Octobre, 46; — novembre, 124; — décembre, 200; — janvier, 287; — février, 406.

CHRONIQUE AMÉRICAINE (1858-59). — Octobre, 50; — novembre, 128; — décembre, 206; — janvier, 293; — février, 412.

MÉLANGES. — Nouvelles du voyageur Anderson, etc., 53. — La presse en Turquie, 130. — Locomotives à vapeur des chemins de neige, etc. 134. — Académie des inscriptions, 210; Influence des langues indigènes de l'Amérique sur les idiômes européens parlés dans le Nouveau-Monde, 40; Exploration du Spitzberg, etc., 212. — Secours contre l'incendie en Chine au XI^e siècle, etc., 295. — Universalité du déluge (polémique), 400.

ACTES OFFICIELS. — Prise de possession par la France de l'île Clipperton, 415. — Acte de déchéance de l'empereur Soulouque 1^{er}, d'Haïti, 416.

PLANCHES.

I. Fac-simile d'un ancien manuscrit américain.	36
II. CARTE de l'île de Yéso.	383

ERRATA.

Page 21, note, au lieu de : *Les Membres et l'Estomac*, lisez : *La Tête et la Queue du Serpent*. (Livre VII, table 17.)
Page 174, ligne 3, lisez : *aux Dieux. Pinotetel, le principal*, etc.