



**16. Nebireh, 16 –**  
**Feb: 10/85 –**

**M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie,**  
**8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup>**  
**Bromley,**  
**Kent.**

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&lt;Feb: 2.85.&gt;

So I am to do my journal in triplicate it seems; a pity I can't set it up in type & receive subscribers names for it if it is to go on at this rate. I only hope it will be sufficiently legible, but I must lay on hard. Now for a first course of pot handles once more. [☞]

[☞]

around balaustium [☞]

[☞] (same) [☞]

[☞] balaustium [☞]

[☞] Greek??

[☞] incuse [☞]

[☞] double handles. [☞]

[☞] around balaustium [☞]





[☉]

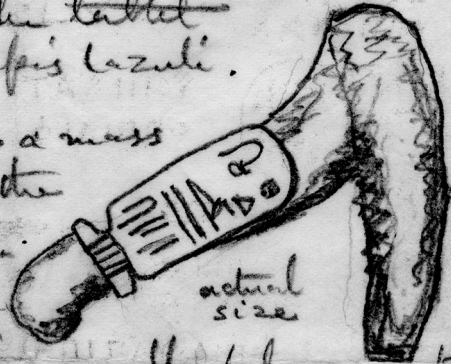
[☉] both round balaustium

[☉] (sic) [☉]

[☉] around balaustium

There, that's 126 types, without reckoning  
duplicates & partly illegible handles; a  
good haul for one week.

Now for other finds. After <sup>finding</sup> that lot of (103) foundation model tools, given in last journal, the hole whence they came seemed so utterly cut up & turned over that I did not think it worth while to do more there; the boys however grubbed further, & did turn up another find, an iron hoe, with rusted onto it a cartouche tablet of a Ptolemy in lapis lazuli. The iron however is a mass of rusted sand, & the cartouche has been but very lightly scratched. If this really belongs to the first foundation & not to any re-edification of the place, it would put it later than I had supposed. The tablet being rusted on to the hoe is excellent, as it proves that it belongs to it.



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[  
actual  
size


In quite another place, in the town, another boy has ~~been~~ found in hunting about, an iron axe about 7 ins long x 3 1/2 wide, with part of the wood of the handle on it; also four iron chisels, 4, 3, 3, & 2 ins long, a spike, & piece of rod iron. These are in surface rubbish which may be any age after about

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Alexander. As for scarab moulds they<sup>104</sup> come in 50 to 700 every day; a few scarabs are found with them, one with head instead of beetle (for which there are many moulds) & two crocodile types. Also there are two little lions, one with a variety of sun & lion types, the other with a blundered Psamtik. A die has been found made of <sup>white</sup> porcelain, the points sunk & blue, the corners all rounded. A piece of a model house in limestone; a corner shewing two windows & two ventilators, & all lined over to shew courses of brick, with stone lintels to the windows. A little cup inscribed by the maker LHK. A limestone tablet

inscribed thus —  

$$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \hline 3 \end{array} \Delta$$
  
 such are a few of the interesting scraps. Next for the weights: a new type of bronze weight  140 grs & a little lost, clearly 1 kat.



Part of a disc of marble, which when whole must have been  $4000 \pm 150$  grs, & therefore a mina of 60 drachmae of  $66.3 \pm 2.5$  grs. Two stone weights found in burnt rubbish, of  type,  $726 + 145$  grs, 5 kats of  $145.2 + 1$  kat. A similar weight in marble, 640 grs = 5 shekels.











Alexander. As for scarab moulds they come in 50 to 100 every day; a few scarabs are found with them, one with head instead of beetle (for which there are many moulds) & two crocodile type. Also there are two little lions, one with a variety of sun & lion type, the other with a blundered Psamtik. A die has been found made of <white> porcelain, the points sunk & blue, the corners all rounded. A piece of a model house in limestone; a corner shewing two windows & two ventilators, & all lined over to shew courses of brick, with stone lintels to the windows. A little cup inscribed by the maker [Ⲕ]. A limestone tablet inscribed thus — [Ⲕ]

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







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of 128 grs. A basalt weight  4934, <sup>105</sup>  
 which may be 20 double shekels of 246.6.  
 Bronze , lost by ~~carbonation~~ carbonation & scaling,  
 now 102, originally 1 shekel?. A similar bronze  
 also lightened, 192, perhaps 2 shekels. A black  
 stone weight 3780 = 30 shekels of 126.0, half  
 mina. Three weights bought together; one  
 certainly a weight 317 = 2½ shekels of 126.8, the  
 others 3227 & 3139 perhaps 25 shekels of  
 129.1 & 125.6, but dubious. A bronze  
 much carbonated, 66 grs, ½ shekel?.  
 Of Greek weights,  basalt 6600 = 100 drachmae  
 of 66 grs;  brown granite 6812 = 100 dr.  
 of 68.1;  black, 132 = didrachm of 66 grs.  
 black basalt 7887, = 120 drachmae of 65.7;  
 bronze  24 & 13 grs, originally 22 & 11 probably  
 or 2 oboli & obolus. Of Egyptian weights  
 black basalt 2925 = 20 kats of 146.2;  
 bronze carbonated & scaled 140 grs = 1 kat;  
 grey granite 2998 = 20 kats of 149.9;  
 black basalt 148.5 = 1 kat.

The reason that we get such a quantity  
 of weights here, more than in other places,  
 doubtless is because this was the great  
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This is in fact probably the best place for <sup>106</sup> weights in all the country, & I am very glad that I have got a pull at it, for it would have been a great pity for all these to have been lost. I stir up the people for them by paying very high, as rates go here, giving 5<sup>d</sup> each for any good weights, or a whole days wages for a boy. This makes the people look up everything of the kind, both in the work, & among the stuff in their houses.

The find of tetradrachms that I was just going to see after when the last journal went to post was all Athenian tetradrachms; all fresh as from the die, of thick later-archaic work, very little corroded (merely a dullness on some of them) & but slightly encrusted with lime which will dissolve off. Probably all, or nearly all, will clean up as fresh as new, & as they are not in the least worn they will be a fine lot. I gave £12 for 75, which is but  $\frac{1}{3}$  more than old silver value, or 3/2<sup>d</sup> each. I should think they will be worth at least half as much again, or double, in England. The Fund will have to sell at last, for 75 is too much to give away <sup>even</sup> to all the interested museums.

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Another Greek inscription has been shewn (107)  
me in a village near, that came from  
here, which I shall try to buy before I go.  
It is on a limestone base of a statue.

ΕΠΙ Τῆ ΑΔ ΕΔΗΜΕ // // // // // ΕΙΧΘΩΝ ΠΟΥΛΥΒΛ  
ΤΗΙΟΝ ΟΣ ΠΑΣΗΣ ΕΥΣΕΒΙΑΣ ΕΤΟΧΩΣ  
ΙΑ ΕΑΡΕΤΗΣ ΚΛΕΩΣ ΕΣΘΛΟΝ ΕΙΜΝΗΣΤΟΝ  
ΕΤΟ ΔΕΛΥΤΩΙ  
ΜΝΗΜΕΙΟΝ ΦΑΝΕΡΟΝ ΤΟΙΣ ΕΠΙΓΙΝΟΜΕΝΟΙΣ

I got a letter from M. Naville, urging me to  
come over & see his work, as he was intending  
to close it this week. So, as I was sure that  
even apart from the value of the work, the  
committee would wish me to follow his  
desires in the matter, I went over; leaving  
here about 8 I changed trains at Benha,  
Zagazig, & Abu Kebir, & picking up a  
postman of N's at Fakus I walked over  
with him to Deidamum, a village about  
1 1/2 miles from Khatanah, where N. is staying  
in the house of a Greek. Here I found him  
in as it was too slippery, after the rain, for  
him to go over, to look after the work, the  
road being very bad. We had a long talk  
over many points, & I shewed him various  
small inscriptions that I had not sent  
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be able to give a more complete account (108)  
 of the details of it than I could, I will say  
 nothing about it; except that I quite agreed  
 with him that it would not be promising  
 for him to stay longer there, although  
 he has got some small things of much  
 interest owing to their age - the XIII<sup>th</sup> dynasty.  
 I took several photographs, which I hope to  
 develop after this is gone to post. I am  
 very sorry that I cannot send any prints  
 this year; the paper I got in Cairo has  
 all gone brown in the air, though kept  
 quite in the dark, & so I cannot  
 print at all. The next day we went  
 over in the morning, & then M. Naville  
 insisted on my having his donkey to  
 return to the station. He keeps an  
 excellent donkey, & two servants, -  
 cook & general man. I thus left Fakus  
 by 12 ¼ & reached Teh el Barud by 6 ½,  
 quite dark. I travelled with a soldier-lad  
 who was returning with empty dynamite  
 wrappers from Suakin to Alexandria. Many  
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to Suakin; this looks as if Wolseley was <sup>(109)</sup> going to back out that way. At Teh el B I went to post & found that my money had arrived from Cook, & also the telegram from London about the work. So getting £50, I started off for Nebireh: only meeting a man a woman & a buffalo close to Teh el B & then nothing more, except when going through Neerash & the Ezbet by it. My men here were much astonished at seeing me come in so late.

Yesterday Dr Grant came down & spent a few hours here, looking over the place & the things I have got here. He is very well, but poor Mrs G is getting worse he says.

Now it is past 11; & I must write two or three letters tomorrow, before I send to post, so I will only say more that we have worked out as much of the plan of the mound chambers as we can, further work there can only consist in clearing around the outside for the chance of fallen stones, & emptying the deep chambers, a long & expensive job. The rest of our work has been in the town, where I have got several lots of contemporary pottery carefully dug out of clear pieces of ground.

Feb. 7.

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Bromley,  
Kent.

[This page was not scanned.]

&lt;10. Feb: 85&gt;



a few more handles have come in. [☞]

[☞]

This Bes stamp &amp; the tripod gem are both quite a new class. [☞]

A bezel of a large iron finger ring has been brought in; but I fear it will not clean at all.

Again handles [☞]

[☞] again! &amp; I have refused many more

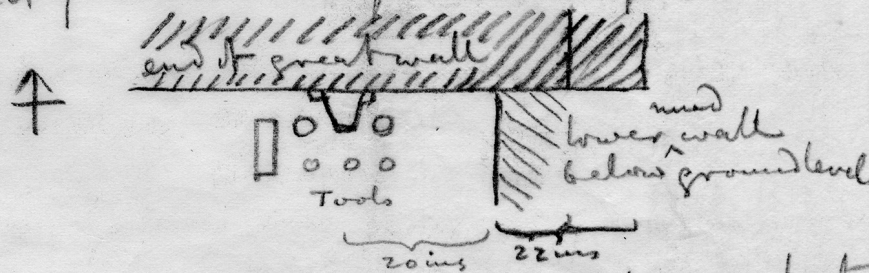
[☞] a double handle

[☞] around balaustium

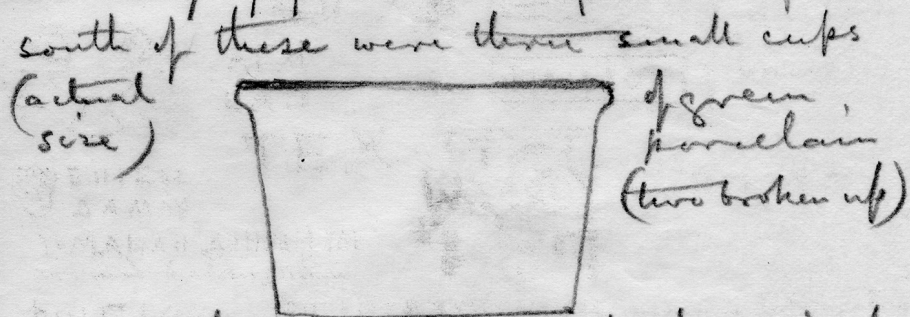
[☞] around balaustium

Now for finds. At the <SW> corner <of the gate> where the previous foundation implements were found, they have further got in clearing the sand, a little porcelain plaque 1.2 x .7 x .4, a part of a little knife <bronze> 2.2 long; pieces of a small cup of green porcelain, & a model corn rubber [☞] 4.3 x 2.4 x 1.4 of sandstone.

At the NE corner of the gateway a similar find was made; & though the things had been moved out by the finder, yet by going into the hole, & drawing a plan, & cross-questioning him & the reis, I got pretty exactly how the things were disposed




Thus below ground level a mud wall (not separate bricks) was built forming a corner; that corner was filled with white sand; in that was placed with mouth to the wall the limestone mortar (4.2 diam 4.0 high) on either side of that was a libation jar, like those already figured in the previous find. South of these were three small cups



South of these were the tool models & on the west a model corn grinder (4.2 x 2.4 x 1.9) of sandstone. The tools &c vary somewhat from the previous set; they are as follows

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[  
end of great wall


lower <mud> wall  
below ground level

Tools  
20 ins

22 ins

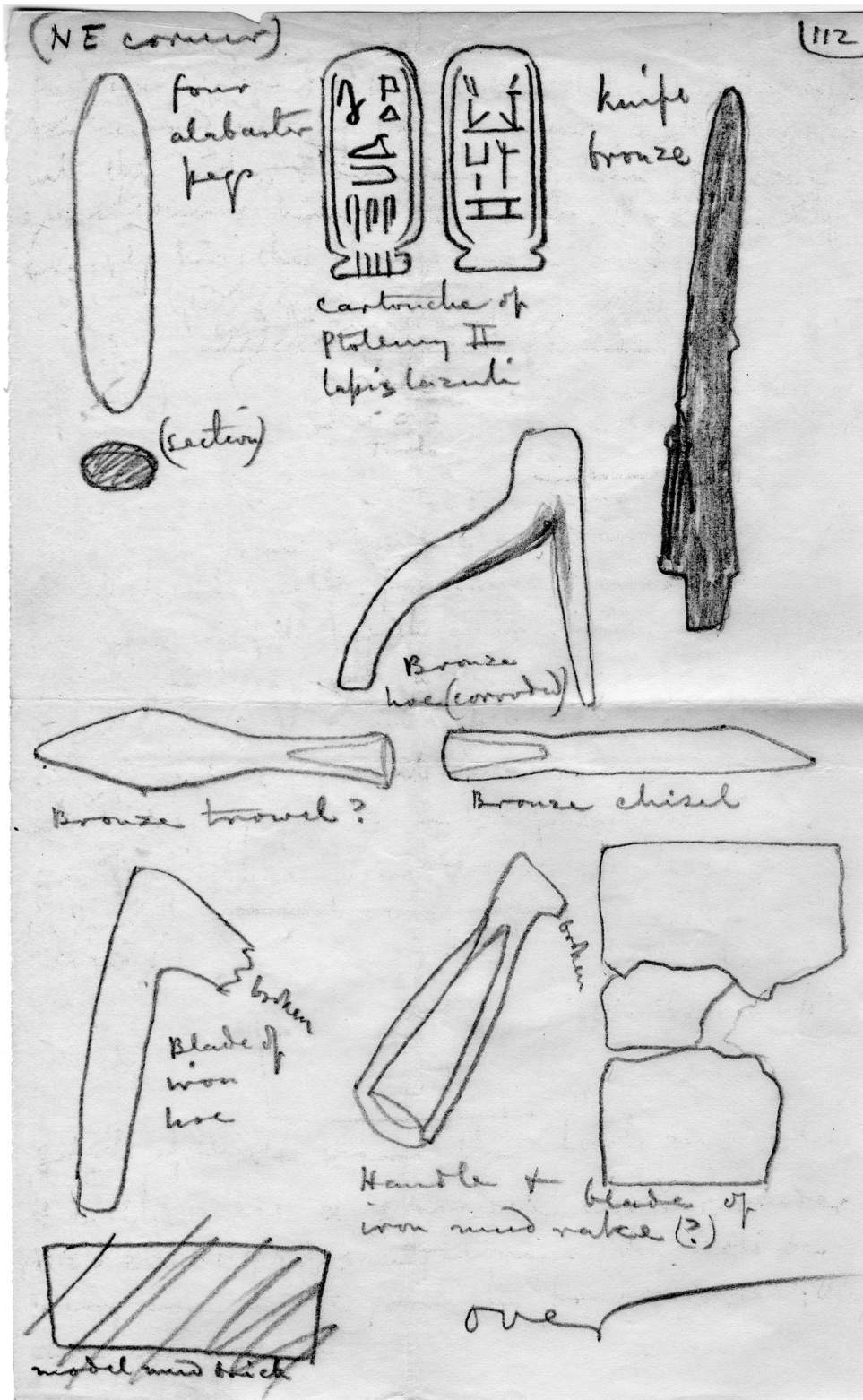
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South of these were three small cups (actual size)

[  
of green  
porcelain  
(two broken up)

South of these were the tool models & on the west a model corn grinder (4.2 x 2.4 x 1.9) of sandstone. The tools &c vary somewhat from the previous set; they are as follows





(NE corner)

[☞] four  
alabaster  
pegs

knife [☞]  
bronze

[☞]  
cartouche of  
Ptolemy II  
lapis lazuli

[☞] (section)

[☞]  
Bronze  
hoe (corroded)

[☞]  
Bronze trowel?

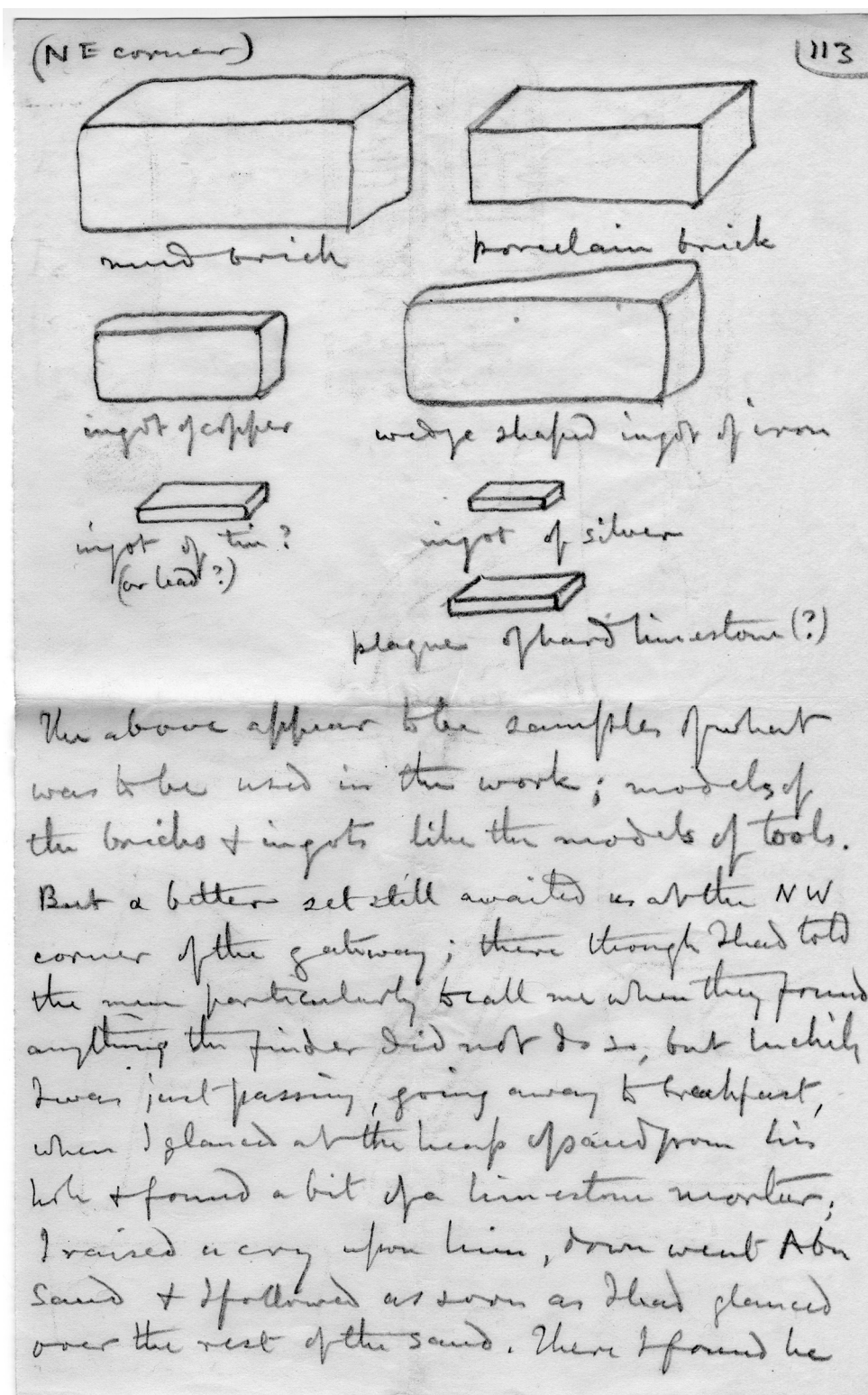
[☞]  
Bronze chisel

[☞] broken  
Blade of  
iron

[☞] broken  
Handle & blade of  
hoe iron mud rake (?)

[☞]  
model mud brick

over



(NE corner)

[]

mud brick

[]

ingot of copper

[]

ingot of tin ?

(or lead?)

[]

porcelain brick

[]

wedge shaped ingot of iron

[]

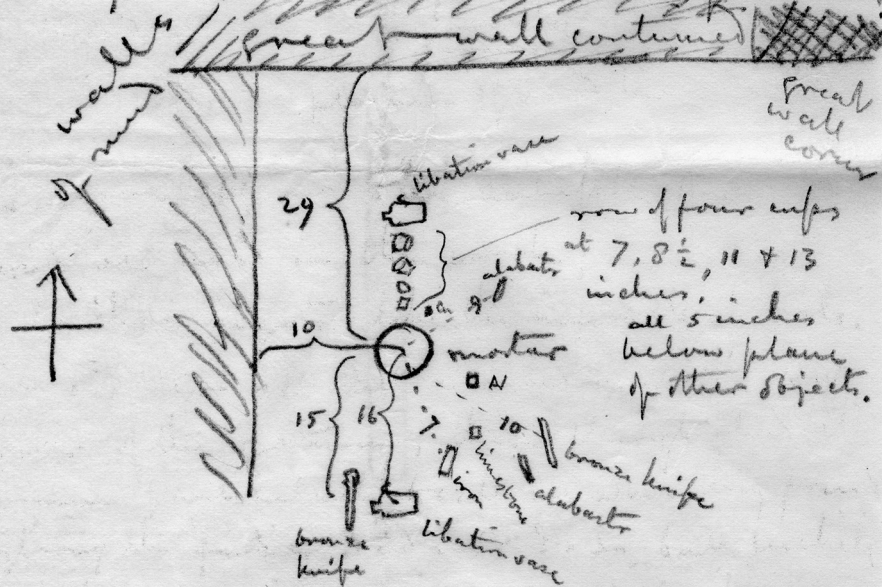
ingot of silver

[]

plaque of hard limestone (?)

The above appear to be samples of what was to be used in the work; models of the bricks & ingots like the models of tools. But a better set still awaited us at the NW corner of the gateway; there though I had told the men particularly to call me when they found anything the finder did not do so, but luckily I was just passing, going away to breakfast, when I glanced at the heap of sand from his hole & found a bit of a limestone mortar; I raised a cry upon him, down went Abu Saud & I followed as soon as I had glanced over the rest of the sand. There I found he

had just begun to disturb the set, but I <sup>114</sup> cleared nearly all of them, drawing & measuring the place of each article as I found it in scraping away the sand with my fingers. The things had evidently been disturbed in ancient times as there was much less sand left below the chips than elsewhere, & in fact Griffith & I had despaired of finding the set at this corner. The mortar was broken & probably displaced, & the other things disturbed.



close to the north of the mortar was the little ingot of copper (marked Cu), on the SE was the square of gold (marked AV); south of that a limestone plaque. Two alabaster pegs remained undisturbed. The distances from the mortar centre in inches are marked above.

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[R]

walls  
of mud

great wall continued

great  
wall  
corner

libation vase

row of four cups  
at 7, 8 1/2, 11 & 13  
inches,  
all 5 inches  
below plane  
of other objects.

alabaster

Cu

mortar

AV

bronze knife

alabaster

limestone

iron

libation vase

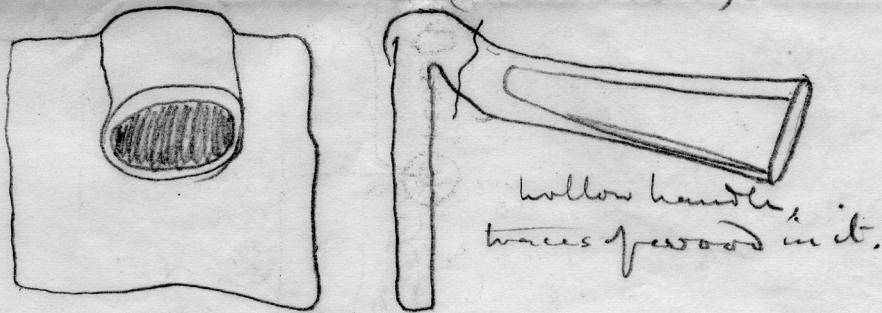
bronze

knife

Close to the north of the mortar was the little ingot of copper (marked Cu), on the SE was the square of gold (marked AV); south of that a limestone plaque. Two alabaster pegs remained undisturbed. The distances from the mortar centre in inches are marked above.

Close to the mortar on the north, but at 115 the lower level of the row of cups, lay a block of iron, & the mud brick, & plaque of lapis, & green porcelain plaque, while below the mortar were a pair of corn rubbers; & below the 2<sup>nd</sup> cup was the chisel: the hoe had been disturbed before I came.

The whole contents of this find are,  
 Two libation vases, as before (one broken in two)  
 Four green cups, as before (one broken in three)  
 Lapis lazuli tablet of Ptolemy II, as before  
 Four alabaster pegs, as before.  
 Bronze hoe & chisel, as before.  
 Iron mud-rake? (broken in two)



Bronze knife  
(corroded about  
the handle)

strip of  
bronze  
(corroded)

piece of hoe? of iron.

Close to the mortar on the north, but at the lower level of the row of cups, lay a block of iron, & the mud brick, & plaque of lapis, & green porcelain plaque, while below the mortar were a pair of corn rubbers; & below the 2<sup>nd</sup> cup were the chisel; the hoe had been disturbed before I came.

The whole contents of this find are,  
 Two libation vases, as before (one broken in two)  
 Four green cups, as before (one broken in three)  
 Lapis lazuli tablet of Ptolemy II, as before  
 Four alabaster pegs, as before.  
 Bronze hoe & chisel, as before.  
 Iron mud-rake? (broken in two)

[

[

hollow handle,  
traces of wood on it.

Bronze knife  
(corroded about  
the handle)

[

strip of  
bronze  
(corroded)


[

Piece of hoe? of iron.



(NW corner)  
mud brick, as before  
foulain brick, as before

1116



red jasper  
plaque


lapis lazuli  
plaque

agate  
plaque

turquoise &  
quartz, plaque

ingot of iron      ingot of copper      ingot of tin(?)      thick gold foil

In the small cups in two cases, & just beneath the other two which were overturned, were chips of precious stones lapis lazuli (34), turquoise (4) red jasper (3) & obsidian (1).

Limestone mortar, as before (broken)  
Cover rubber in yellow sandstone, with  
upper rubber  with handles, to fit  
on to lower, in white sandstone.

I hoped to clear the fourth corner (SE) in time for this post, but it seems unusually deep, & no sand has yet been found.

Handles again

ΑΓΕ  
ΛΟ  
ΤΟΣ

ΚΡΑ

ΝΙΚ  
Α

ΕΠΙΤΙΜΟΘΕΟΥ  
ΙΜΙΝΟΙΟΥ

ΕΠΙΑΡΜΟΣΙΑ  
ΑΡΤΑΜΙΤΙΟΥ

ΕΥΚΛΕΙ  
ΤΟΥ


ΤΙΜΩΣ

ΑΛΕ ΚΛΕΑΡ  
ΧΟΣ


another of  
the arches  
type


(NW corner)  
mud brick, as before  
porcelain brick, as before


[  
red jasper  
plaque

[  
lapis lazuli  
plaque

[  
agate  
plaque

[  
turquoise &  
quartz, plaque

[]  
ingot of iron

[]  
ingot of copper

[𐎓]  
ingot of tin (?)


[  
thick gold  
foil


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







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








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Handles again [👁]

[] another of the archer type

[  
Beside other handles as usual of which I am  
uncertain as to the reading.

weights continue to flow in apace, the <sup>117</sup> high price of 5<sup>d</sup> each making everyone look for them, both in digging & in their own houses, where they have taken them in past years as being something, though unsaleable then. The biggest is a great granite one , dressed but not polished; it weighs about 10 tbs; or gauging it as well as I can, about 72,000 grs, which would be 50 utens or 500 kats of 144 grs. I had already picked up myself pieces of big weights, one in red granite, originally about 63,000 grs; & two of basalt, about 34,000 + 26,700 grs, & these if correctly estimated belong more properly to 500 shekels, & 500 x 400 drachmae, but estimating a fragment is doubtful work. The kat weights are  brown granite 1482, 10 kats of 148.2;  black basalt 1453, 10 x 145.3;  in basalt 715 = 5 kats of 143.0 grs;  black basalt of 572 = 4 kats of 143.0 grs, but this has been broken across the base & ground down again roughly, & a thin piece would not be likely to flake off from basalt, most likely it broke about in halves, therefore I believe that it was of 10 kats originally. Further the reason for thus preserving & reconstructing readjusting this broken weight was evidently because it was inscribed, & therefore valued, it bears the name of Psamtik I or Uahabra  + the inscription which Griffith conjectures  to read "in the body (or mass?) of this is 10". possibly the sign  may be part of  10, of

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which the left side is worn away, but I do <sup>118</sup> not think so.  $\square$  basalt 276 worn, two kats of over 138, &  $\square$  basalt 288 = 2 kats of 144. A small bronze weight which has lost a good deal by corrosion is 66, probably  $\frac{1}{2}$  kat. Of shekel weights  $\square$  basalt 1300, 10 shekels of 130;  $\square$  black granite 1540, = 12 shekels of 128.3, or  $\frac{1}{5}$  mina;  $\square$  bronze from a burnt stratum in town, 62, =  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 124 grs; &  $\square$  bronze from a higher burnt stratum 61 grs, also half shekel. Of drachma weight  $\square$  marble disc, chipped, originally 3874 or 60 drachmae of 66 grs: a piece of another alabaster disc was probably 2600 originally, or 40 drachmae of 65 grs.  $\square$  basalt, 1675 grs or 25 dr of 67.0 grs.  $\square$  basalt, 661 grs or 10 drachmae of 66.1; &  $\square$  sheet lead 275 or a tetradrachm of 67.5. Two pieces of bronze that may be weights are 182, & 6 grains, but they are doubtful. Two more bought this afternoon are  $\square$  basalt 2825 or 20 kats of  $141\frac{1}{4}$ , &  $\square$  veined limestone 250 + 3 grs chipped off = 2 shekels of 126.5. This makes 18 weights, all good ones, this week. We could outdo the whole <sup>Egyptian</sup> Brit. Mus. collection, as to numbers, by this time. Yet another probable weight, sheet lead 330 grs or a pentadrachm of 66 grs.

Now for some general idea of the working. After getting the telegram to go on with the mound, I put on as many as could well work there. We had already heaped up all available spaces, on wall tops, &c, with stuff taken out in outlining the chambers & walls; & only around about a

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quarters of the whole could we deliver outside of U9 the mound, being hampered by cemetery, fields, & huts. Hence further work there — which can only consist in clearing out chambers to the foundation — must be slowly done, as we must clear one, & then fill it up in clearing the next; if not we should need a long train of boys, which is the most expensive part of the work; & we should leave the chambers empty, & therefore certain to be destroyed. So I considered I should best fulfil the spirit of the instruction by clearing up more of the great enclosure wall which belongs to the mound. So, instead of only digging into the corners of the gateway for the deposit of models, I set on clearing the whole sides of the gateway, along about 60 feet run of wall, to 10 or 12 feet deep, & a cutting of 12 ft deep & 120 feet length takes some time. We have not finished it yet, but have got to the bottom along the greater part. As I have already described we have <sup>more</sup> two corner deposits from it, & I still hope for another. The construction of the gateway is still a puzzle, especially as to what filled the 300 feet or so of its width? In the town, we have dug out quantities of burnt stratum, which is the most promising, & scarcely got anything. We have begun a very careful stratigraphical working; selecting

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a pile of earth that the sebach diggers had (120) left, as we could see its construction, that it was not part of a house, nor a rubbish hole, but had good flat strata from top to bottom, & had a fair quantity of pottery in it, & some burnt layers, & also that it reached up to the latest Greek times, we have begun to cut it down in thin layers. Nothing is removed unless one of us is there, & every fragment that is not duplicated is marked above with the level below the zero of levelling. Then when we are not there the man clears away the loose dust that he has dug over with us & thrown down below. I picked out the very best man for it. Thus we shall have a large quantity of every sort of pottery (perhaps about 1 or 2 cwt) ranging from about 100 to 700 BC all exactly in order for a reference series. Beside this we have many isolated lots of contemporaneous pottery of early date from various good places of which we have the levels.

The general result, so far as I can see, about the early pottery is, that three or four very distinct wares that might be supposed to be of different ages, are all contemporary, & must be from different places. I do not remember whether I mentioned that I think the hundreds of scarab moulds here, & the rather rude pottery

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scarabs (like those found in early Greek burials) (121)  
 suggest that this was the factory for making  
 such for exportation, as part of the trade of Naukratis  
 just like beads to Africa from England in the  
 present day. I used to take scarab moulds at  
 3 a penny; now it is a favour to take them  
 at 10 a penny; I have so many hundreds I do  
 not know what we can do with them.

Now we are going over to have another look  
 at Kom Afrin. Having found where the  
 foundation memorials were put in Ptolemaic  
 times, we have a tolerable presumption that the  
 custom was the same in the XXVI dyn. If so, we  
 ought to be able to get the founders' models  
 in the gateways of Kom Afrin. And if there then  
 at Sais, Heliopolis, Tell el Maskhuta, Tell Retabeh,  
 & every other town where the walls & gates are  
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 at all except from headquarters here; so  
 probably Mr Griffith will go over & do a week's  
 work there next week, on the gates & a probable  
 cemetery. He & I both wish for this.

Handles today [☞]  
 [☞] again! [☞] (buckler)  
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 Many thanks for letters including one from Mousehill.

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<Sent-  
 F: 15/<6>.>

**18. Neb<sup>h</sup> F: 24**

**M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie  
8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup>  
Bromley,  
Kent**

[This page was not scanned.]









of the fine stone plaques & the silver. So (124)  
we shall have nearly a complete set for B. M.  
after Bulak is satisfied.


A fresh light on the affair now appears. These  
deposits were not in the corners of the gateway,  
as at first appeared; but they are in the corners  
of immense chambers which filled up in  
line with the wall; chambers 59 feet sq wide.  
All that remains of these chambers is two  
or three feet of mud backing of the stones  
around their base. All the stones so far  
have been removed. This explains ~~in~~ what  
seemed irregularities in the arrangement  
of the deposits; they are always against  
the wall of the chamber to the left hand of any  
one looking into the corner. The question now  
is are these chambers the whole distance from  
end to end of the wall across the gap? Thus

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[R] or what else can be their order?

This is I think certainly within the work  
the Committee wish for; so I shall  
clear the outlines of the chambers  
(about £20 or 25) & leave the bulk of  
them alone (it would cost about £90  
more to do this) unless I meet with  
unremoved stone wall in any part. The fact  
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another hope, perhaps every corner of the



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chambers has similar deposits, & not only the (125) corners next the wall; if so we have four more sets to come. I sent off a note to Griffith telling him of the chambers, so that he need not clear more than one gateway at Afrin just to try it.

A further point of great interest which I observed is that the end of the great wall is irregular behind the mud backing of the lost chamber-wall going thus  showing the great wall to have been old & decayed when the chambers were built in, as I imagine. This would also account for stone chambers being put in the circuit of a wall of such great defensive strength. Further I imagined from the sizes of the bricks that the wall was about the XXVI dynasty; they are certainly larger than other Ptolemaics about here. The history then looks - for the present - as if Ptol. II had adopted the old defensive wall of the camp (?) & in more peaceful times built up its ruined gaps with great chambers in the line for public buildings; thus doing the building & repairing the circuit of the wall at the same time. Some later hand has also added an outer wall to the great mound building, & altered its arrangement, yet before Roman times. This would probably be Ptol. II also. A scrap of a white marble

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


inscription has been found close to the (126 south side of the gateway gap, possibly from below down, but said to be near the present surface; it reads

Φ Λ Α Δ Ε Λ Φ Ω Ν  
Λ Α  
Ο V

Ε Λ Φ can hardly best be part of the name of Ptolemy Philadelphus who built the chambers; the two strokes over it cannot be part of M of Ptolemy (as I thought at first) as there is too much room blank for an E to precede it: they are probably the stems of two letters.


Several scarabs have been found by Sebach diggers, many of whom are now at work.

    this last is a small one in soft blue paste; it reads


Ra neb ka; but as there are no late scarabs of Ra neb ka, it is just like the scarabs of Psamtik II when he took up the name Ra men ka.   this is a copy of his. All the scarabs that have hieroglyphs are more or less blundered, even Isis above is written  for , Psamtik  Peneteb Pemetneb for  & so on; shewing as I suppose that they were mere copies by ignorant Greeks






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[]


[] can hardly be part of Ptolemy Philadelphus who built the chambers; the two strokes over it cannot be part of M of Ptolemy (as I thought at first) as there is too much room blank for an E to precede it: they are probably the stems of two letters.

Several scarabs have been found by Sebach diggers, many of whom are now at work.


[] this last one is a small one in soft blue paste; it reads

Ra neb ka; but as there are no late scarabs of Ra neb ka, & it is just like the scarabs of Psamtik II when he took up the name Ra men ka [] this is a copy of his. All the scarabs that have hieroglyphs are more or less blundered, even Isis above is written [] for [] Psamtik [] Peneteb Pemetneb for [] & so on; shewing as I suppose that they were mere copies by ignorant Greeks

for exportation. Another iron chisel & (127)  
an iron finger ring, the last Ptolemaic,  
came in.

While I was out today a wild looking fellow,  
dressed in a slit up old cotton overall, called  
to me as I passed. I went to him & he  
handed out secretly a great bronze serpent  
case 14 inches long, with a wavy serpent  
all along it, quite perfect. I saw it was a  
fine thing, & offered 5 francs at once; &  
after asking if that was enough ("Bess?")  
he took it. Later he called me to where  
he was working (high level, in Ptolemaic  
houses) & offered a small twisted serpent case  
& a scrap of another (broken anciently) these  
I took for 1/2 franc, & at sunset he brought  
a scarab of Psamtik I  which of course  
I also got, for a piastre. He has evidently  
lit on a find, & being as he himself says a  
poor helpless chap (ana muskin, fellah,  
ana m'arafsh) he thinks best to get a  
good value from me for certain, & keep the  
matter close. As he seems careful (not  
having broken any of these) I do not think it  
needful to take the place out of his hands;  
if I worked it I should have to pay double, both  
to him & to the workmen, to be fair & to ensure

for exportation. Another iron chisel &  
an iron finger ring, the last Ptolemaic,  
came in.

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dressed in a slit up old cotton overall, called  
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needful to take the place out of his hands;  
if I worked it I should have to pay double, both  
to him & to the workmen, to be fair & to ensure

getting things. As it is we can keep it (128)  
 quiet with him & me alone, but if my  
 men work it & talk about it it may  
 bring down dealers here. There may be  
 a good deal, but such things of late <sup>Ptolemaic</sup> age  
 would not be important to work carefully  
 & exhaustively. I shall look after him  
 pretty closely. I do not remember if I mentioned  
 that I found a gold earring (hook broken)  
 in almost the first scrap of earth we turned  
 over in beginning our great section for  
 pottery. That section is at a standstill now  
 as I cannot spare time while Griffith is away  
 to look after it myself. 2 Saïs handles are

ΕΠΙΔΑΦΕ... ΣΑΓΡΙΑΝΙΟΥ

★ ΥΟΤΑ














around flower  
 ΑΛ... ΕΣΤΕ...  
 ΣΕ



ΚΛΕΟΦΩ  
 ΘΑΣΙΩΝ

ΕΝΩΛ ΥΟΛΙΦ ΜΙΚΥΟΟΥ, and an early  
 ΤΡΑΤΟC

vase handle incised √ which may be the  
 Lycian G. Two good scarabs have been  
 brought in;  in blue paste. This is later than  
 the style of XXII<sup>nd</sup> dyn, being like XXVI, hence I can  
 hardly attribute it to Sesonk III to whom other  belong.  
 a fine Renaissance scarab, probably from Saïs, of  
 grey schist with white face reads     
 Now    "Prince of Saïs" is     
 a title I have found on two statuettes,  
 one mine, one Mr Chester's, & this points to a titled class

getting things. As it is we can keep it  
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 in almost the first scrap of earth we turned  
 over in beginning our great section for  
 pottery. That section is at a standstill now,  
 as I cannot spare time while Griffith is away  
 to look after it myself. To day's handles are  
 [scarab] around flower [scarab]  
 [scarab], & an early  
 vase handle incised [scarab] which may be the  
 Lycian G. Two good scarabs have been  
 brought in; [scarab] in blue paste. This is later than  
 the style of XXII<sup>nd</sup> dyn, being like XXVI, hence I can  
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 grey schist with white face reads [scarab]  
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at Sais, who were probably (being called from the town) the aristocracy of the time of the Dodekarchy. Hence the title Ha-hau, "Prince of princes", is very interesting, as belonging probably to the chief of the old aristocracy. He was priest of Thoth & Ptah apparently, & had the simple name of to, Nofer.  
 I have not hitherto given a general account of the appearance & nature of the town. As you approach from either side there is seen a long low line of brown mounds, generally only 15 feet, never over 30 ft, above the plain: the line extending for about half a mile in length & dotted with mud brick houses built with domes, & Bedawin tents. On going a little up the side of the mound you look down into a crater, a field of ruins with steep or precipitous sides, some 30 feet below you. This is where the fellahin have cut away the successive towns for spreading on their fields, until they have cleared out Christians, Romans, & Ptolemies, & left but shattered & mouldering fragments of walls, built 500 or 600 BC, & now heaped over with the shards & ~~fragmen~~ scraps belonging to all the later ages. Ruddy heaps of pottery cover the ground, except where black lines & squares of mud brick rise through them. Around this area, which is, generally speaking,

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all cut down to one level, within 6 or (130  
 8 feet,) there rise up the walls of Ptolemaic  
 houses irregularly broken away, & so leading  
 into little valleys of cutting which pass up into  
 late Roman times on the top. So far as I  
 have examined the old parts of the town the  
 ground level of the clearings is all within  
 two or three feet of the same, going down  
 to a burnt stratum in the southern part  
 which seems to be about the earliest  
 occupation here, as everywhere below  
 that is dense black mud with only stray  
 chips of rough red pottery. The uniform  
 level of the burnt stratum is another  
 evidence that the town had not grown  
 much by accumulations before that  
 time. This burnt level is a little below  
 (about 2 feet) the level where all the  
 scarabs & scarab moulds were found; &  
 that is about 590 B.C. as the blundered scarabs  
 are copied from those of Psamtik I & II, but  
 shew no trace of Uahabra or Aahmes II.  
 To give an idea of the amount of work done  
 in clearing away the town, I may say that I  
 should be sorry to contract to move as much  
 - to say nothing for carrying it away - for £9000.  
 To finish out the whole place would be a matter of  
 £25000 or £30000, so what we do will be  
 but a tasting process. It would take a life-  
 time to work out the place thoroughly, even if any

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one found the money.

(131)

Here and there in the mass of ruins stand up piles of earth all mixed with white strata; I had long been puzzled with these, & even when Prof. Sayce was here, we had wondered uselessly at their nature. When I was looking yesterday everywhere to find the traces of the old streets it suddenly dawned on me that these white streaked patches were streets. The white is plainly limestone dust, thrown down to mend the way, & this ground always runs in lines between the houses. The Arabs have dug away all the houses, but this limey dust is too unprofitable, and it is left in ridges & piles here & there. A charming proof of this view is that <sup>the</sup> various lenticular patches of stonedust always have the convex side down, & never up, shewing that it was thrown there 'to fill up a hollow', & not merely as a heap upon waste ground. All these thicker patches show the puddles of old Naukratis, & where the contemporaries of Herodotus mended their roads. I do not know any little point that has pleased me more to make out here; it is so simple & yet so plain. I have hopes now of making a town map for a good part of the town of the times of Herodotus; but it will take a prodigious amount of close personal attention, & I cannot do it unless I can leave all the men to Griffith.

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An interlude of handles [⌘]

[⌘]

a piece of a vase neck has the letter [⌘] incised while wet; it looks more like a Lycian M than anything else. On the handle of a big amphora of the early type is <cut> a distinct Lycian M [⌘].

This weeks weights are, of kats a granite cube 3590 or 25 kats of 143.6: of shekels a cube of 3768 or 30 shekels of 125.6, and two [⌘] round weights of 3693 & 3680 which may be either 25 kats of 147.7 & 147.2, or 30 shekels of 123.1, & 122.7. Possibly such weights were made intentionally so as to count in both systems. [⌘] basalt 2575 or 20 shekels of 128.7; [⌘] basalt 2526, or 20 of 126.3; [⌘] bronze from Kom Afrin 764 or 6 of 127.3; limestone [⌘] 129 grs; lead [⌘] 126 shekel or didrachma; & a beautiful little bronze weight of Syrian type [⌘] 33 grs or ¼ shekel. Of drachma weights a fine one in alabaster [⌘] 6692 or 100 drachma of 66.92; [⌘] basalt 810, 12 of 67.5; [⌘] grey granite 682, 10 of 68.2. Not such a good week as before, only 8 or 10 good, certain, weights. I am sorry to say Griffith had to shut up at Afrin, & come back with a swollen sore throat & not much else. Temperature not much

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up, & pulse brought down from 110 to 75 by continual Aconite. I expect he will be all right after a day or two quiet in bed; it is just what I have had here, & started up the Nile with. If he does not improve he must go up to our Cairo friends; but it is nothing important any way.

Now I have a lot to write, & very little time to do it in, so I must stop. I hope all folks are duly grateful for the quantity I do manage to send each week; I generally have to write while at my meals to get it done.

Sent F. 23.

85-

a beautiful limestone weight of 10 kat, 1436, has just come in.

Please send a copy of P & T to Mr. Benest & another to me out here.

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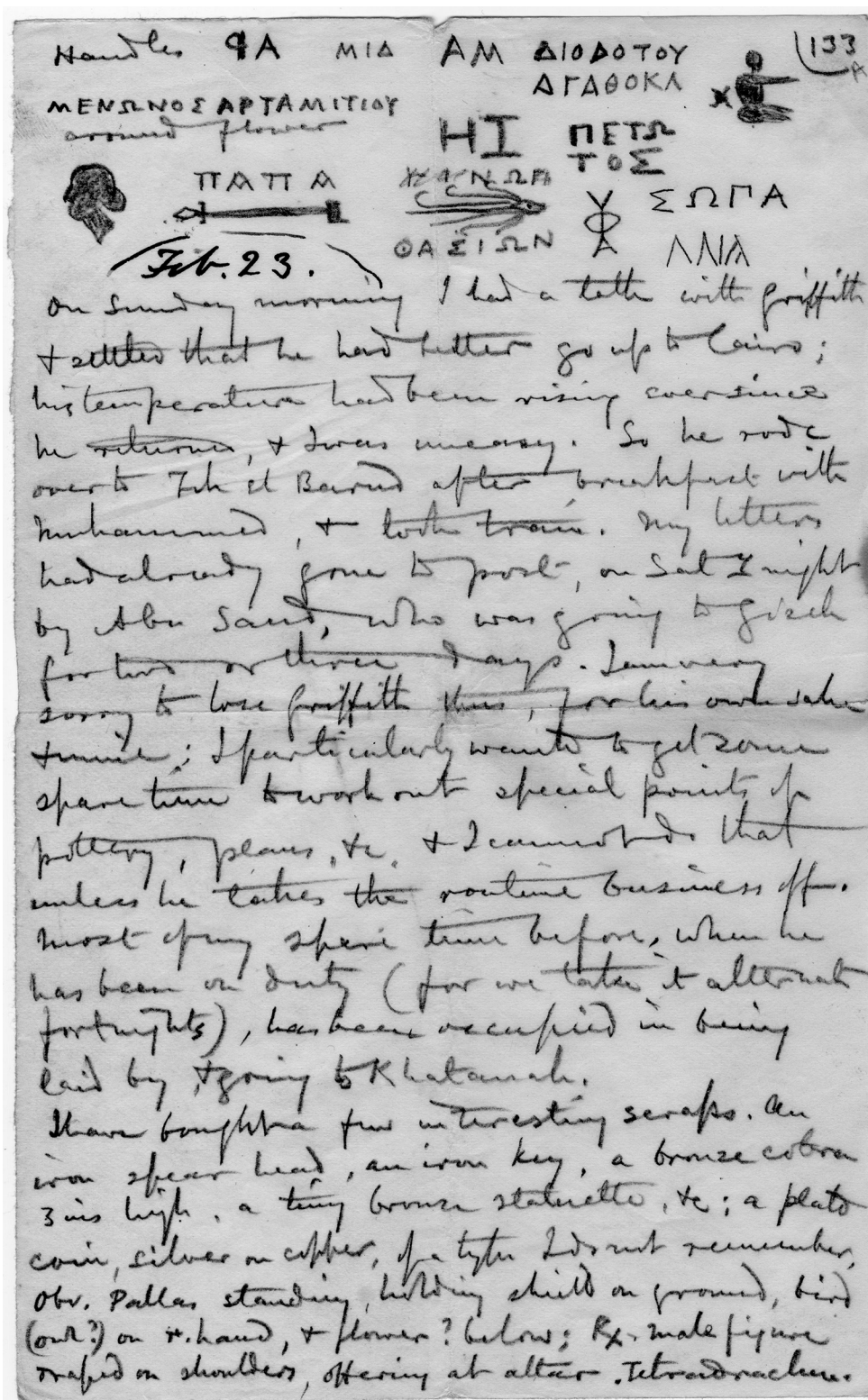
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**Nebireh – 19 – Mar: 3.**

**M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie,  
8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup>  
Bromley, Kent –**

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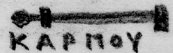
Handles [R]


[R] around flower [R]

&lt;Feb. 23.&gt;

On Sunday morning I had a talk with Griffith & settled that he had better go up to Cairo; his temperature had been rising ever since he returned, & I was uneasy. So he rode over to Teh el Barud after breakfast with Muhammed, & took train. My letters had already gone to post, on Sat<sup>y</sup> night by Abu Saud, who was going to Gizeh for two or three days. I am very sorry to lose Griffith thus, for his own sake & mine; I particularly wanted to get some spare time to work out special points of pottery, plans, &c. & I cannot do that unless he takes the routine business off. Most of my spare time before, when he has been on duty (for we take it alternate fortnights), has been occupied in being laid by, & going to Khatanah.

I have bought a few interesting scraps. An iron spear head, an iron key, a bronze cobra 3 ins high, a tiny bronze statuette, &c; a plated coin, silver or copper, of a type I do not remember, obv. Pallas standing, holding shield on ground, bird (owl?) on r. hand, & flower? below; R. male figure draped on shoulders, offering at altar. Tetradrachm.

Handles  ΔΩΡΟΘΕΟΥ ΑΡΙ ΕΠΙΧΑΡΜΟΚΛΕΥΣ  
 ΣΤΟ ΑΓΡΙΑΝΙΟΥ (134)  
 ΤΙΜ ΟΚ  ΔΑΜΟΚ ΡΑΤΗΟ  ΕΠΙΚΛΗΝΟΣΤΡ... ΓΡΙΑΝΙΟΥ  
 ΓΛΑΥΚΙΑ  ΚΑΡΠΟΥ  
 The sebach diggers are in full swing now; the road to the mound is almost blocked with strings of donkeys & camels passing & repassing carrying the earth; I counted about 70/<80> people at work yesterday. Considering that I abstract 130 of the working population, no doubt the digging goes on faster in ordinary years. The diggers are very useful here, in removing our heaps from about the great mound, & so giving more room for work. Many of them are men I have had in work, & dismissed, but they know what to look for, & hunt accordingly; many others I have had in work, & they have voluntarily left; this is satisfactory as it shews that I do not pay more than just enough to secure the men. Both ways a large part of the diggers know me, & they stir up the others to look for antikas, so that I never go near the town but what I am hailed on all sides to see things. I bought 8 weights yesterday, four of them out of the diggings, & other small things, scarabs, &c, come in quantities.  
 I have got my own men into a more active state by means of many dismissals. When I go to the

Handles [][] round head of Apollo[]

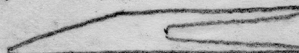
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work I have one or two lines of approach (135)  
 from which I can suddenly see all the people  
 without shewing more than the top of my  
 head. Thus I can look round quietly, before  
 they see me & take stock of who works &  
 who is lazy; next morning several find  
 that they are no longer required. I have  
 also turned out two men for lying. By  
 keeping up a circulation of labour in this  
 way the whole of them are stirred up. I never  
 waste time & breath in scolding a man; if he is  
 stupid, I shift him where his stupidity is of  
 no consequence; if he is lazy, he goes.

I have lately sorted over all our stocks of  
 figured pottery, stone figures, &c; this is  
 very necessary, 1<sup>st</sup> to get rid of bad duplicates  
 2<sup>nd</sup> to get a clear notion of what is worth taking  
 in, in the present state of the collection,  
 3<sup>rd</sup> to reclassify & arrange all the things in  
 better order. No matter how bad or broken  
 anything may be I keep two or three examples  
 at least, beyond that I only keep specimens  
 if they are good enough to have some  
 value for a museum.

The sebach diggers have again turned up some  
 good things; bronze serpents, &c, more weights,  
 & above all a large iron chisel 7.8 ins long

 (section), this was found by a man  
 who had been in our work, & had a good character,  
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136  
 days ago Griffith bought a bronze wheel  
 (4 ins. diam. with 8 spokes) with an iron axle, from  
 a digger; hence I am inclined to believe him  
 with tolerable certainty; & the chisel had just  
 been dug up by the earth on it. This gives a  
 probable age for the other iron tools, of which  
 I have several now, 7 chisels, & 2 adzes. The  
 level of this is just that of the scarab stratum, &  
 of the big white-washed amphora with red lines,  
 about 2 ft over the main burnt stratum of  
 the old town; I suppose about 590 B.C.

MIKY ΕΠΙΔΙΣΤΩΝΙΔΑ ΔΑΜΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ  
 ΘΟC ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ around flower TA  
 9AΘ ΕΙΣΚΛΗΤΤΙ double handle ΑΡΟΛΟΝΙΔΑ

Abu Saud returned from his holiday, &  
 brought me back £50 from Cairo; I  
 wish I could see more return here, either  
 in the way of history or else finds. We are  
 going on clearing out chamber after chamber  
 of the mound, & seldom finding anything.  
 One or two pot handles have turned up,  
 & since the scraps of sculptor's rubbish of  
 broken trial pieces, the only thing else  
 was a broken statuette to day: a female  
 figure broken off at neck & ankles knees, of very  
 fine work of Ptolemaic time, painted outline  
 to the neck of the suppositions gauze dress &  
 girdle tie in red, necklet & bracelets laid  
 on in plaster & gilt. It has been a rich piece

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 with tolerable certainty; & the chisel had just  
 been dug up by the earth on it. This gives a  
 probable age for the other iron tools, of which  
 I have several now, - <7> chisels, & <2> adzes, &c. The  
 level of this is just that of the scarab stratum, &  
 of the big white-washed amphora with red lines,  
 about 2 ft over the main burnt stratum of  
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[⌘] around flower [⌘]

[⌘] on double handle [⌘]

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 of the mound, & seldom finding anything.  
 One or two pot handles have turned up,  
 & since the scraps of sculptor's rubbish of  
 broken trial pieces, the only thing else  
 was a broken statuette to day: a female  
 figure broken off at neck & ankles knees, of very  
 fine work of Ptolemaic time, painted outline  
 to the neck of the suppositions gauze dress &  
 girdle tie in red, necklet & bracelets laid  
 on in plaster & gilt. It has been a rich piece



of work of the debased time. To account for <sup>(137)</sup> this & the other sculptor's fragments, we should not assume that sculptors lived there. This was found in a mass of chips thrown in as a flooring to a chamber, & the other pieces in a lot of filling-in, put in below a much higher flooring which was inserted in later times. In both cases, I think they took a lot of rubbish from a sculptor's shop, to throw in as filling when the place was re-edified & done up. Now there are early Ptolemaic style agreeing with the date of Ptol. II rearranging the entrance to the great enclosure. So here again is some evidence that the mound as well as the great wall is some time ~~ear~~ before the Ptolemies, & both were ~~refer~~ restored by Ptolemy II. I have put the broken statuette into water at once, to soak any salt out, as that is the only chance of keeping on the gilding & colour; if it once dries, the colouring is certain to be pushed off by the salt, & I may preserve some of it by soaking.

I have had a talk with Abd es Salam, & find he knows all the unknown land south of Mareotis; I should much like if possible to go over it with him, & see a dozen unknown Kums; it would take a fortnight to do it all round (without stoppages) but I could do a good deal in a week. We shall see.

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Some interesting things were found by  
the sebach diggers again; 3 more iron  
chisels, a blue paste cone  $\Delta$   $1\frac{1}{4}$  high, some  
more weights, bronze arrow heads, bronze  
osirises; and a charming ibis (head gone) in  
grey syenite an inch high.

BOVBO ΕΠΙΑΙΜΟΣΑ  
ΠΑΝΑΜΟΥ

A

ΕΠΙΤΕΙΣΟΜΕ  
ΝΕΥΣ  
ΘΕΥΔΑΙΣΙΟΥ

(138)

Of course our own men have scarcely a  
chance of finding anything in tracing walls  
& clearing barren chambers, very interesting  
architecturally, but don't look for  
anything pretty from it.

Mr Stow (who if I remember aright from his  
house, is teacher of English in gov<sup>t</sup>  
school at Tantah), came over to day with  
a Turkish friend to see the place. He  
very kindly brought over three scarabs  
which had been sold to him as coming from  
here, & gave them over to me to go  
with the other things. I do not think they  
are from here, as none like them have  
been seen here; probably they are from  
Afrin, & so through here. I shall return  
them, if there seems no reason to believe  
they are from here. It is like the report of  
things from San last year, wherever work  
is going on, things are attributed to it to  
give them a name.

Some interesting things were found by  
the sebach diggers again; 3 more iron  
chisels, a blue paste cone [R]  $1\frac{1}{4}$  high, some  
more weights, bronze arrow heads, bronze  
Osirises; and a charming ibis (head gone) in  
grey syenite an inch high.

[R]

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things from San last year; wherever work  
is going on, things are attributed to it to  
give them a name.

(139)

This morning one of the <sup>sebach</sup> diggers found a  
 pot full of chunks of silver, Athenian  
 tetradrachms, &c; his brother told me about it &  
 gave me a piece, to ask me about it. So when  
 I went to the place they showed me the things  
 (about £8 or 10 worth) & then were taken with  
 a panic, & smuggled them out of the way.  
 A lot of men had been attracted by the scent of  
 something going on; & though one of the  
 brothers asked me to go, & weigh & buy the things,  
 they are in such a scare of excitement, & so  
 afraid of the shekh & others that they cannot  
 manage anything. The lot looks to me as if intended  
 for melting up; but I may find something  
 interesting in the fragments. I must now  
 wait & see what happens. I got two more  
 archaic alabaster figures - both headless &  
 footless, - one holding a sheep in front of  
 his knees, the legs in one hand & the tail in  
 the other. Also the leg & part base of another.  
 A <sup>perfect</sup> steatite shell shaped dish <sup>4 ins across</sup> with eagle's-head  
 handle, was found by my men to day; very  
 pretty Roman work, one eye still inlaid in  
 the eagle's head; found in the cutting at the great  
 gateway buildings, near the surface. A piece  
 of blue paste bowl was sold to day inscribed  
 with a lot of scraps as usual.

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 the eagle's head; found in the cutting at the great  
 gateway buildings, near the surface. A piece  
 of blue paste bowl was sold to day inscribed  
 [R] & a lot of scraps as usual.

Now for weights, and this week has been unusually



production. Of kats there are a large (140)  
 polished basalt one 5 inches across, over 4 lbs weight  
 being 28,500 grs or 200 kats of 143.2: a basalt of  
 2980 or 20 kats of 149.0: basalt of 7500, or 50 kat  
 of 150; bronze 287, 2 kats 143 1/2; ~~2 kats of 140, 140~~  
 2 kats 293 = 146 1/2; <sup>bronze of 153, patinated</sup> two half kats of 70 each. A roughish  
 black stone of 5644 may be 40 kats of 141.1. Of shekels  
 there is the greater part of a half talent in basalt  
 estimated to be 235,000 grs (part now weighs 124,200)  
 which would be 1800 shekels of 130.5. The large  
 granite weight described before there now  
 weighed as 75,800 grs or 10 minas, 600 shekels  
 of 126.7. Two large rough limestone weights are  
 205,000 & 187,000 grs; they are probably the same  
 by the work being similar & may be 25 shekel mina  
 (shekel 136.4 & 124.4) or 50 Greek minae (drachm  
 68.2 & 62.2); they are rough chipped & but  
 flat at the base, & can hardly be anything but weights.  
 a black granite  $\square$  weighs 3124 or 25 shekels of 125.0  
 another black stone may be a weight, it is 1826 or 15  
 shekels of 121.7, rather a light value. A basalt  $\square$   
 weighs 1521, or 12 shekels of 126.7. A bronze  $\square$  is  
 635 or 5 shekels of 127. Another bronze  $\square$  is 392  
 encrusted, or 3 shekels of about 129. Then we have  
 a set of square <sup>bronze</sup> weights of 264 (2x132) patinated;  
 140 much patinated; 389 very fine state (3x129.7);  
 130; 136 patinated; & 128. A shekel  $\square$  of 128. A  
 basalt shekel  $\square$  of 129. And a 1/2 shekel  $\square$  bronze  
 of 59. Of fresh drachmae a splendid polished  
 basalt  $\square$  of 6637 or 100 drachmae of 66.37. Basalt  
 $\square$  665 or 10 drachmae of 66.5. Bronze  $\square$  1331 or

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 polished basalt one 5 inches across, over 4 lbs weight  
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 2980 or 20 kats of 149.0: basalt of 7500, or 50 kats  
 of 150; bronze 287, 2 kats 143 1/2; & kats of 140, 140  
 2 kats 293 = 146 1/2; <bronze [⌘] - 153, patinated> two half kats of 70 each.  
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 basalt shekel [⌘] of 129. And a 1/2 shekel [⌘] bronze  
 of 59. Of Greek drachmae a splendid polished  
 basalt [⌘] of 6637 or 100 drachmae of 66.37. Basalt  
 [⌘] 665 or 10 drachmae of 66.5. Bronze [⌘] 1331 or



20 drachmae of 66.5. Alabaster [☉] 265 (141)  
 a tetradrachm of 66.2. Bronze [☉] 134, a didrachm  
 of 67. A bronze [☉] (flatted barrel type) 25 grs or  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  drachm, diobolus, patinated.




Of the Alexandrine shekel I had before, as I supposed,  
 two examples, the oblong bronze weight [☉] the  
 larger with a rosette like one in BM. There were  
 18 + 1 shekel apparently, & this is confirmed by getting  
 a set of 1,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , & 3 shekels all together; the 3 +  $1\frac{1}{2}$   
 linking the 18 + 1 before. These weigh 658, 341, & 230  
 (patinated) or shekels of 219, 220, & 230 - gain. Another  
 Alex<sup>n</sup> weight turned up also, [☉] of bronze, filled with  
 lead probably, 437 grs or  $2 \times 218$ . In all 35 weights  
 in a week, beside 6 or 8 other dubious examples.





Just after I had sent the men off to dinner  
 I found a brother of the boy who found the silver  
 waiting for me with the lot. He explained his  
 brother was rashim, - a greenhorn -  
 & he wished me to take them; so I walked back to  
 the house & weighed them out against dollars  
 & paid him  $\pounds 4\frac{4}{4}$  a little over as bakshish. While  
 writing this, in comes the shekh's son with a handful  
 more in the evening, which I similarly  
 weigh & buy for  $\pounds 3.7/-$ . In all I bought 38 oz  
 at 4/- per oz. I can afford to give a little bakshish  
 in, as I weigh against Austrian dollars, & these  
 circulate for less than their silver value (I  
 ascertained this in weighing & valuing all the coins  
 in circulation here); hence I can always give a  
 little over when using Abuteras to weigh with.  
 So much to shew that I am on the safe side; now

20 drachmae of 66.5. Alabaster [☉] 265  
 a tetradrachm of 66.2. Bronze [☉] 134, a didrachm  
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 Alex<sup>n</sup> weight turned up also, [☉] of bronze, filled with  
 lead probably, 437 grs or  $2 \times 218$ . In all 34 weights  
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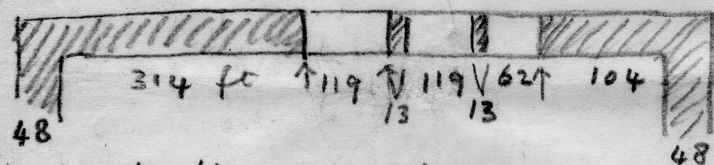
for what we have secured. 3 tetradrachms (142)  
 of Athens, all fairly archaic, different dies.  
 3 didrachms of Samos, (201 & 199 grs, the third encrusted,  
 these seem very heavy for Aeginetan, but are not  
 at all chloridized, merely grey) obv. lion's head full  
 face, R<sub>x</sub> forepart of bull, SAMION, 3<sup>d</sup> uninscribed.  
 didrachm of Aegina, R<sub>x</sub> . didrachm of Chios?  
 looks like Chian harpy, but has a hand out behind  
 the wing, R<sub>x</sub> rude incuse, 185 grs. Chian of  
 harpy & diota, usual type, R<sub>x</sub>  incuse. (worn)  
 didrachm of Samos I think; forepart of bull &  
 lion joined R<sub>x</sub>  133 grs. Half of another  
 didrachm, with bull's head in square of dots  
 Samos?, R<sub>x</sub> flattened. So here are 10 fine  
 early silver & a bit. Beside this there are  
 seven small crucible-pans of about 102 each  
 hacked through for shewing the quality, & 13  
 chunks from a big pane of silver cut up, about  
 3 ins across; or probably from two or three  
 different pans. Pure scientific archaeology  
 may smile at such a find, but it is as good  
 as some new subscribers to the fund; £1 is  
 £1 in whatever way it comes. This may be known  
 in England, but not noticed in print on any  
 account; the Arab papers even copy what  
 appears in English papers about antiquities.  
 I bought a fine head from an archaic  
 statuette to day, 4 ins high, in hard limestone.  
 I have put some workers on the house from  
 which that long snake case came, as the finder

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had deserted it. (this is the only work for <sup>143</sup>  
mere finds that I indulge in). We have  
 got a nice triad, Osiris Isis & Horus, 4 Osirises,  
 2 cats (2 1/2 ins high) Isis & Horus, Human headed  
 snake, 3 serpent cases, kneeling figure, & chips,  
 beside a quantity of melted up brass.

Have bought lately four grey syenite eyes,  
 one the biggest I have ever seen.

Our regular work has been going on  
 steadily; we have nearly all the length  
 of the wall backing across the gateway  
 inside tomb. The dimensions are



chamber backing 56.6 wide on N, 55.6 on S; thus  
 the chamber must have been over 50 ft  
 wide inside. I am not certain about these  
 subdivisions; they are dubious; but it is  
 clear that the entrance to the temenos  
 was through a paved gateway, as the wall  
 back is continuous. At the great mound,  
 we are clearing chamber after chamber,  
 & hope in two corners to get a little inside  
 the inner square without touching tombs.  
 A square block of grey granite (2 ft square)  
 has been found, but rough & no inscription.

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I have much shortened all bargains here <sup>1144</sup>  
 by refusing to haggle; I name my offer for a  
 thing, & if the seller ~~ask~~ refuses that, I will not  
 have anything more to do with it. Or if he  
 asks for more after I have paid him, I seize  
 the money back, & force his antika on him  
 again. The other day a weight was offered; I said  
 half a franc; seller refused; I would not  
 hear anything further; then he begged for  
 the half franc; as I knew no one else would  
 give as much, I said "No, you would not take  
 it when I offered, will not give more than  
 quarter of a franc now"; that was refused;  
 at last as I left the place, they asked for  
 the  $\frac{1}{4}$ , but I would not hear, & walked away;  
 next time I saw them they offered it again,  
 I offered  $\frac{1}{4}$  franc, & they took it at once. They all  
 have now such a fear of losing the offer, that  
 I generally have it accepted the moment I name  
 a price; and if a man hesitates, his friends  
 urge him on, reminding him that it is "kilmeh  
 wahideh" with me, one word & done with.  
 Any one who knows Egypt will understand  
 what a change this is in the usual habits.  
 I have also done some reformation on the dogs;  
 barking needlessly is visited so directly by pelting  
 that I scarcely have any spit near the house  
 now, though it used to be bad at first. The  
 worst offender flees when he sees me, even  
 at the sight of my night shirt through the glass  
 door by moonlight. I have fired at him many

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times, & cautioned his owner so that he has <sup>(145)</sup>  
been shut up & beaten, & his habits are much  
improved, though scarcely his temper. The dog  
of the house is a mild & pleasant beast,  
who looks out intelligently for scraps, & never  
misbehaves. There is a party of dogs near the  
work whom I have a standing feed with, &  
who come out joyously when they see me,  
& chase & bite the stones I throw at them.

Paster, Mar. 3.

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**Posted, Mar. 3.**

20. Nebireh, Mar: 9 –  
85

M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie –  
8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup>  
Bromley, Kent –

[This page was not scanned.]

&lt;March 2. /85-&gt;

March 2. 1885- 146  
 The find of silver is not all in yet; one piece came in this morning, & another piece & a tetradrachm of Athens this evening. Of course I buy all that comes, though mere lumps, so as to leave less to excite any dealers who may chance to get it. The Gizeh dealers have turned up, & my own Gizeh men are indignant, particularly little Muhammed. Of course my promised bakhshish to them will be all up if they act thus. I reckon on dishing them however by giving rather more than they would & so leaving nothing for them to buy; and the people now know & trust me (so far so that all our accounts for small things are booked by me, & paid up, in lumps, as change is scarce) & they do not like the Gizeh dealers, in so much that one boy entreated me to bring out my scales & money to buy some silver, "and come now, before the Gizehwiyeh come here". A handful more small bronzes were sold to me today, & a quantity of antikas including pieces of 3 iron swords &c, all this iron coming from the scarab level, 2 feet below the level of the incised Greek coins of the silver find close to them. A piece of specular iron ore was also brought from near there today. Weights flow in half a dozen in a day. ΕΣΤΗΡΙΚΟΥ  
 ΜΙΔΑ ΕΝΙΑΡ  
 ΔΕ ΜΟΕΙΑ

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 Another larger piece of specular iron ore came from the same place; this is important as it suggests that the Greeks imported the ore direct from Elba, & smelted here where so many iron implements are found. Another piece of silver, half a small panful, & a tetradrachm (269 grs) of Syracuse, which is I think the latest & most datable of all the coins found here in this lot. So I insert a rubbing of it in the copy for Mrs Poole. The age is important as it will nearly date the iron implements. If the deposits in the town are level and uniform chronologically it would be about 480 BC: being 3 ft over 590 BC, & 22 ft corresponding to 900 years about. The iron things are 2 to 3 ft lower, about the age of the scarabs.

Now for a row. Market day there is no work as most of the people want to go to market; so some men who were about, & had been in my work, got into the pit where we had found some bronzes. There unluckily they hit on a large find & one of the Gizeh men Muh<sup>d</sup> Berish got wind of it, & taking all the best things escaped clear of the place. I only got to the spot just as they had all left. My Muhammad came just after me, & a man who had seen them gave me the names of several. Then we at once began chase. Going to the village we tackled man after man & insisted on having the things they had found. Two of the men

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who had been in our work brought out what  
 they had at once, & a third when called for also  
 came out to meet us with the spoil in his hands.  
 At another house, the father of the boy in fault had  
 already sold to me an hour before a lot for 5 francs  
 near my house, & the elder brother rather insolently  
 said he did not know where his brother was, he was  
 not there, so we stood rather foiled, & the  
 crowd increasing, I suddenly caught the fellow  
 by the shoulder shoved him inside the gate of  
 the enclosure of his group of huts, & told him to go  
 with me straight to the house & give me whatever  
 he had. This surprised him, & he did as he was bid;  
 I followed close into their room & the women  
 brought out a few pieces more from their  
 den-like cupboard, they challenged me to  
 search it so I did go in & dipped my fingers  
 about in the dark until I felt them go into  
 a pot of cream. However it took the shine  
 out of them. Then we went over from Gaief to  
 Nebirch & had a long boggle with a boy there;  
 he first had nothing, & we left, then fresh  
 evidence cropped up & we returned, then as he  
 still denied I ordered him to go with us to Gaief  
 to see his accusers there, & by the time he had  
 gone a little way one of the village magnates saw  
 him & began enquiry, that ended in his pulling  
 a packet of 6 things from his pocket & saying that  
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him in our house until the things were brought, <sup>1149</sup>  
but gave that up for fear of scaring people from  
bringing things to us. All through it was most  
difficult to know how to carry it through by  
moral force alone, & in such a way as to frighten  
the wrong doers without making a scare or  
prejudice against me. When we got him to  
Gaief & were waiting for another man, (after  
having him identified by another of the men) both  
Said & Muhammed took him privately & impressed  
him so that he confessed to having some other  
things. I knew that getting him entirely in our  
hands for a time, & quite away from his own  
place & people, was the most likely way. Then  
it turned out that the son of one of the shekhs  
had stopped Muh<sup>d</sup> Bereysh & taken a lot  
from him saying they were mine; unluckily  
nothing of value. These I secured, & got for  
the first time the name of the man who had  
bought the things. All these goings hither &  
thither from village to village finding all the  
men, questioning each as to who was there, &  
how much each took, occupied us from  
about 2.30 till 7.0, & I came back in the  
dark. We thus bagged over 60 pieces of bronze  
including about 18 perfect objects (snake boxes, &c).  
Then I sent word to the shekh that if Muh<sup>d</sup> Bereysh  
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He was not there of course, but the shekh was <sup>(150)</sup> active, rummaged the village, & had the boys house examined by the guards without finding more than he had confessed to already. As he is said to have carried away a lot, I suspect he mainly sold them to Muh<sup>d</sup> Bereysh.

Next morning we wanted to make sure of our man, so went to see the shekh's son again, & then he was not certain about him; evidently was recanting for fear of trouble. So we got the shekh's boys with us & catch the boy who had sold the things; he declared he did not know who it was who bought them. So I told him then he would have to go to Cairo & identify the man from all the likely ones. This frightened him & he came running after us saying it was Muh<sup>d</sup> Bereysh. So thus confirmed I sent Muhammad at once to Teh al Barud to telegraph to Cook to tell police I charged M. B. with stealing my bronzes, & he should be arrested & all his bronzes seized. Soon after I saw in the town ruins one of the Gizehwiye, & so went down to see after him. He had hidden away but I caught him & recognised Suleiman Khatab the regular companion of Muh<sup>d</sup> Bereysh. I asked him what he was doing there. Oh, he had only come there that day on his way from Damanhur & he did not take any of my bronzes, oh no it was

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