

24 Oct 1888. <to 3 Nov 1888>

I managed to overtake the remainder of my correspondence in the train down to Dover, getting through five letters between Cannon St & Tunbridge, all of which I duly had posted at Dover. So I start clear for once & cannot be in debt again until I get the Alexandria post, or rather Medinet. We had a lovely crossing, with scarcely any motion perceptible; inasmuch that I actually enjoyed it. At Paris I found that the special carriages from Calais run round by the Ceinture railway to the Lyons station; so that there is only one change from Calais to Marseilles. It was a cold night, & a fellow afflicted with a tongue got in. He talked continuously to each of the passengers in turn from 10 to 2 1/2 am. Then I got a doze, but he had just filled the middle of my side, & so I could not lie flat down. Happily he did not begin talking again till 4, & left at Dijon at 5. Then I & two others had some sleep. We jogged on all the day, & felt increasingly filthy, until at Avignon (called out Avignon[?]) there were two welcome dribbling taps on the platform, & a crowd soon came round them, washing hands & faces & filling bottles.

It is very striking to see all down the Rhone valley the enormous mass of rolled stone & sand which forms the bed of the valley. In many places are hills 60 or 80 ft high, formed of nothing but river detritus, and how deep the same stuff fills the valley can only be guessed, - perhaps 100 ft or more. It is not so impressive as the vast detritus of the Lombardy plain, into which the Alps plunge down as into a sea, & which may be hundreds or thousands of feet thick; but it is imposing enough in the Rhone. We want now to know the depth of such erosion filled with detritus in order to ~~xxx~~ find the maximum elevation of the land above the sea in past ages.

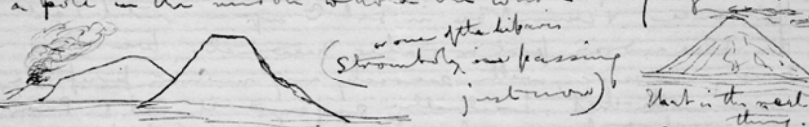
Two points which strike one in both France & N. Italy are the helpless style of the gateways to gardens & estates: they stand out disconnected from the rest of the enclosure, something apart of itself & not merely a function of the entrance, they have none of the useful, "hole-in-the-wall", style of English gates. The other point is the ridiculous inability to make a hayrick. Just in the Calais district well pitched hayricks may be seen; but every where south

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② that there are no real ricks, but only heaps piled up, & looking like drunken extinguishers bowing to one another. Usually they find it needful to have a pole in the middle to hold the whole thing together.



We reached Marseille by 7, & I was in bed by 9 & had a good 10 1/2 hours sleep.

Next morning I went down to the docks, & saw the ship, & made certain of the time of leaving, & then went off to find the Chateau Borely & Egyptian collection. Marseille is finely placed on high limestone hills dipping down around a natural deep bay; there is scarcely a level bit of street in the town. The suburbs are very pretty with woods & scattered houses all around for miles. Altogether there would be few places pleasanter for a seaside resort I should say than this neighbourhood.

There is a fine triple avenue of trees along the Prado from the end of the main street for about 2 1/2 miles down to the sea, turning at right angles, over a hill & down the parallel valley to the town. At the end of this close by the sea is the Chateau Borely & park; Borely died about 21 years ago, & his property was left to, or purchased by, the town of Marseille. The Egyptian collⁿ was that of Clot Bey, & contains many fine things. Borely had also collected Marseillais antiquities, Greek, Roman, & mediaeval, & these altogether about fill the house, Sarcophagi vases, inscriptions, &c. occupy room after room. The old gardien who shows the place is a very chatty, pleasant stumpy fellow, wheezy & communicative, & I had much gossip with him. He knew Maspero, Naville, & others well from their visits there. Upstairs I saw the joint-curator Augier who has a passion for model making, & has filled two rooms with the models he has made of funerals, shewing all the cemeteries & other remains found at Marseille carefully modelled into big tombs, in position, also models of Egyptian

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[R] (Stromboli <or one of the Liparis> in passing just now)

[R] That is the real thing.

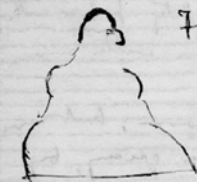
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Etrurian & Greek tombs, & Gaulish tombs, with the skeletons & all the vases, &c. shewn as found in position. Also models of the cromlechs & stone remains in France & elsewhere. As he was careful to tell me the earth in each case is coloured to shew the actual colour of the ground. He is a real artist in the matter, but I doubt if he knows or cares much about antiquities beyond his speciality. There are very few scarabs, though a many other fine things.

Went on board in the afternoon & found Sir Chas. Cookson there going. He is as amiable as milk, & as literary as ever. Set him on to Leigh Hunt's Essays, with which he sat tranquilly beamant all the next afternoon. There are two or three other English on board, whom neither of us know. Most of the passengers are French; and in the second class where I am the table is filled with rotund Jeans & lively Jeanettes of the bourgeois type. One fellow in particular opposite to me manages to make himself the source of agreeable attentions to at least three & often five of his country women: his politeness is ever flowing & he manages to fill glasses for all, & keep up a supply of small jokes, at every meal. But there is a Jewess! Can I adumbrate her in any fashion? I fear not. At all events here are the salient parts of her figure as she sits at table.



Fill up the intervals at discretion, but these are the outlines that catch the eye as she sits at the board. When she can be studied from all points of view on deck, however, the marvel is most to be understood. She lies perched high on a sticky legged easy chair. On her back of course; for any other position would imperil the whole fabric too much, as the natural strength of material would scarcely bear the strain of a less stable position. On this support her nose - with its appendant head - is first to be discerned for certain, & then there rises

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(4)
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 some peaceful hamlet with its white walls
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 side. We have all we want in the 2nd class.
 Good meals & plenty of it, twice a day, 9^h & 6. A cabin
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 better for rough weather. I am next door to the
 bath, the very pipe of which runs along by my side in
 bed, so that were I an infant Hercules I might
 strangle it like the serpents, as I lie. It is not the
 nearer the bath the further from cleanliness, for
 I am one of the few folks who have their daily
 all over. My overhead neighbour is the son of the
 owner of the Hotel Royal at Cairo; a pleasant fellow,
 whom I knew of somewhat there, & who speaks excellent
 English. On deck there is plenty of company for the space.
 Good little boys reading their Télémaque, naughty papas with
 yellow covered novels, & discreet mamas with more
 orthologic literature.

We reached Alex. Wednesday afternoon; but were
 delayed half an hour when close to the quay, by
 carelessly fouling up against a ~~quay~~ buoy. I had
 a couple of talks with Gen^l Haig, the Arabian
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the station. Maurice would see to getting the baggage ashore, & despatching it tomorrow, so I went straight up to Cairo, & got in to Dr Grant's by 9 1/2.

I have heard now all about the robbery. The total loss is about £100 of gold objects, good, but not historically important; about £50 or 100 more by fire, previous thefts, &c. But none of the other antiquities were stolen, & the scarabs are about 1/4 discoloured & blackened, but none the worse as to legibility. The thief was the table-servant; his colleagues were another Berberi who received beds, bedding, &c, which were in store, & a Greek beershop keeper who put him up to stealing the jewellery, & who has gone to Greece. Thence he will have to be handed back by the Greek government. The servant had left the door unbolted at night, got in, took the cash box & got the key of it from a drawer, emptied it in the drawing room, sluiced petroleum about the two rooms, & set fire to them. Then the Dr was awake by people in the street who saw the flames. Of course the servant is in prison, he will get far more sentence for arson than for theft.

I went out the pyramids, & saw Muhamed & all the rest of the folks. I also went to Bulak & saw Grebaut, &c. G. has written to me it seems. He repudiates all idea of the Museum inspector having gone on at my work, but cannot deny that old Farag the Arab dealer was allowed to work at Hawara, &c. He was there for 2 1/2 months according to the Muhamed. But he only got 4 or 5 portraits it is said, beside a lot of the common

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I have the advantage in coming out early, as I find a fair supply of antiques. I have got in 100 scarabs, $\frac{3}{4}$ of them with names: a few prizes among them; a unique S-ankh-ka-ra (XIth dynasty); a large cylinder of Seti I, the only one of that age known; Usertesen I; 2 of Aahmes I; a double plaque of $\text{☐} + \text{☐}$; an early black cylinder; quantities of Ramessu II; &c, &c. Among other things a group of three figures with names of XI-XIIth dynasty, quite perfect, in hard stone. A beautiful silver figure of a boy with grapes, seated on

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 Bromley, Kent.
 Mrs Amos, 5 Upper
 Woburn Place, W.C.
 Miss Edwards, L.L.D.,
 The Larches, Westbury.~~

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
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

5-10 Nov. 1888. I left Dr Grant's, having received the cabinet ~~in~~ in good state, & handed it over to him: I took the case away with me, to serve for a cupboard at Hawara. I reached Medinet by noon, & in an hour or two Hewat returned from an inspection, & kindly asked me to take up my quarters with him. He wished to see the other side of the Birket el Kurun himself, & intended going with me. I brought in all my boxes to his office to store; & then went off by train to Abuxa, pitched there, & visited a large town mound, ~~about 5 miles~~ which is beside the railway about 5 miles before reaching Abuxa. It is all of Roman age, & so does not affect the question of the period of the decrease of the lake. I also went to Senhur, where I was told that there were mounds: these proved to be entirely Arab, probably not over 300 years old or so. When Hewat came down we were duly attended by the shekh & other officials, & went off early in the morning to the lake. There two boats were in waiting, in which Hewat, myself, the shekh of Abuxa's son, Muhammed, & two men of Hewat's, all went over. The boats are of very shallow draught, but stand very high out of the water; with all the 4 rowers perched on the top of them, working a pair of very large oars. They roll with a touch, & seem always going over, but never go. They cannot come in nearer than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or so from shore, owing to the gradually ~~shallowing~~ shallowing

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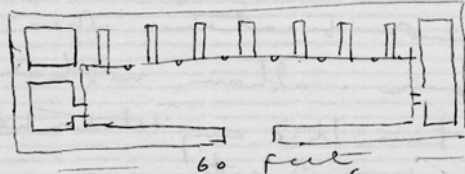
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of the lake⁹. So we waded out to reach them. As the men objected to sleeping on the other side, we agreed to pitch on the island near there, & one boat with baggage went there, while the other boat with ourselves went to the shore. There we landed & went up to Dimeh, (pronounced Dīmāy) a ruined town, ~~with~~ with a stone quarry, which proves that it was built when the lake was at the old high level. There are high walls of the town remaining, some 30 or 40 ft high: a gaunt desolation in the desert, without a sign of life for miles around. When built, it must have been on an island in the lake. I set up the theodolite, took bearings & altitudes from two points, to fix the principal levels around. Also I took some photographs. We saw at over 4 miles in the distance, the building discovered by Schweinfurth, which he said might be as early as the XIIth dynasty. But that night we went down to our island, & next day started for the distant building, about 7 miles back in the desert. On the way I found a great site for wrought flint. Some knives like those of Arsinoe, [], & various other forms, including fish hooks [], most beautifully chipped in flint. Altogether, I brought away ~~less~~ 50 or more flakes &

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wrought flints. These must have been worked after the subsidence of the lake had begun, & so in Roman times. When we ⁽¹⁰⁾ reached the building, we found it to be thus: -



seven ~~the~~ small chambers (for sarcophagi?) each having had double valve doors, & two chambers at either end of the hall, & a square chamber without any opening. The three larger chambers & hall were roofless, the seven small chambers have roofs still. It is well built of large blocks, but without any sign of inscription or mark, except some red scrawls in one chamber. This bareness is against its being of the XIIth dynasty, & looks like Ptolemaic work. I made a complete plan of it, & took a dozen photographs. On the way back, I also photographed some broken statues at Dimeh, which I had not seen the first day. One is Osiris, one Tahuti, & ~~four~~ ^{five} others, all broken, nearly lifesize, seated: cut in hard limestone, ^{little} sand-worn, & without any trace of inscription. We again slept in the tent on the island, & next morning came back

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[R]

60 feet

Seven ~~the~~ small chambers (for sarcophagi?) each having had double valve doors, & two chambers at either end of the hall, & a square chamber without any opening. The three larger chambers & hall are roofless, the seven small chambers have roofs still. It is well built of large blocks, but without any sign of inscription or mark, except some red scrawls in one chamber. This bareness is against its being of the XIIth dynasty, & looks like Ptolemaic work. I made a complete plan of it, & took a dozen photographs. On the way back, I also photographed some broken statues at Dimeh, which I had not seen the first day. One is Osiris, one Tahuti, & ~~four~~ ^{five} others, all broken, nearly lifesize, seated: cut in hard limestone, <a little> sand-worn, & without any trace of inscription. We again slept in the tent on the island, & next morning came back

to Medinet, where a number of my men
were waiting to receive us.

I write this off in a hurry, in case the post
goes as last week. The mails are quite
altered, & I cannot be certain when my
letters may come. I have not had any
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I go now to Hawara, & expect Maurice
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II. Hawara - Mrs Petrie -
8 Crescent Rd
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Scratch map -

[R]

to Cairo
Rail

Dimay.

Birket <el> Karun.

or

L. Moeris.

Senhur.

Medt.

Hawara.

Illahun.

S.

Rail

Nile
Wasta.

II. Hawara - Mrs Petrie -

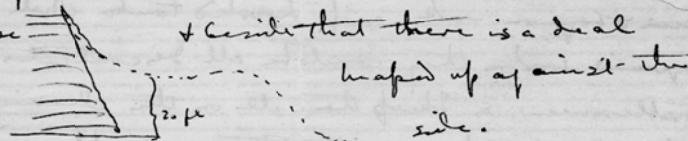
8. Crescent Rd
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III.

11-18 Nov. 1888

11-18 Nov. 1888 I moved over to Hawara with a number of my old hands, & settled on the same ground as before. Most of my brick walling had been overthrown; but I built up one room, & roofed it with the old boards that I had left buried here when I went away. This serves for a store room outside of my tent. Maurice came over next day, & put his tent in a space I left between mine & Muhammed's; he has all his stores in his own tent, & is on an independent footing in all arrangements, though we dine together in my tent in the evenings. Other meals we do not hit together, as he feeds about 9 & 1, & I have my breakfast about 10 or 11.

I began by clearing on the E. W. side of the pyramid, & went down to the gravel bed beneath the deep sand on which the pyramid is built, without finding any sign of entrance. Then giving this up, I began on the very deeply encumbered S. side; the lowest point we can start at here is 20 feet over the base.



& beside that there is a deal heaped up against the side. We are now through the side stuff, & have got down about 5 feet of the 20: but I hardly expect to get down all the way on this side, it is so deep. There are promising signs about; many pieces of limestone, & two which look as if they belonged to a passage. But I am not at all sanguine yet, about finding the entrance. If I cannot do so, I must then re-open the tunnel, &

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We are now through the side stuff, & have got down about 5 feet of the 20: but I hardly expect to get down all the way on this side, it is so deep. There are promising signs about; many pieces of limestone, & two which look as if they belonged to a passage. But I am not at all sanguine yet, about finding the entrance. If I cannot do so, I must then re-open the tunnel, &

¹³ begin the stone cutting business. It is a great assistance in our outside trials, to know where the chamber is inside: as it limits the range of the possible places of the entrance.

I am now writing this sitting high up on the S. side, overlooking the workmen, while Muh^d has gone shopping in Medinet. It is a high wind today, & sandy, hence the tears in this sheet where I have held it down in the gusts. I have to write with $\frac{1}{4}$ of an eye, to keep the sand out as much as possible.

The photographs which I took of Dimay, & of the great tomb or temple, over in the desert, behind that, have come out very good, & it will be long before any one else goes out there again, with a camera, I expect.

I am taking rather a holiday now. I have only 22 men & boys on work, as if I worked tombs while at this pyramid work they would be all discontented & troublesome: so I keep them all on the clearing, & that needs hardly any attention, & I have nothing else to do.

There is a new mudir come to Medinet. The last successor of good Murad was quite incompetent; but they have got King Stork now in place of King Log. He is too grand for the common herd to see him; sits up in his private rooms, & only sees those who send in their names. He has abolished

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all the comfortable soft divans in which the clerks used to lounge cross-legged in the offices, & chat, & drink coffee & smoke with their friends. Now every clerk has his chair, too narrow to squat in, with arms to it; & that will be the only seat. Anyone who comes in must stand, or take the floor. No coffee & no cigarettes will be allowed, & everyone is to do his work straight up. There is a great increase of stir, & folks about, already, & everything seems waking up. This stir about's name is Latif Pasha, & very latif he is (polite); he looks an intelligent man, speaks very good French Hewat says, (though I talked to him in Arabic when I saw him), & takes some interest in things. He looked minutely over some of the chipped flints we had found, & enquired about them; & talked intelligently enough. He knew something about pyramid theories, & that evidently read some French works on various subjects. Altogether he seems a promising man, though I hardly think that any one will like him much. New brooms scrub horribly.

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On the south side of the pyramid we found a curious place, a pit cut in the brickwork, & carefully filled up with broken blocks of the casing stones wedged tight in. It is about 7 feet deep at the front edge, but the bottom is undisturbed brickwork of the pyramid. There was nothing found in the pit, & what the object of it could be, I do not at all understand. It is certainly late of Ptolemaic or Roman time, by its position & filling up. But no sign of an entrance has yet appeared; & if I do not find any in another week's work, I shall give it up, & see about the cutting through the roof.

All the papers & letters safely to hand now. The "Weights & measures" article copies are to come, on publication. The roll of plates of H.P.s are on end by the side of the mineral cabinet, in straw paper; please deliver by some means either to Child's Bank or 29 Weymouth St. I believe I asked for M.S. to be sent to Nutt.

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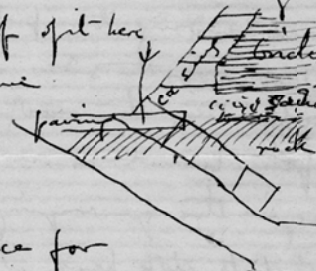
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18-24 Nov 1888

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Therefore I see no course now but to cut through the roof; then we shall find the passage & be able to open it up. I had thought of making an exploratory tunnel in the brickwork of the pyramid all round the top of the chamber roof, in order to see where the gap in the rock pit occurs for building in the



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 paving sand
 rock

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passage¹⁸; but they may
not have made an open
cut into the pit, but a
tunnel lined with fine stone for the passage; &
it would be a very long & troublesome business,
perhaps 200 feet of tunnelling & a long way to carry
out all the stuff, so I give that notion up.



I have had my tunnel reopened. In one place
the sides have scaled off one brick or so, & thus
let down my roof boards, & one course of roof
with them; but I am clearing this away &
reboarding it, putting in upright jambs
wherever the sides are not satisfactory for
supporting the roof boards. The inner part
of the tunnel is in good order, & ready to
begin the quarrying of the roof of the chamber.

I shall stop here while that is done, or at least
begin, & work more tombs to fill the
time. Already some interesting things
have appeared in a single days work. A
stucco bust in fine state, about 50-100 AD,
of a man, holding the usual red wreath, & in
the other hand a lighted candle! It is
unmistakeable, the white wax candle, & the
yellow flame all modelled & coloured. The
face & hands gilt, usual godly scenes, & hieroglyphs
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of socks made all in one piece, seamless, of ^{thin} felt, felted all in one to the exact shape. This beats our modern felting, believe, ^{having} with toe pieces & leg all precise. (19)

The men are all delighted to have done with the wearisome pyramid trenches, & to get once more to piece work & bakhshish for finds. They raced & capered along to the cemetery in high glee when I at last moved them up there.

I had taken a boy to look after the tents, & fetch water, &c, solely on the ground of his honest stupidity, which was so dense that I did not think him capable of enough curiosity to meddle with anything. But I over ~~did~~ did it; he is too stupid even for what I do want. He will remark "good day" to me about every half hour, for the sake of saying something. He is never to hand at once when wanted, & continually turns up at all odd times to ask if we want anything. His half of his remarks are unintelligible from his uncouthness, & half of our remarks are not understood by him. His name is usually "the buffalo", but otherwise Caliban's cousin. Caliban's brother is in the work, but my original Caliban has not appeared I am

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Next week I hope to get the masons to cut the chamber roof, a job which may take only one week, or might run over 6 weeks. Probably about three weeks will do it, if they can work at all reasonably. And then I shall feel so small at having been so near the entrance with my pits outside, & yet having missed it.

I have now 10 men & 20 boys on, & shall not probably take many more before I go to Illahun. There I intend to work the town with these men, & the pyramid with the Illahunites, putting one of my old men over them. But I do not expect that I shall be over there much before the end of the year, if at all.

Saturday's work has produced another portrait, but in a very bad state of discolouration. A beautifully carved head of a vulture in wood, with fine inlaid glass eyes; and several wreaths of leaves, in tolerably good state; beside bits of papyri & various scraps. Letters & papers received last week -

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25 Nov - 1 Dec 1888

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(22) Muh^d & my four men live over at El Lahun (= Illahun) in a storeroom at Hewat's house; & at present I am walking over twice a week to look after the work. It is a great nuisance to have to waste all this time thus; (16 miles walk twice a week) just to keep out a fellow who ought never to be permitted to dig anywhere; but it is the only way to do the matter until I can leave here altogether. The masons do not appear yet, though Hewat has sent for some from the Fayum quarry.

A few more portraits turn up. A man & a girl, in tolerable state as to colour, but peeling, & the panels much rotted. Another of a man, ~~half~~ split up in five pieces, but perfectly fresh & bright as to the paint, & of fairly good work. There only 8 men on here now, & they are just clearing out odd pieces of ground near my last year's work.

One bit of early stuff has turned up; a chip of a blue cup (or canopic?) with name of Seti I (XIX dyn)




There are two bits of glazed pottery of Roman age, of quite a new style; animals & plants in very high relief modelling, though rather rude, coloured with purple on a white ground; the inside dark blue.

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On Sunday there were showers & spittings, which came to a head in a long thunderstorm with heavy rain on Sunday night; our tents leaked a little, & some rain ran in on the ground. I hoisted up two boxes on tins, in case of an inundation, & got up my reserve clothes from the bottom of another box, & then I could sleep in peace. The whole country is still damp with the storm a week after, & on the Monday the desert was glittering with pools in all directions.

The work over at Lahun has only produced a few trifles at the town, & nothing yet at the cemetery. But even the smallest scraps are of value as the town is solely of the XVIII-XIX dynasty apparently; so beads, bone & netting needles, balls of thread, &c are all of known age. A particular style of glass bead is thus fixed; it is black with white marks in it. (24)

The other night we were stirred up by an intruder. The dogs down at the farm about 1/2 mile off, were very much excited, all barking

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V. Medinet-
D. 10
 Mrs Petrie
 8. Crescent Rd
 Bromley
 Kent.

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 Kent
 V. Medinet-
 D. 10

VI.


2-8 Nov./<Dec.> 1888.

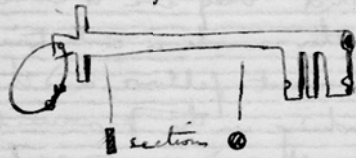
2-8 ~~Nov.~~^{Dec.} 1888. At last I got an Arab contractor over to see the pyramid work; and he thought it quite easy with hammer & chisel, though not by pick alone. To this I quite agreed. So he said he would get a stonecutter over & a pickman to help, probably from Cairo. After waiting further two stone-cutters from the quarries at Minya in the Fayum came over ^{from the contractor}, & tried the stone; they were quite satisfied to undertake it & are to begin tomorrow, 8th. We agreed by the day to begin with, understanding that they are to take it by the piece so soon as the work is well tried. They seem very sensible decent fellows, and they do not shirk the idea of working in the pyramid at all: they said they would go down 50 metres if wanted, & not only 5. So now I have hopes of getting into the chamber about the 18th-20th; then I shall clear the true entrance - if not under water - & have the place on show from about 25th to 1 Jan^y. So soon as I have done my work I shall hand the place over to Grebaut, & leave him either to put a guard here, or to earth up the entrance as he may like.

The rest of the work here has gone on as usual. The finds of this week are one fairly good portrait of a man; four or five gilt stucco heads, one with the name ΘΕΟ ΝΟΥΤΟC inside, & another with the name ΚΑΝΩC = ΚΙΩΝΩC? written half around one breast, another of a different style to any I have yet seen, the gilt plaster face being on a cloth wrapped round the mummy, & then a separate painted cloth on the body with the ~~solid~~ raised plaster breast

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attached to the painted cloth, & not part of the
 stucco case as usual. A complete painted wrapper
 cloth in good state is found, pink with gilt
 figures all over. In one room was a mud
 box, like what is now used to put things in, & for
 hen coops, &c, with a lid  & inside it were
 two large iron keys, quite fresh & looking as if
 only just in use on the handles, the pipes being
 a little clotted with dust: they are 7 ins long & of
 the modern form, but with a ~~one~~ T handle with a ring.




They would do well for
 the next painter who
 wants to do Peter &
 the keys in correct style.

There are also a large quantity more fragments,
 though not pretty ones, being of the small sage green
 leaves. We are just gleaning out all the corners
 of the cemetery that have been overlooked or
 not thought worth doing before: it suffices to
 keep my best men in hand until we can
 clear the pyramid entrance & go over to
 Illahun, where I hope to begin as early as I
 came to Egypt last season.


At Illahun there is nothing surprising, now
 with only three men at work ought we to expect
 much. One site of an early tomb chapel seems to
 have been nearly swept bare, but there are chips
 of diorite still about it, which makes me
 long to find the ^{tomb} well fit, as it must be early.


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There are also a large quantity more of wreaths,
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At Illahun there is nothing surprising, nor
 with only three men at work ought we to expect
 much. One site of an early tomb chapel seems to
 have been nearly swept bare, but there are chips
 of a diorite statue about it, which make me
 long to find the <tomb> well of it, as it must be early.

Another place that we are clearing there is the cut rock base of a very large mastaba. The rock is dressed out to receive the stone about 6 ft high  but all the superstructure is gone, & only broken blocks remain of the masonry. This is doubtless of XII dynasty, & I must find the tomb well of it. The one of the two men there nearly did for himself; he carelessly cut under a block until it fell & pinned him, jamming him tight & scraping his back & leg. He lay helpless; & the other man, in stead of loosening the stuff under him, & getting him out, ran off to the village ($\frac{1}{2}$ hr off) for men. About 30 men came, & then fearing he must be killed many ran away again, for fear they should be called as witnesses. Some wanted to break the stone up on the top of the man! At last, after two hours, the poor wretch was released. He looked rather shaky, & had his leg tied up, when I saw him two days later, but was beginning work again. I gave him a compassionate allowance for shilling, for which I was heartily blessed; but protested that it was no affair of mine if he chose to squash himself. At Tell Gurob many little beads & amulets of the Tell Amarna style are found, ~~but~~ ^{and} everything is of late XVIII or early XIX dynasty: Horemheb & Ramessu II are the names, & Thothmes III was on a block found there a couple of years ago. The whole place is of one period; the houses have never been rebuilt, but stand on the desert

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²⁸
 sand, just filled up, with the upper parts of the
 walls fallen in. Thus it is a very interesting
 place, even if we only find little bits. The
 cemetery there I am reserving until I can
 go & work there myself. The best bit yet is
 a hand holding a bowl or spoon, in blue glass,
 which was fitted on to a figure, probably also of
 glass, just a little toilet object: but there are
 many nice beads, &c. We have only three men
 on, just to hold the ground, with Muhammed.
 I have enough of my 16 mile round of inspection.

Maurice is well, & has gone up to Cairo, for
 two or three days. He will probably go up
 also for Christmas.

Just as I went out, Sat. morning, I saw a
 digger lifting a large pot out of the ground.
 When I came up, he took out a parcel the size
 of my forearm, & then turned out a lot of dust.
 I untied the tape of the roll, & took off a cloth;
 then another tape, & another cloth, & there lay
 three large papyri, absolutely perfect,
 packed with strips of reed to prevent their bending.
 I unrolled one; it was a deed about 1 ft x 2 ft
 closely written, with half a line filled in by a different
 hand & a large signature at bottom. The others
 are probably about 1 ft x 1 ft, & 1 ft x 4 ft. All are
 cursive Greek about 4th-5th cent. & in splendid condition.
 This is a prize quite equal to the Homer.

I should like to have one copy of Weights & measures out
 here: the other 8 to remain till my return.
 Masons are at work.

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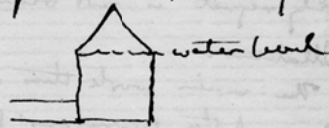
Mrs Petrie, Bromley
 Kent.

8-15 Dec 1888

8-15 Dec 1888 On Saturday the masons ⁽²⁹⁾ came over, & began work on the pyramid, to cut into the chamber; and as they made no objections I thought that at last the matter was in a fair way. They brought provisions, & I settled them into the spare tent here, Muhammed being over at Il Lahun. All my ordinary men went off by noon as usual; & then to my surprise by 3½ the masons said they were going back to sleep at midnigh; I remonstrated in vain at the absurd shortness of their day's work, but as they went with their baggage, & next day never appeared at all. A messenger came over from the Arab head man, saying that these men would not go on with the work for fear the pyramid should fall on them! So then a messenger was to go to Cairo to get masons thence. By Thursday comes a letter from the head man saying that the Cairo men want 4/s a day, & £3 each down to begin. This is heavy, but as it seems the only likely way to get the work done, I promise I sent the money. Now I await the Cairo men.

But I have been taking a number of levels, & as far as can be anticipated, I believe that the chamber is now full of water, to the top of the wall, & only the sloping roof out of the water.

Hence the passage would be inaccessible in any case, and I anticipate having to copy the chamber through the water, when ever we do get into it. I think this would be quite practicable, if we put lamps into a box with a glass side, so as to get them beneath the surface of the water. The water will be quite clear



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But I have been taking a number of levels, & as far as can be anticipated, I believe that the chamber is now full of water, to the top of the wall, & only the sloping roof out of the water [R] water level. Hence the passage would be inaccessible in any case, and I anticipate having to copy the chamber through the water, when ever we do get into it. I think this would be quite practicable, if we put lamps into a box with a glass side, so as to get them beneath the surface of the water. The water will be quite clear

& still, ³⁰ so that one could see beneath it well. However this shews that we cannot reckon on opening up the place to shew visitors in ordinary, & that it may be left accessible without any chance of anyone injuring it: and that the workmen cannot possibly run off with anything or disturb things when they do get at the inside. Hence I may leave the place very much to itself when once I get masons on to it.

If it would be beyond our powers to pump out such a large place against the infiltration of water, especially as the water is probably 10 or 12 ft deep, & would have that pressure if pumped out.

We have found one good portrait this week, of a young woman, but nothing else. I reckon up that we are paying our way here by finds, even after the share of Bulak is taken out; so that my only regret is not being able to get on quicker with Illahun.

The main work this week has been clearing part of one of the enormous pits by the crocodile chapels; but it seems to be quite irregular, & to lead to nothing. Of course it is merely the rock matrix, from which the whole of the masonry that there may have been, has been removed.

Two pit tombs are being cleared; but last year we got nothing out of such places. In one pit we

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found near the top two wooden figures ⁽³¹⁾ (abt 15 ins high) one still well painted, & pieces of sarcophagus; but these may have come from any tomb in the neighbourhood.

A very curious find, in the loose chips on the ground, is that of two little wax images, 3½ ins high. One is a male figure, hands at the side, with an asses head, nose, ears, & mane, complete; who or what this can be meant for I do not know. The other is a Venus? hair dressed, with crescent? on head, & hands held together behind the back. They ~~were~~ were found together, face to face. I think they must belong to some form of incantation, like the little rude clay figures bound on to papyri, which Howard last year.

At Illahun we have traced more of the great rock foundation of a vast mastaba; but I cannot see any sign of the funereal pit. They are clearing out a large ~~pit~~ tomb-well entirely, having made a trial sort of rat-hole down the side, & Muhammad having seen two fine wooden sarcophagi in the chamber at the bottom. Now all the stuff must come out, & then we must haul up the coffins. The digger found in the stuff at the top of the pit an exquisite little hedgehog-amulet in blue glaze of beautiful colour, inscribed  on base,

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(32)
 "Beloved of Nub, ^{who} ~~rules~~ the North & South Egypt". It
 has the legs of the beastie all carved out, & its eyes
 & ears, on a most delicate scale: a real gem.
 From Tell Gurob there are handfuls of
 scraps of rings, &c; all of late XVIII & early XIX
 dynasty, & some pretty complete pots, beside more
 netting needles, balls of thread, wooden combs, &c
 all of the same date. Nothing important, but of
 interest as dated things. When I go there &
 we dig the tombs, we shall do better. Be it
 remembered, we only have three men at Gurob,
 & the same at Illahun, merely to hold the
 ground. And here I only have a few
 of the best fellows on, just to keep them
 in hand while I am waiting for this pyramid
 job.

It is very bad weather; cold high winds
 & rain, very unusual so early in the
 winter. Today it blew hard at only 48°,
 which in tent without any possible warming
 up, is rather melancholy: and we
 have had many showers during the day.
 Last Sunday & Monday were like this:
 so bad that some men would not work
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VII Medinet - Mrs Petrie
 8. Crescent Rd Bromley, Kent -

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 to put them on by measure instead of day,
 soon, & so to push them ahead. They
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 want to get good feeding at Medinet; but
 as they come over reasonably early - an hour
 after sunrise, - & do not stop work for dinner,
 in order to leave before sunset, they really
 get a fair amount of time here. I go &
 listen at the mouth of the tunnel, & hear
 the click-click of the hammer & chisel duly
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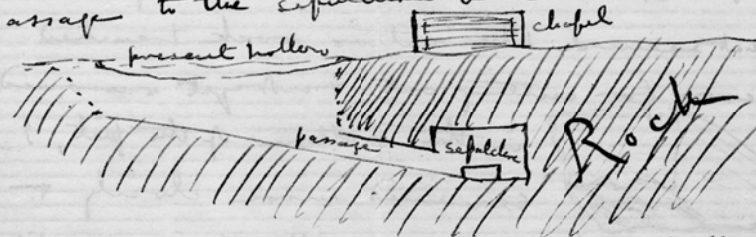
The crocodile tombs look more promising;
 what seemed like native rock trenched
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⁽³⁴⁾ I therefore made them cut down through the marly stuff, which is hardly to be called rock, & found thus that it was all blocks of the rock which had been cut out by the Egyptians, & then put in again, in filling up the pit. Down we went therefore, & at about 20 feet struck the real rock, cut down with an upright edge.

On trenching this, it proved to slope down one way; & after running down the slope for 10 or 15 feet I saw that it must be a sloping passage that we had hit on. Then the nature of the whole place suddenly cleared up to me. These crocodile tombs were like the Apis tombs at Memphis. There was a funereal chapel above ground, & a long ~~open~~ trench leading into the rock-cut passage to the sepulchre beneath the chapel.



Hence all these curious-looking long hollows, always

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| | | |
|----------------|-----------|------|
| present hollow | chapel | |
| passage | sepulchre | Rock |


Hence all these curious-looking long hollows, always

on the north of the chapel ruins, are the mouths of the passages to the rock-hewn sepulchres. ⁽³⁶⁾ As the blocks of rock thrown in, & the stratification ^{of the filling in} from side to side of the hollow, show that this has not been opened yet, we may find an untouched sacred crocodile. The sloping way is over 6½ ft wide, how much I do not know; & hence it is probable that they took in a large sarcophagus & not merely a bundle of crocodile. We may therefore find inscribed sarcophagi, perhaps of stone, the equivalents of those of the Serapeum though not so sumptuous. Anyhow we shall see what one of these pits will yield. The fact of a sloping way, & not a vertical pit being cut, looks as if a heavy stone sarcophagus had been put in.


At Illahun they found a well & chamber, in which the secondary burials were untouched. The chamber was piled up with wooden coffins, without inscriptions, & with only a painted carved face & wig upon them. Probably about 300, B.C. Some of them pretty, but of no interest. I went

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(36)
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 lids up; I could not do more then, as the
 place was, by that time, in such a litter
 of scraps of coffin & mummy. It was hard
 to find a footing, whenever one tried it
 yielded, & one went through into coffins
 & bodies below. The mummies were
 very "burnt", as they call them; all the
 clothes soft, rotted, & some quite black with
 oxidation. They had fine thread net work
 on some of the mummies, but no beads,
 nor any scarabs, nor amulets on the bodies.
 I hear from a boy I sent over today that
 they have got now a fine inscribed stone,
 & two scarabs, probably of the first interment.
 More after I see it tomorrow.
 The stone proves to be the best part of the stela of
 the first occupant of the tomb; a fine piece of work
 of the XIIth dynasty, shewing the man, Usertesen-
 ankh-tef-pen, seated, a large table of offerings
 before him & most of the inscription. It is a
 good piece, worth a place in any museum. There
 is a large lot of beads, & some small figures from
 there also. At Gurob one nice find was a kohl
 pot, handle of a fly-flap, a large lump of graphite, a
 piece of haematite, &c, &c, with 2 rings with [] eyes,
 & one with the name of Khunaten, dating the whole lot.
 A ring of Horemheb was also found, & various little
 things. The crocodile pit goes on here, still down
 the slope. *W. Petrie, 1888-89*

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 they have got now a fine inscribed stone,
 & two scarabs, probably of the first interment.
 More after I see it tomorrow.

The stone proves to be the best part of the stela of
 the first occupant of the tomb; a fine piece of work
 of the XIIth dynasty, shewing the man, Usertesen-
 ankh-tef-pen, seated, a large table of offerings
 before him & most of the inscription. It is a
 good piece, worth a place in any museum. There
 is a large lot of beads, & some small figures from
 there also. At Gurob one nice find was a kohl
 pot, handle of a fly-flap, a large lump of graphite, a
 piece of haematite, &c, &c, with 2 rings with [] eyes,
 & one with the name of Khunaten, dating the whole lot.
 A ring of Horemheb was also found, & various little
 things. The crocodile pit goes on here, still down
 the slope.

Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent -

IX.

23-28 Dec. 1888.

(IX.)
 23-28 Dec. 1888. Hewat & Major Martin rode over, & had a look around, and so I had a³⁷ talk over the masons' work. At the present rate, their day work comes out about £3 the cubic metre; I thought this excessive, but Hewat says they pay £4 cub: met: for dressed stone coping, & to cut stone out of a hole is about the same labour. He agreed that I ought to get them to work by the metre, as I had intended doing, so soon as I saw what they actually could do by day. So I tried them with the offer of £1 for every ¼ metre length, the size of the hole to be as they liked, actually it is about 1½ x 1 metre, now. But though one was inclined, the other refused, & said they came by day contract & they would only work by that. Of course I took good care not to force the matter for fear of losing them.

But I did not intend to be checked thus-wise. So I presented them with an obligation for bakhshish from me, on finishing the work; at the rate of £6 for each stone thickness of the roof (about 1½ metre) less exactly the amount of their wages every day until they get into the chamber. They cannot complain, their contract is absolutely untouched, they simply receive a promise of as much whether the work is quick or slow. The only way they can get more cash is by dawdling, so as to exceed 50 days; but my remedy of course is dismissal if they do so.

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38
 They "smole a smile", & talked round it hither & thither, but saw the force of it very clearly; & evidently thought it would be a very good job if they could manage to get through it at a quicker rate. Thus I think I have put the time screw on effectually without any needless friction, & above all without any disturbance of existing arrangements.

This week I determined to go at the crocodile sepulchres, as the other cemetery work seems to be practically exhausted, scarcely anything coming in now from it. They seem very promising, as there are many signs that they have never been disturbed. The earth over the entrances is all stratified far & wide without any sign of being cut through in later times; & whatever plundering may have been done must have been very early, if at all, as there are small crocs. buried in the stratified earth over the mouths of the pits. Apparently the ground over a pit was a sanctified place for all the small fry & the ceremonial little dreaming crocodiles buried as devotional objects. As the chapels above the sepulchres are not early, ^{being} either XXVIth dynasty or more probably Ptolemaic, there is very little time for ~~mass~~ desecration between that &

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the epoch when they would cease the devotional burials. Moreover in one pit at least the (39) blocks of rock thrown in are undisturbed.

These are my grounds for attacking this spot.

In this first day's work we found a large well instead of an open trench,

which explains how several of the hollows are so short

on the surface. In the great trench, that

we have been on for 10 days, we have reached the end of the open trench, & so can

now go right into the rock passage

tomorrow. If they only buried

these sacred crocs. decently & in order we ought to get fine sarcophagi & a series of tablets like the Serapeum find! Don't you wish it!

Maurice Amos has gone up to Cairo for Christmas.

My life goes on much as in past years. I turn up at sunrise, & go over the work. Come in when I

begin to want breakfast, somewhere between 9 & 12. Then circulate during the rest of the day,

or make or pack boxes, & have dinner about an hour after sunset. Here is my bill of

fare tonight: - 1^{mo} A tin of green peas. 2^{do} x

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(40)
 sweet omelette, not a flappy leathery thing, but
 a light sponge, with not a trace of eggyness
 about it. 3rd Apricot jam. Arab bread with
 each course. Black coffee ad lib, taling off
 into warm water at the end. Limes sucked
 at suitable intervals, as refreshers. Then
 afterwards, there is often some post-prandial
 occupation in timbering the pyramidal
 passage, or looking after it somehow, which
 I cannot do while the masons are there.
 Lastly, I have about 9 hours for sleep, &
 I can put up with plenty of it, after being
 on foot all day. I am becoming quite an
 artist with the frying pan, & fried eggs is
 a staple dish with us. On my Illahun
 days, I have my wash before I go out, carry
 my breakfast tied up in a towel, look over
 this place on my way, & get to Illahun about
 10 or 11. (Unluckily, I cannot use my bicycle on
 this circuit, as so much of the road is too
 soft or rough. In fact there is only one place
 where I can hope to do much with it, on the
 great dyke road between Illahun & Tell Gurob).
 After seeing the work there, I have breakfast
 about noon; go over to Tell Gurob, look
 over that & pay up, & then come back. If
 there is no wind I can take the Demeshkin ferry
 & be back in 1.45; but if windy I must go to the
 Hawara ferry, which has a rope, & takes 2 hours.
 I am glad to say that my offer has pleasantly stimulated

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2/ IX

2/ IX

(41)
the masons; the blows of the hammer come down decidedly quicker & heavier on the chisel, the pick takes out chips & lumps nearly double the previous average; and though there is no scandalous difference, yet the whole style is more businesslike, & they look forward to getting a-head in the quickest way they can. Still I suspect it will take a month more.

Alas! the crocodile sepulchres have been utterly ravaged. Not only ravaged, down even to the stone lining of the chambers, but reused for human burial, & re-ravaged. Yet there are crocodile burials in the sand which fills the pits & trenches, shewing that they cannot have been disturbed since say 100 A.D., & were as full of sand then as now. A Ptolemy coin about 150 B.C. was found in the sand about 1/3 down. So the human burials must be Ptolemaic at latest: the ravaging of the chapels must have been under the Persians, at the latest & the burials XXVI. dyn: at latest. The work of the stray hieroglyphs found is not Ramesside, & if not of XXVI I must put it to XIIth, but I can hardly do so. Hence the history of these places is pretty nearly defined now.

In another of the crocodile pits we found a great number of wooden coffins, nearly all rotted

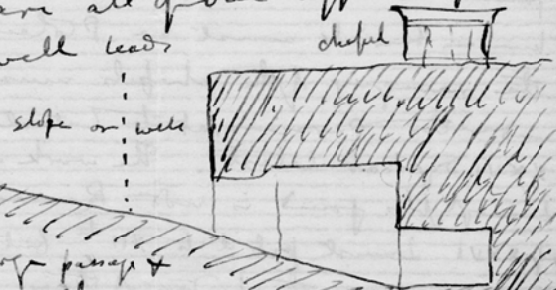
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(42)
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 of inscription down each of the lids; & the carved
 head of this is also good, but very soft, being of
 a perishable wood; I may preserve it with wax.
 In another croc. pit I found two coffin heads
 painted, one in good state. Strangely, these
 pits have been plundered in Ptolemaic times,
 with a view to material for ~~other~~ undertakers.
 In two tombs I have found the coffin heads
 removed, & put together near the door
 to be taken away. The work of the coffins
 & of some beads found, seems to me to be pre-
 Ptolemaic. If so the looting of the crocodiles
 must be pre-Persian, & so pre-XXVIth dyn.
 And thus I should be led to attribute these
 croc. sepulchres to perhaps the XIIth after
 all. They are all of one type so far.
 A slope or a well leads

down into a large passage &
 chamber, from which a lower
 second chamber descends, which is
 beneath the chapel above. The chapel is
 usually much larger than I have drawn here.



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The lowest of these so far is 40 feet from the top ground to the floor of the chamber. (43)

Today a fortunate find has been made. In one of the pits were several pieces of stone from the chapel above, fallen down, & some with fine sculptures, a boat, sacrificing oxen, hieroglyphs, &c. If we can only get more, these will shew the age, & whether the chapel belonged to the crocodiles, or possibly to human interments. The style of the sculptures is either XXVIth dynasty or else XIIth; probably the XXVIth, but I hardly see how we are to suppose the plundering & the reuse for human burials to be got through soon enough for the good period shewn in the coffins & beads.

I have decided on beginning the Illahun pyramid, as I am detained here so long. So next week two gangs <parties> will be trenching along the side of it, for the entrance. Nothing particular has turned up there, but they are clearing another large well. There are quantities of tombs there to be dug out. We have not yet found the entrance to the small pyramid whose base I have uncovered.

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IX. Medinet - Jan. 7 - 89
 Mrs Petrie
 8 Crescent Road -
 Bromley,
 Kent.

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X


30 Dec: - 5 Jan. 1889.

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I determined, now that I had a ladder here, to go down the pit they got the fine canopic jars from, last year. We broke up one mummy there, but found nothing. But now, on trying the other mummies there, we find each of them a museum of amulets; on two were 50 each, & 90 on another. These amulets are mostly of the finest work in hard stones or fine porcelain, the faces of


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 One mummy had some thin gold amulets, &
 a beautifully engraved finger ring. 
 (half this size)
 "the Osirian, priest of Neith, Ra-en-ma" called
 after this pyramid king, as so many folks
 were in late times. ~~I am hoping for~~
 There are three lots
 more amulets from this tomb: I make
 full notes of their positions, so that I can
 rearrange them in order, as I did those sets
 from Nebesheh.

The pyramid masons cut on slowly &
 steadily, a few inches every day; but they
 really try to get on with the work, breaking
 out as large pieces as they can manage.

At Illahun we have not yet found
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found the ground where all the mason's⁽⁴⁶⁾
chips were thrown away; & strange to
say, found a scarab among them.

At Tell Gurob there is very little this
week beside a piece of stone with about
half the cartouches of Tahutmes III. This
is plainly a re-used block, a bit of some
temple, probably destroyed by Khunaten &
thus waste stone as early as the time
of Tell Gurob. Some balls of thread, spindles,
&c; and a complete ^{pottery} fire-stand for

cooking on. XI. Card, received Jan 19

Pyramid opened, but not
yet cleared. No inscrip-
tion so far - Chamber all
sandstone -
Hawara Jan 10.

All papers, &c, duly received; but Nature after the
others.

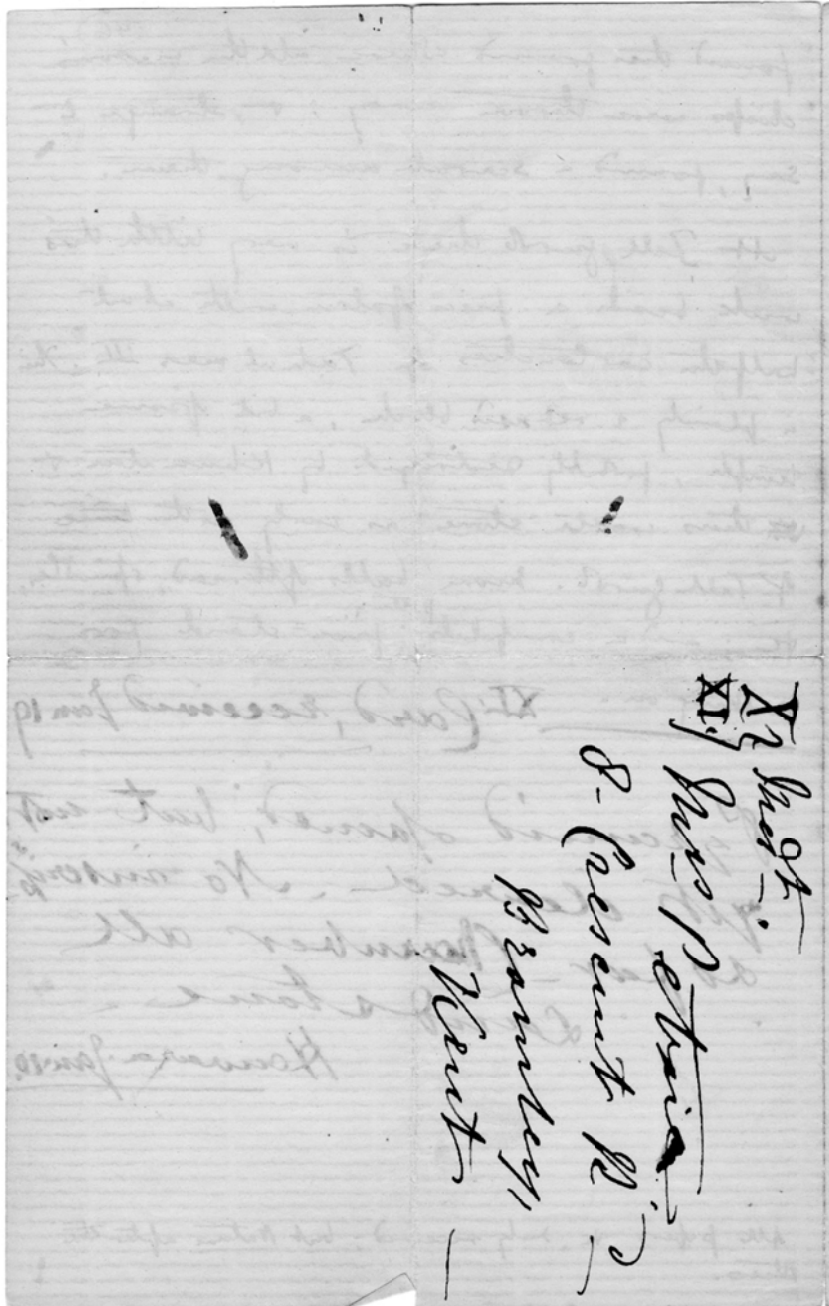
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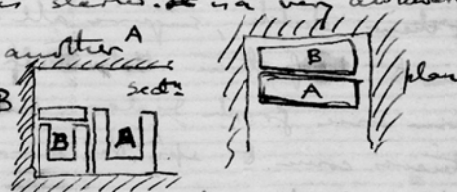



XII

6-12 Jan. 1888.


6-12 Jan, 1888. Went to Medinet to leave papyri⁴⁷
 with Hewat, for Sayce to fetch some day, as that
 could be done in a day from Wasta (on the Nile) &
 back. I also intended to go to Abukesa by train, for
 some observations I wanted on Dimay. However
 while waiting for the train to leave, who should I
 see coming out of it, from Wasta, but Sayce
 with two friends from his boat, Sir John Conroy (a
 scientific man & very pleasant) & Mr. Robertson.
 Nothing could be neater; I dropped going to Abukesa,
 fetched the papyrus which I had left in Hewat's
 office (he being away), & went with the party
 a stroll on the mounds, for a couple of hours
 till the train took them back to Wasta. I
 had a long & somewhat important talk to
 Sayce on affairs.


Next day I was sitting half in the water, all the
 morning down in the amulet tomb getting the
 lid of a sarcophagus started. It is a very awkward
 job as it is behind another^A
 and A is higher than B^B








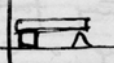
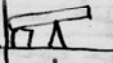
When I thought it was
 in a fair way I left it to the men to go on
 with; but next day I found they had
 been scarcely able to do anything, as they
 could not lift the back edge of the lid, against
 the wall. So I took another morning to it, &
 made good progress, lifting the front edge , then

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




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 made good progress, lifting the front edge [], then

(48)
 blocking it ~~it~~ in the middle of the ends 
 & then tilting it over  & blocking the back
 edge up. Then a fresh round of lifting the front,
 supporting the middle, tilting it over again, & blocking
 the back again    


When I came back to my breakfast, about
 12½, I found two men dangling about, - spies as I
 believe. One of them was here yesterday asking for work,
 & would hardly be driven off. To day he came again
 & went into the pyramid, while his companion
 dangled outside. I sent them both off sharp, with
 a threat of police, if they came again. I have given
 orders to my men if these are seen here again
 to come up & seize them, & march them off to
 whatever their village may be, hand them over
 to their shekh, enquire all about them, & tell
 him to keep them to himself. They probably come
 from some Greek dealer; but possibly they are
 thieves come to spy the arrangements for a
 night raid.

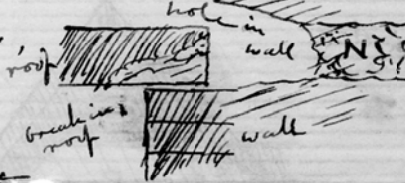
As soon as I had got rid of them, a boy came
 down from the pyramid & said that the masons
 had opened a hole; I told him I would come soon,
 but he came back saying they had found the
 chamber, so I went up, just as I was from the

blocking it ~~it~~ in the middle of the ends []
 & then tilting it over [] & blocking the back
 edge up. Then a fresh round of lifting the front,
 supporting the middle, tilting it over again, & blocking
 the back again [] [] [] []
 []


When I came back to my breakfast, about
 12½, I found two men dangling about, - spies as I
 believe. One of them was here yesterday asking for work,
 & would hardly be driven off. Today he came again
 & went into the pyramid, while his companion
 dangled outside. I sent them both off sharp, with
 a threat of police, if they came again. I have given
 orders to my men if these are seen here again
 to come up & seize them, & march them off to
 whatever their village may be, hand them over
 to their shekh, enquire all about them, & tell
 him to keep them to himself. They probably come
 from some Greek dealer; but possibly they are
 thieves come to spy the arrangements for a
 night raid.

As soon as I had got rid of them, a boy came
 down from the pyramid & said that the masons
 had opened a hole; I told him I would come soon,
 but he came back saying they had found the
 chamber, so I went up, just as I was from the


watery work in the amulet tomb, i.e. in a flannel
 night gown & cap, & nought else, & still breakfast-less. Here I found
 a small hole in the floor of our work, & on
 squeezing through, & along a narrow rough
 place, I got into a chamber of this form (sectⁿ) 

& searching around I found a hole above side
 downward, by which I saw that this was only
 a roof chamber, & that below it was another
 chamber. I squeezed down in a break in the
 roof of the lower chamber, 

& managed to see
 that it was all of sandstone,
 polished & plain. But I could not see far into
 it. ~~Later~~ I was dragged out of the hole by main
 force by my legs, being absolutely helpless in
 that position. Later on I sent in a slender lad
 from the work, who was anxious to take
 it up, & he went all over this chamber
 while I watched from the hole. ^{which was too small for my shoulders.} There is about
 3 ft of water in the chamber, & two sarcophagi,
 the lids of which are shifted on one side askew,
 all plain & without inscription. There is no
 door to be seen, which would certainly be the
 case, ^{if it existed} or it would be over 3 ft high & out of the water.

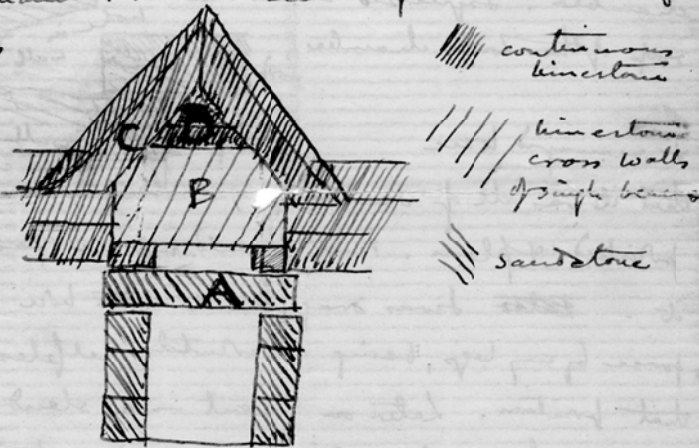
watery work in the amulet tomb, i.e. in a flannel
 night gown & cap, & nought else <& still breakfast-less>. Here I found
 a small hole in the floor of our work, & on
 squeezing through, & along a narrow rough
 place, I got into a chamber of this form []

(sectⁿ)

& searching around I found a hole at one side
 downward, by which I saw that this was only
 a roof chamber, & that below it was another
 chamber. I squeezed down in a break in the
 roof of the lower chamber, [] roof hole in wall N
 break in roof wall

& managed to see
 that it was all of sandstone,
 polished & plain. But I could not see far into
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 case <if it existed> as it would be over 3 ft high & out of the water.

I have my idea that the N. wall of the chamber
 was built in after the burial without leaving
 any door; & that this hole in the roof proves
 that the spoilers had no door to enter by, but
 needed to break in, for the hole is certainly
 broken from outside inwards. Hence by
 tracking out a hole filled with rubbish which
 led to this from the N (at N in section) we
 shall reach the true entrance passage &
 antechamber. The section of the whole thing
 is thus



There being over the sandstone roof ^A a series
 of cross walls ^B or bulk-heads of single beams
 supporting the slanting beams ^C directly, & ^{also} by
 means of longitudinal beams ^D from cross
 wall to cross wall. (~~C & D ought to be deeper than
 drawn here~~) We are going to break out the
 hole in the roof rather larger so that I can get
 in.

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 was built in after the burial without leaving
 any door; & that this hole in the roof proves
 that the spoilers had no door to enter by, but
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 shall reach the true entrance passage &
 antechamber. The section of the whole thing

is thus [R]

[R] continuous
limestone

D
C

[R] limestone
cross walls
of single beams

B
A

[R] sandstone

There being over the sandstone roof <A> a series
 of cross walls or bulk-heads of single beams,
 supporting the slanting beams <C> directly, & <also> by
 means of longitudinal beams <D> from cross
 wall to cross wall. (~~C & D ought to be deeper than
 drawn here~~) We are going to break out the
 hole in the roof rather larger so that I can get
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