

this sign here may be used to represent the sun god in any kind of the most common sort of writing. There is nothing out of the ordinary about it. Writings of this type were very frequent and others suggested that possibly they represented using terms from a different language. Now that seems queer at first sight until you think of the fact that we do that in English a great deal. We write in English etc. and we don't say et cetera when we come to etc. We ordinarily say "and so forth"; or we write i. e., which stands for the latin words id est, and we don't say "id est", we say "that is", and in English it is customary to use a large number of Latin words like that or abbreviations just thrown in in the midst of our English writing and when we come to them we give our English pronunciation instead of saying anything at all like the thing that is actually there. You never say "id est" when you come to that in reading, but it is very common to write it, and similarly when in the Babylonian you would come to this which would mean " " the Assyrian name for the sun god, we say " " which is the Babylonian for the sun god. You pronounce it according to the language in which you are actually talking, actually writing, so that other scholars made this suggestion, that it was like our English usage of using Latin mixed in with our English and that this represented an earlier language than the Babylonian, from which certain words were used, as, thus as symbols for an idea. This--there was heated discussion. Some scholars took one side, some took the other in this discussion, but it was finally solved when excavation took place at places where this earlier people, the Sumirians had had their cities and all the writing was in this other type. All the writing used this Sumirian verse and there was no Babylonian at all. Even though the signs are similar, the meaning was all Sumirian and they had endings, they had the words in between, the smaller words, all in Assyrian, and so now that argument had been settled for many years with the agreement that there was a people there in Mesopotamia at about 3000 B. C. or a little after who invented this cuneiform system of writing and these people we call the Sumirians, and these Sumerians invented this