

26 Sept. 1889

Left Bromley 26 Sept. 1889, & went through without any special occurrences to Illahun in 7 1/4 days, by Oct 3. I met Major Seager the Cyprus magistrate with whom I had come home; but there were no other English on the Messageries boat. I was in Alexandria all one day, waiting for the night train. So I spent a few hours, & dined, with Ebsworth the Customs Director, who was as kind as ever.


I find that the towns are just as I left them, having been fully guarded by the watchers Fraser put on. The large lot of clay sealings which I was very anxious about, (as Fraser thought they came from papyri) I have now fully examined. He had only picked out some of the best, but had not classified them: there was however less than 3 hours work in the matter. I see that very few are from papyri, they are mostly from clay sealings of jars of resin, which were tied down with leather & cord.

I found the form of the jar shoulder in the clay & the cast of the cord, & bits of leather & resin mixed with the sealings. There are, altogether, 937 seals & fragments; 220 are such chips as to be illegible, & in the remaining 717 pieces there are 143 varieties. The commonest seals occur 151, 95, 41 & 37 times: but of 82 seals there ~~are~~ is only one example each. They are mostly from scarabs of the usual types of the XII dynasty.

Began work again on 7th Oct. The first day has yielded 6 or 8 more letters on pottery, an alabaster weight


Left Bromley 26 Sept. 1889, & went through without any special occurrences to Illahun in 7 1/4 days, by Oct 3. I met Major Seager the Cyprus magistrate with whom I had come home; but there were no other English on the Messageries boat. I was in Alexandria all one day, waiting for the night train. So I spent a few hours, & dined, with Ebsworth the Customs director, who was as kind as ever.


I find that the towns are just as I left them, having been fully guarded by the watchers Fraser put on. The large lot of clay sealings which I was very anxious about, (as Fraser thought they came from papyri) I have now fully examined. He had only picked out some of the best, but had not classified them: there was however less than 3 hours work in the matter. I see that very few are from papyri, they are mostly from clay sealings of jars of resin, which were tied down with leather & cord.

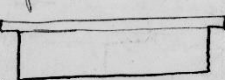
I found the form of the jar shoulder in the clay [] & the cast of the cord, & bits of leather & resin mixed with the sealings. There are, altogether, 937 seals & fragments; 220 are such chips as to be illegible, & in the remaining 717 pieces there are 143 varieties. The commonest seals occur 151, 95, 41 & 37 times: but of 82 seals there are is only one example each. They are mostly from scarabs of the usual types of the XII dynasty.


I began work again on 7th Oct. The first day has yielded 6 or 8 more letters on pottery, an alabaster weight


(2) of either the Phoenician or Hittite standard, but certainly not Egyptian; and a fine blue scarab of the prime-minister Senbsuma, whose I know well; beside a small common scarab.


2 more fine Phoenician weights of 20 double shekels (440 grs) each, both marked with the number 20, so that there can be no question of the values. Some more pottery marks, including the last sign of the important wooden inscription [] which was hitherto only known on that. Another stand for dough offerings, with a lump of dough on the top, is in the form of the deformed Ptah, with arms raised supporting the cup on his head. ^{15 in high} Also some bits of papyri today.


Rather dull next day, some more alphabet pottery, but only one prize: that is a scarab, device a sam & scroll, not much to look at, but the back pierced through thrice  leaving the legs separate, & all covered with rich blue-green glaze, right into all the hollows beneath, as fresh & brilliant as the day it was made. I never saw such magnificent condition of a scarab.

I went into the pyramid, & measured most of it. The sarcophagus ^{of red granite} is unlike any other, with a wide brim to it, . It is exquisitely smooth & regular; the dimensions the same all over to 1/10 inch, & all in whole numbers of palms as exactly as I have measured it. I see that

of either the Phoenician or Hittite standard, but certainly not Egyptian; and a fine blue scarab [] of the prime-minister Senbsuma, whose I know well; beside a small common scarab.

2 more fine Phoenician weights of 20 double shekels (440 grs) each, both marked with the number 20, so that there can be no question of the values. Some more pottery marks, including the last sign of the important wooden inscription [] which was hitherto only known on that. Another stand for dough offerings, with a lump of dough on the top, is in the form of the deformed Ptah, with arms raised supporting the cup on his head <15 ins high>. Also some bits of papyri today

Rather dull next day, some more alphabet pottery, but only one prize: that is a scarab, device a sam & scroll, not much to look at, but the back pierced through thrice [] leaving the legs separate, & all covered with rich blue-green glaze, right into all the hollows beneath, as fresh & brilliant as the day it was made. I never saw such magnificent condition of a scarab.


I went into the pyramid, & measured most of it. The sarcophagus <of red granite> is unlike any other, with a wide brim to it, [] & no traces of a lid or fastenings. It is exquisitely smooth & regular; the dimensions the same all over to 1/10 inch, & all in whole numbers of palms as exactly as I have measured it. I see that

I ought to make a careful measuring pit,
 to detect its errors of work. The dimensions
 are, brim 36×17 palms, body 33×14 , inside
 28×9 ; brim 2 deep, ~~inside~~ inside 8 deep. The
 body outside is curiously slanting, the height
 varying 4 inches from end to end. The cubit
 of it is 20.64 inches. The granite chamber, in
 which it is, is roofed like that of Menkara at
 Gizeh.




with a circular curve.
 inside. The chamber is
 6×10 cubits, of 20.52-20.69


Nothing very particular has come in the last
 two days, only more alphabet pottery & small
 things. I have received Maspero's letter,
 explaining many of the signs by the Egyptian
 mason's marks: so far so good, this is one
 half of the question, the other half is the
 allocation of these signs with the various
 Western alphabets. As we know that the foreigners
 were here - from independent evidence - we cannot
 doubt the relation of these signs which they used
 here to the same signs which they used in the
 Mediterranean. It is even possible that the
 cant names among the workmen for these signs,
 (& the values of them therefore among the foreigners,)

I ought to make a careful measuring of it,
 to detect its errors of work. The dimensions
 are, brim 36×17 palms, body 33×14 , inside
 28×9 ; brim 2 deep, ~~outside~~ inside 8 deep. The
 body outside is curiously slanting, the height
 varying 4 inches from end to end. The cubit
 of it is 20.64 inches. The granite chamber, in
 which it is, is roofed like that of Menkara at
 Gizeh [] with a circular curve.
 inside. The chamber is
 6×10 cubits, of 20.52-20.69

Nothing very particular has come in the last
 two days, only more alphabet pottery & small
 things. I have received Maspero's letter,
 explaining many of the signs by the Egyptian
 mason's marks: so far so good, this is one
 half of the question, the other half is the
 allocation of these signs with the various
 Western alphabets. As we know that the foreigners
 were here - from independent evidence - we cannot
 doubt the relation of these signs which they used
 here to the same signs which they used in the
 Mediterranean. It is even possible that the
 cant names among the workmen for these signs,
 (& the values of them therefore among the foreigners,)

(4) might have no relation ~~th~~ to the literary values of the original hieroglyphs. If only I could find more whole words or names (like the [] inscription) we might get a good deal nearer the solution of the questions involved. But I think it quite possible that nowadays a party of North American Indians employed on Chinese works, might give familiar sounds to Chinese signs, used as masons' marks ~~which~~ which they were often seeing, which might have no relation to the Chinese sounds. So Greeks & Cypriotes may have from casual circumstances named the signs they saw used.

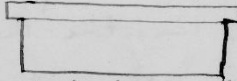
I. Illahun, Oct 13. 189 - Rec^d 21st
 Mrs Petrie,
 8 Crescent Road,
 Bromley,
 Kent.


might have no relation ~~th~~ to the literary values of the original hieroglyphs. If only I could find more whole words or names (like the [] inscription) we might get a good deal nearer the solution of the questions involved. But I think it quite possible that now a-days a party of North American Indians employed on Chinese works might give familiar sounds to Chinese signs, used as masons' marks ~~with~~ which they were often seeing, which might have no relation to the Chinese sounds. So Greeks & Cypriotes may have from casual circumstances named the signs they saw used.



I. Illahun, Oct 13./89 - Rec^d 21st

M^{rs} Petrie,
 8 Crescent Road,
 Bromley,
 Kent.

II. Illahun -
11-17 Oct 1889


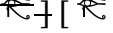
II. Illahun -
 11-17 Oct 1889 I set about examining the (5)
 sarcophagus of Useratesen II in the pyramid; and
 it proved to be only just within my powers
 of measurement, with plumb-threads & eye
 observation. I believe that I have measured the
 errors of it, but in some points it would be
 more satisfactory to work with a magnifier.
 It is of very curious form  with
 a square lip or brim all round. Cut in one block
 of red granite, the sides are not polished, nor attempted
 to be polished, but are exquisitely finely ground,
 enough to give a partial reflection, & so clearly
 sliced through every crystal without a wave or a
 sign of friction, that it is a marvel how it was
 done. It shews a love of fine work, & an absence of
 trying to give mere glitter & shew, which is of the
 highest class. The straightness of the sides is
 marvellous; along the long sides, nearly 9 feet long,
 the variations from a straight line are 0, -2, 0, +6, 0
 thousandths of an inch; on the other side 0, +14, +11, 0 shewing
 a bulge of about $\frac{1}{80}$ of an inch in the length! Along
 the ends the errors are 0, +12, +24, 0, 0 and 0, -7, -20,
 -10, 0; so the very worst error found is a bulge
 of $\frac{1}{40}$ inch. The equality of the sides is brilliant, the
 difference in the lengths is only 18 thousandths, in breadth
 6 thousandths. The accuracy of the proportions is of course
 rather less not so good as this, but it is nearly always
 within $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the whole amount. The dimensions are
 all in whole numbers of palms (7 to the cubit), &

I set about examining the
 sarcophagus of Useratesen II in the pyramid; and
 it proved to be only just within my powers
 of measurement, with plumb-threads & eye
 observation. I believe that I have measured the
 errors of it, but in some points it would be
 more satisfactory to work with a magnifier.
 It is of very curious form [] with
 a square lip or brim all round. Cut in one block
 of red granite, the sides are not polished, not attempted
 to be polished, but are exquisitely finely ground,
 enough to give a partial reflection, & so clearly
 sliced through every crystal without a wave or a
 sign of friction, that it is a marvel how it was
 done. It shews a love of fine work, & an absence of
 trying to give mere glitter & shew, which is of the
 highest class. The straightness of the sides is
 marvellous; along the long sides, nearly 9 feet long,
 the variations from a straight line are 0, -2, 0, +6, 0
 thousandths of an inch; on the other side 0, +14, +11, 0 shewing
 a bulge of about $\frac{1}{80}$ of an inch in the length! Along
 the ends the errors are 0, +12, +24, 0, 0 and 0, -7, -20,
 -10, 0; so the very worst error found is a bulge
 of $\frac{1}{40}$ inch. The equality of the sides is brilliant, the
 difference in the lengths is only 18 thousandths, in breadth
 6 thousandths. The accuracy of the proportions is of course
 rather less not so good as this, but it is nearly always
 within $\frac{1}{1000}$ of the whole amount. The dimensions are
 all in whole numbers of palms (7 to the cubit), &




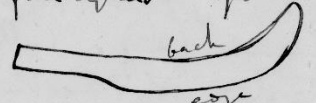
the values of the cubit resulting from these are thus: -
 20.634, 20.607, 20.624, 20.644, 20.611, 20.620, 20.580.
 The first four are the most accurate doubtless, being
 the measures across the top, inside & out, & they give
 a cubit of 20.627 mean. Altogether this is the
 most superb piece of stone cutting that I have
 ever seen; nothing at Gizeh can approach it, as
 even the limestone there is not so fine. But the
 chamber & the rest of the pyramid here is
 very poor in comparison: only this extraordinary
 sarcophagus, without any lid or means of fastening,
 or trace of ornament or hieroglyphs, stands
 unsurpassed in its nobility of work. The inside
 sides, the most difficult to work, perhaps, only shew
 2 & 5 thousandths of hollowing in the middle, within my
 possible errors in fact; & a wind of 20 and 30 thousandths
 of an inch in the whole length of 82 inches & depth of 23.
 The ^{inside} bottom does not shew ^{two} inch of bulge, nor more
 than ⁵⁰ inch of wind in it. All the edges are bevelled
 off  about this much, but the inner ^{edges} ~~corners~~ are
 very sharply hollowed. At outer corners
 the bevels meet properly  like faces of a crystal.





The passages of the pyramid are rough cut in the
 rock, & just rubbed over with some white
 plaster very roughly.

the values of the cubit resulting from these are thus: -
 20.634, 20.607, 20.624, 20.644, 20.611, 20.620, 20.580.

The first four are the most accurate doubtless, being
 the measures across the top, inside & out, & they give
 a cubit of 20.627 mean. Altogether this is the
 most superb piece of stone cutting that I have
 ever seen; nothing at Gizeh can approach it, as
 even the limestone there is not so fine. But the
 chamber & the rest of the pyramid here is
 very poor in comparison: only this extraordinary
 sarcophagus, without any lid or means of fastening,
 or trace of ornament or hieroglyphs, stands
 unsurpassed in its nobility of work. The inside
 sides, the most difficult to work, perhaps, only shew
 2 & 5 thousandths of hollowing in the middle, within my
 possible errors in fact; & a wind of 20 and 30 thousandths
 of an inch in the whole length of 82 inches & depth of 23.
 The <inside> bottom does not shew 1/100 inch of bulge, nor more
 than 1/50 inch of wind in it. All the edges are bevelled
 off  about this much, but the inner ~~corners~~ <edges> are
 very sharply hollowed. At outer corners
 the levels meet properly 
 like faces of a crystal.

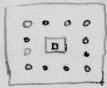
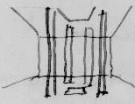
The passages of the pyramid are rough cut in the
 rock, & just rubbed over with some white
 plaster very roughly.


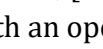
At Kahun we have more alphabet marks, including
 the two new signs  and ; some more
 weights, a scarab of , what or who that may be,
 half a fine cylinder of Amenemhat III, a bronze
 knife  of curious form; and
 best of all another fine stick, with two fine drilled
 holes on it, at the edge, with the groove notched out
 for the wood powder, as in the example I had before.
 The original accident has just happened; a
 fellow in the work was sleeping outside, at night,
 along with all the others, & a dog put
 his foot in the man's eye! I had to
 dab on a wet bandage for him, as well as
 I could for laughing at the absurdity of it.
 We have had some hot days, but now there is
 a fine north wind blowing, from 70° at
 night to 80° in the day, and I almost want
 a coat again. I have worn nothing but
 shirt & trousers since I came here, indoors &
 out.
 There are many more small things in the work

At Kahun we have more alphabet marks, including
 the two new signs [] and []; some more
 weights, a scarab of [], what or who that may be,
 half a fine cylinder of Amenemhat III, a bronze
 knife [] (back / edge) of curious form; and
 best of all another fire stick, with two fire drilled
 holes on it, at the edge, with the groove notched out
 for the wood powder, as in the example I had before.

An original accident had just happened; a
 fellow in the work was sleeping outside, <at night,>
 along with all the others, & a dog put
 his foot in the man's eye! I had to
 dab on a wet bandage for him, as well as
 I could for laughing at the absurdity of it.
 We have had some hot days, but now there is
 a fine north wind blowing, from 70° at
 night to 80° in the day, and I almost want
 a coat again. I have worn nothing but
 shirt & trousers since I came here, indoors &
 out.

There are many more small things in the work

⑧ but nothing of much importance today. Have quantities of various seeds & kernels for Newberry. A fine flint knife was found today, buried by the head of a body in the floor of one of the rooms. We have uncovered several large halls, all of the type with a sink in the middle & columns around, [] probably like Roman houses, with an opening in the middle of the roof. [] This was the regular style for a hall in the XII dynasty. I had the pleasure of seeing a rascally thief laid down, getting a dozen or 20 on the soles of his feet, instead of fooling about with imprisonments. A splendid perfect statuette, seated, app. 15 in. high in basalt, all inscribed, just found, quite perfect - XII dyn. (Mr. Griffiths new address is 5 Doughty St, Mecklenburgh Square, W.C.) Please forward enclosed letter. Papers & letters recd, but no enclosure of "K B's article, Mr Amos, and Hawaii^{sic} {Hawaian} revolution"; as the only string of the packet was tied loose, I expect someone slipped this out in looking at it.) Here is a delightful sentence in an adv^t of a book "Dr Green is a writer upon birds of established reputation". If any birds have not yet had their reputations established, apply to Dr Green, at once!

but nothing of much importance today. I have quantities of various seeds & kernels for Newberry. A fine flint knife was found today, buried by the head of a body in the floor of one of the rooms. We have uncovered several large halls, all of the type with a sink in the middle & columns around, [] probably like Roman houses, with an opening in the middle of the roof. [] This was the regular style for a hall in the XII dynasty.

I had the pleasure of seeing a rascally thief laid down, getting a dozen or 20 on the soles of his feet, instead of fooling about with imprisonments.

A splendid perfect statuette, seated, app. 15 in. high in basalt, all inscribed, just found, quite perfect - XII dyn.

(Mr Griffiths new address is 5 Doughty St, Mecklenburgh Square, W.C.)

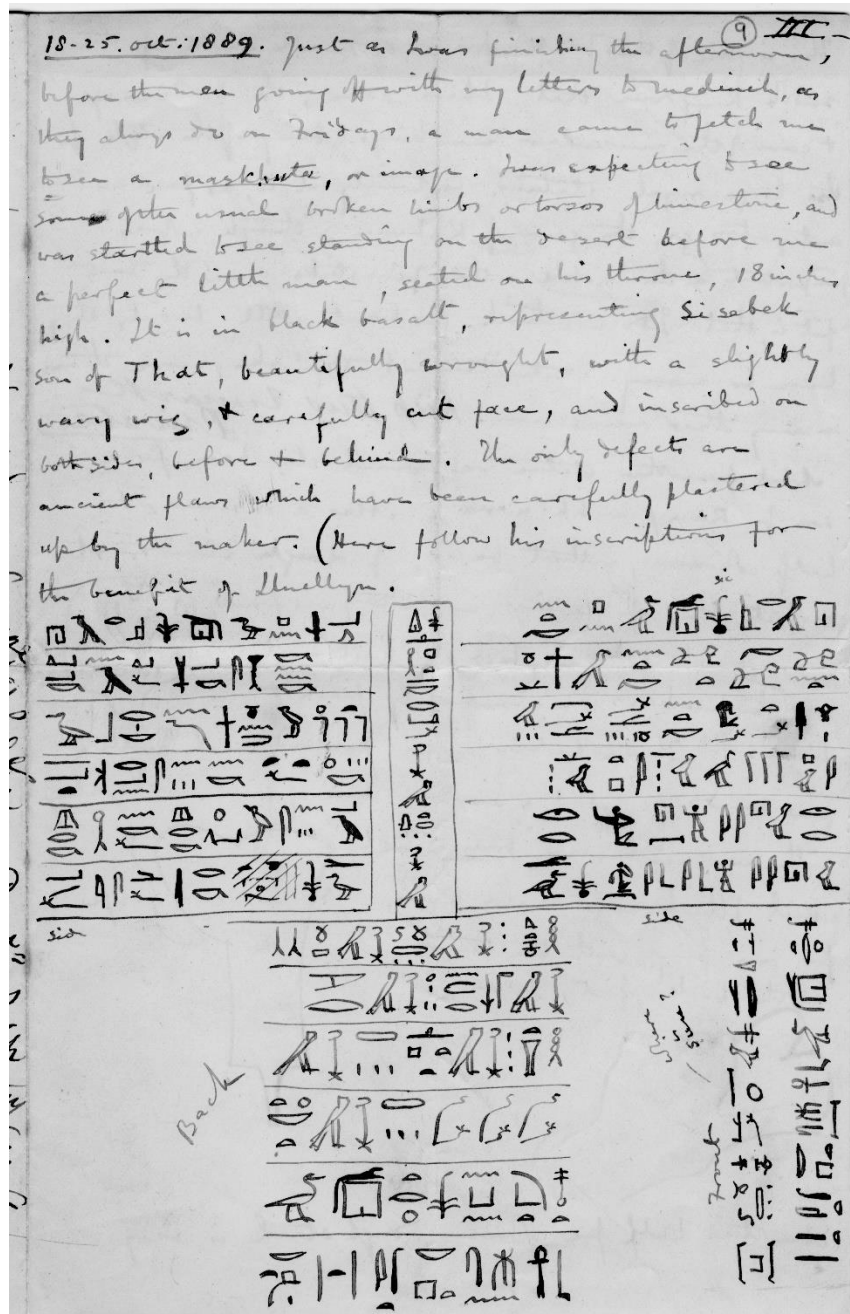
Please forward enclosed letter.

Papers & letters recd, but no enclosure of "K B's article, Mr Amos, and Hawaii^{sic} {Hawaian} revolution"; as the only string of the packet was tied loose, I expect someone slipped this out in looking at it.)

Here is a delightful sentence in an adv^t of a book "Dr Green is a writer upon birds of established reputation". If any birds have not yet had their reputations established, apply to Dr Green, at once!

Mrs Petrie, 8 Crest Rd Bromley, Kent

[The two darker paragraphs were copied by Anne Petrie, W. M. F. Petrie's mother.]

III -
 18-25. Oct. 1889.


Just as I was finishing the afternoon, before the men going off with my letters to Medineh, as they always do on Fridays, a man came to fetch me to see a maskhuta, or image. I was expecting to see some of the usual broken limbs or torsos of limestone, and was startled to see standing on the desert before me a perfect little man, seated on his throne, 18 inches high. It is in black basalt, representing Sisabek [☐] son of That, beautifully wrought, with a slightly wavy wig, & carefully cut face, and inscribed on both sides, before & behind. The only defects are ancient flaws which have been carefully plastered up by the maker. (Here follows his inscriptions for the benefit of Llwelllyn.)

[☐]

sic

 side
 Back

 side
 where / is / sun?
 Front

① This is one of the best pieces of small work of the Middle Kingdom that I have seen, the delicacy & carve of the muscular markings being of the style of the large royal statues. Certainly it is, as far as antiquities go, the gem of Kahun, though not as important as the sickle or the firesticks; and the best of it is, that I do not think Grebaut will bag it, they have so many statuettes at Bulak, more than in any other museum. Keep this remark Private.

A bit of another statue was found elsewhere, for a son of Ran.f. ankh.n.ra. Also a column, & a half column, without bases, of dough stands. A perfect tray of offerings in pottery was found and a hank of thread tied up, just as it left the makers, marvellously fresh & firm. Three babies were found, each with a few beads. And a wooden lion of fine work, along with an unknown bronze tool which I think must have been for grasping with the thumb at the back of it, here



Another half of a column dough stand is very

This is one of the best pieces of small work of the Middle Kingdom that I have seen, the delicacy & carve of the muscular markings being of the style of the large royal statues. Certainly it is, as far as antiquities go, the gem of Kahun, though not as important as the sickle or the firesticks; and the best of it is, that I do not think Grebaut will bag it, they have so many statuettes at Bulak, more than in any other museum. Keep this remark

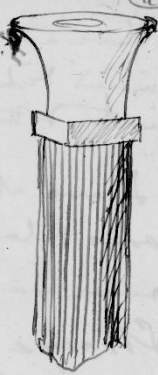
Private.

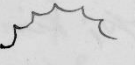
A bit of another statue was found elsewhere, for a son of Ran.f. ankh.n.ra. Also a column, & a half column, without bases, of dough stands. A perfect tray of offerings in pottery was found [R] and a hank of thread tied up, just as it left the makers, marvellously fresh & firm. Three babies were found, each with a few beads. And a wooden lion of fine work [perhaps R], along with an unknown bronze tool [R] (edge) which I think must have been for grasping with the thumb at the back of it, here [R]

Another half of a column dough stand is very


[The darker sentence in the middle of the page was added by Anne Petrie, W. M. F. Petrie's mother.]


closely ribbed (32 around) with a square capital, which is very interesting architecturally, as we have so very little of the building of this age.






I have also got a piece of an actual column from a room, fluted ; and an octagonal column, small, with support for a beam at the top of it, but the lower end gone.



There is a good deal more of the alphabet pottery; & in one room six jars incised,  all evidently of the middle kingdom time, & a neck of a Greek jug with bands of brown iron-colouring. This is the oldest dated piece yet found of that ware. Large quantities of corn, barley, sycamore fig, &c, have been found.

closely ribbed (32 around) with a square [] capital, which is very interesting architecturally, as we have so very little of the building of this age.

I have also got a piece of an actual column from a room, fluted []; and an octagonal column, small, with support for a beam at the top of it, but the lower end [] gone.

There is a good deal more of the alphabet pottery; & in one room six jars incised, [] all evidently of the Middle kingdom time, & a neck of a Greek jug with bands of brown iron-colouring. This is oldest dated piece yet found of that ware. Large quantities of corn, s[?] barley, sycamore figs, &c, have been found.

(12)
There are pieces of several of the thick
incised dishes; & all the pieces of one with a fish
in the bottom, & lotus flowers around it.

I have at last got all my boxes & stores, after
some delays, and am expatiating in some
more variety than I have had hitherto.

Strange to say, we do not yet know of
a single Egyptian lamp; for all the
towns I have cleared, I have never
found any vessels suitable for
lamps, or that shew any trace of
burning. Not until Greek times, are
any lamps found; then they
are common. -- Nearly all bricks
are unburnt, before the Roman age,
but about Constantine's time, red
baked bricks became general.
Excepting quays, the Egyp^s rarely had
any buildings subject to the inun-
=dation; as all the towns & villages
are erected on high mounds, which
stand up out of the water, as they
now do all around me here,
& will do to the end of October.

Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd.
Bromley, Kent.

There are pieces of several of the thick
incised dishes; & all the pieces of one with a fish
in the bottom, & lotus flowers around it.

I have at last got all my boxes of stores, after
some delays, and am expatiating in some
more variety than I have had hitherto.



Strange to say, we do not yet know of
a single Egyptian lamp; for all the
towns I have cleared, I have never
found any vessels suitable for
lamps, or that shew any trace of
burning. Not until Greek times, are
any lamps found; then they
are common... Nearly all bricks
are unburnt, before the Roman age
but about Constantine's time, red
baked bricks became general -
Excepting quays, the Egyp^s rarely had
any buildings subject to the inun-
=dation; as all the towns & villages
are erected on high mounds, which
stand up out of the water, as they
now do all around me here,
& will do to the end of October.

Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd
Bromley, Kent -



[The lower half of page 12 was copied by Anne Petrie,
W. M. F. Petrie's mother.]

IV.

24-31 Oct. 1889.


24-31 Oct. 1889. The work at Kahun has been ⁽¹³⁾ going on all as usual; it has not been very ^(IV) productive this week, but I am clearing up the plan of the town, well, & have been revising & unifying all the separate pieces of plans of different parts into a complete whole. We have found some nice things, the best perhaps a blue glazed vase  5 inches high: it is cracked in two, but nothing missing except a chip from the bottom. The glaze & colouring shews it to be of the XII-XIII dynasty, & there are very few ^{blue} vases of that age known, so it is a valuable thing. It was found, anciently broken, beneath a block of stone in a passage. We got the capital of a fluted column from a chamber , & the base of a stand with fluted column. And at last I have a piece of one of the octagonal wooden columns of which I have so often seen the marks on the stone bases in the chambers. It is of a hard dark brown wood, 12 1/4 ins across; about a foot high remains of it, the upper part having been burnt away; it was found in position on the stone base. I am getting so many plans & fragments of these well-to-do houses of the XIIth, that I shall be able to restore one, in internal view, pretty well.



A large lot of fine blue beads were found in

The work at Kahun has been going on all as usual; it has not been very productive this week, but I am clearing up the plan of the town, well, & have been revising & unifying all the separate pieces of plans of different parts into a complete whole. We have found some nice things, the best perhaps a blue glazed vase [] 5 inches high: it is cracked in two, but nothing missing except a chip from the bottom. The glaze & colouring shews it to be of the XII-XIII dynasty, & there are very few <blue> vases of that age known, so it is a valuable thing. It was found, anciently broken, beneath a block of stone in a passage. We got the capital of a fluted column from a chamber [], & the base of a stand with fluted column. And at last I have a piece of one of the octagonal wooden columns of which I have so often seen the marks on the stone bases in the chambers. It is of a hard dark brown wood, 12 1/4 ins across; about a foot high remains of it, the upper part having been burnt away; it was found in position on the stone base. I am getting so many plans & fragments of these well-to-do houses of the XIIth, that I shall be able to restore one, in internal view, pretty well.



A large lot of fine blue beads were found in



(14)
a chamber. Another wooden bowl with four ram's heads was found, a little smaller than that of last year.

A curious tool, throwing light on the origin of the hoe, is a short pick cut out of a branching stem; at first it looks like one of the wooden hooks for shadufs, which we know so well; but it has no trace of wear in the bend, & the short limb is cut to a chisel edge & bruised; so it has been used for hoeing, & is the most primitive example we know, & the source of the compound form 

More Mediterranean (so called Greek) pottery has been found, & in good positions. A jar neck with brown iron-glaze with pieces of XII dyn pots ^{on the floor of} a deep chamber; pieces of a globular vessel  with side handle, painted like basket work, which I saw found among a quantity of pottery all of it characteristic of the XII. dynasty, and pieces with red & black bands,  found many feet down in the

a chamber. Another wooden bowl with four ram's heads was found, a little smaller than that of last year.

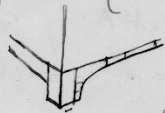
A curious tool, throwing light on the origin of the hoe, is a short pick [] cut out of a branching stem; at first it looks like one of the wooden hooks for shadufs, which we know so well; but it has no trace of wear in the bend, & the short limb is cut to a chisel edge & bruised; so it has been used for hoeing, & is the most primitive example we know, & the source of the compound form []

More Mediterranean (so called Greek) pottery has been found, & in good positions. A jar neck with brown iron-glaze with pieces of XII dyn pots in/on the floor of a deep chamber; pieces of a globular vessel [] with side handle, painted like basket work, which I saw found among a quantity of pottery all of it characteristic of the XII. dynasty. And pieces with red & black bands, [] found many feet down in the

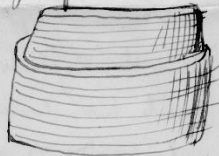
sand in a deep chamber. There is also some
 more black pottery; one piece with very Asiatic
 pattern incised.



A box was found (with baby as usual) made with
 feet bit joined on by curved
 corner moulding fastened
 all along under the sides.




Some feet above the bottom of a deep chamber,
 a lot of things of the XVIII dynasty were found.
 A large jar distinctly of that age; a basket
 in most perfect condition of the Nubian
 pattern





with long ridge top,
 black & red pattern;




a kohl reed, & double kohl = pot of wood,
 (which would have puzzled me very much
 had it been found separately, as I have set
 all of this pattern down to the XVIII dyn & later);
 a large blue scarab of Amenhotep III.





sand in a deep chamber. There is also some
 more black pottery; one piece with very Asiatic
 pattern incised [].

A box was found (with baby as usual) made with
 feet to it [] joined on by curved
 corner moulding fastened
 all along under the sides.



Some feet above the bottom of a deep chamber,
 a lot of things of the XVIII dynasty were found.
 A large jar distinctly of that age; a basket
 in most perfect condition of the Nubian
 pattern [] with long ridge top,
 & black & red pattern;

a kohl reed, & double kohl = pot of wood, []
 (which would have puzzled me very much
 had it been found separately, as I have set
 all of this pattern down to the XVIII dyn & later);
 a large blue scarab of Amenhotep III [];
 a wooden cup with three feet, []
 which has had a swivel lid, for which
 the pin holes remain at the
 top. It is a graceful form

and ⁽¹⁶⁾ I do not remember that type in Egypt before. Also two of the enigmatical wooden tools, 

like that ~~for~~ on which the wooden inscription is  One of these is much worn at A by something large rubbing over it; & all one side right down the handle is also ~~rubbed~~ worn smooth.

More hanks of thread, ivory hairpins, bits of papyrus, alphabet pottery, beads, &c. &c. of the usual style have come in. & altogether an uneventful week is yet worth having. There

is also a beautifully cut wooden fan handle  with holes for the feathers: and another throwstick 


Just after last, a large tomb has turned up, with much pottery, some scarabs, beads, &c. about XX dyn. It is very valuable for pottery as there is Greek, Phoenician, & Egyptian all together, many varieties. "Details in our next"


I am sorry to say the papers were lost one week; they did not come, & I only thought them delayed by the mails, but I now have the later ones.



(Pub. op. 11 Oct, Academy 5 Oct & Nature 3 Oct, by which I have missed the Brit. Assoc. papers.)

The pap pamphlet with Mr Murray's name should be returned to him at the British Museum, with care.)

Wm Petrie, 8 Crescent Rd, Bromley, Kent

and I do not remember that type in Egypt before. Also two of the enigmatical wooden tools, [] (A)

like that ~~off~~ on which the wooden inscription is [] One of these is much worn at A by something large rubbing over it; & all one side right down the handle is also ~~rubbed~~ worn smooth.

More hanks of thread, ivory hairpins, bits of papyrus, alphabet pottery, beads, &c. &c. of the usual style have come in. So altogether an uneventful week is yet worth having. There is also a beautifully cut wooden fan handle [] with holes for the feathers: and another throwstick []

Just at the last, a large tomb has turned up, with much pottery, some scarabs, beads, &c. about XX dyn. It is very valuable for pottery as there is Greek, Phoenician, & Egyptian all together, many varieties. <"Details in / our next"

I am sorry to say the papers were lost one week; they did not come, & I only thought them delayed by the mails, but I now have the later ones.

(Pub. op. 11 Oct, Academy 5 Oct & Nature 3 Oct, by which I have missed the Brit. Assoc. papers.)

The pap pamphlet with Mr Murray's name should be returned to him at the British Museum, with care.)

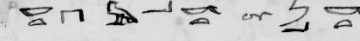
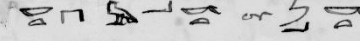
Mrs Petrie, 8 Crescent Rd, Bromley, Kent -

V.

1-7 Nov. 1889.


1-7 Nov. 1889. The tomb which I just mentioned in my last journal, has proved to be of great interest, though probably not earlier than the XXth dynasty. The chambers are not more than 10 or 12 feet under the surface, & are reached by a well in a room of the XIIth dynasty in Kahun town. It seems to have been an unusually large cellar of the XIIth dynasty, discovered & used for a tomb in the XXth. There were in all twelve coffins mostly containing several bodies each, sometimes 6 in a coffin. Successive additions had been made of various coffins at different times; & when the fresh ones were brought in the belongings of the older ones were heaped together out of the way. Thus, beside much pottery lying about in the outer chamber, there was a heap of small pottery, decayed baskets, alabaster vessels, beads, scarabs, &c, in the corner of the main chamber, & other pottery heaped in other corners. There was the greater part of a carved wood chair; but though it stood quite clear & separate, without any rubbish about it, there was no trace of one side of it to be found. All this is very useful to know, as shewing in what state an undisturbed tomb may be found, & how far injuries may be due to the original depositors. The coffins were piled two high, & were ~~all~~ plain boxes, all but two roughly cut figure coffins, & one which had the figures of the 4 genii & prayers on the sides, painted yellow on a black ground; unluckily




The tomb which I just mentioned in my last journal, has proved to be of great interest, though probably not earlier than XXth dynasty. The chambers are not more than 10 or 12 feet under the surface, & are reached by a well in a room of the XIIth dynasty in Kahun town. It seems to have been an unusually large cellar of the XIIth dynasty, discovered & used for a tomb in the XXth. There were in all twelve coffins mostly containing several bodies each, sometimes 6 in a coffin. Successive additions had been made of various coffins at different times; & when the fresh ones were brought in the belongings of the older ones were heaped together out of the way. Thus, beside much pottery lying about in the outer chamber, there was a heap of small pottery, decayed baskets, alabaster vessels, beads, scarabs, &c, in the corner of the main chamber, & other pottery heaped in other corners. There was the greater part of a carved wood chair; but though it stood quite clear & separate, without any rubbish about it, there was no trace of one side of it to be found. All this is very useful to know, as shewing in what state an undisturbed tomb may be found, & how far injuries may be due to the original depositors. The coffins were piled too high, & were all plain boxes, all but two roughly cut figure coffins, & one which had the figures of the 4 genii & prayers on the side, painted yellow on a black ground; unluckily

¹⁸
 the places where the name should have been were all blank. Only one name was found in the tomb, that of a lady Maket,  or 

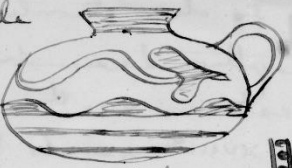






Nearly every coffin contained some objects, usually put in small baskets. The general list of the principal things is thus: - 24 scarabs nearly all of the XVIIIth dynasty, several of Thothmes III, 1 of Thothmes II, & 1 of Thothmes I; also an exquisite small prism of green jasper with different names & titles of Thothmes II on each face. Two of the scarabs are of the lady Maket, one of gold, & one glazed & set in a gold ring; also there is a silver ring with her name. In her coffin were, a bronze mirror, & kohl stick, a wooden headrest with ivory knobs, a large reed holding two small musical reeds inside (one with 4, the other with five holes), another scarab set in a gold ring, & two vases. In other coffins, &c, were a pair of gold earrings, several strings of glazed beads, several ^{small} alabaster & black serpentine vases; a ~~large~~ vase, a dish, & a remarkable imitation horn, all of green-paste ware; and two lions' heads in green paste, for threading.



But the great interest lies in the foreign pottery here. There are nine vases with more or less decoration which is unEgyptian; the most Greek is a one of the regular Greek ~~drab~~ buff paste, with red brown iron-glaze pattern, of a sprig of ivy


the places where the name should have been were all blank. Only one name was found in the tomb, that of a lady Maket, []

Nearly every coffin contained some objects, usually put in small baskets. The general list of the principal things is thus: - 24 scarabs nearly all of the XVIIIth dynasty, several of Thothmes III, 1 of Thothmes II, & 1 of Thothmes I; also an exquisite small prism of green jasper with different names & titles of Thothmes II on each face []. Two of the scarabs are of the lady Maket, one of gold, & one glazed & set in a gold ring; also there is a silver ring with her name. In her coffin were, a bronze mirror, & kohl stick, a wooden headrest with ivory knobs, a large reed holding two small musical reeds inside, (one with 4, the other with five holes), another scarab set in a gold ring, & two vases. In other coffins, &c, were a pair of gold earrings, several strings of glazed beads, several <small> alabaster & black serpentine vases; a ~~large~~ vase, a dish, & a remarkable [] imitation horn, all of green-paste ware; and two lions' heads in green paste, for threading. []

But the great interest lies in the foreign pottery here. There are nine vases with more or less decoration which is unEgyptian; the most Greek is a one of the regular Greek ~~drab~~ buff paste, with red brown iron-glaze pattern, of a sprig of ivy

on each side ; there are three
 pilgrim bottles  (19)
 with concentric circles,
 & other jars with  ||| patterns.
 Then there are 13 vases of the smooth hard
 black or brown ware, known as
 "Phoenician", I believe, in Cyprus.    
 There are also about 50 jars, &c, of Egyptian pottery.
 The great question now is the age of this tomb.
 It is certainly after the time of Thothmes III as there
 are his scarabs: and certainly before the XXVIth
 dynasty as the Egyptian pottery is quite different
 to that. It is unlikely to be as late as the XXIInd,
 as there are no amulets, figures of gods, or beads,
 such as were used then in the Illahun tombs.
 Nor are the coffins at all like those of Illahun
 of the XXI, & XXII. The contemporary scarab of
 Maket does not seem later than the XXth
 in style. The beads are of the style of the later
 ones of Gurob, i.e. the end of the XIXth. The
 coffin with the 4 genii is like that of the early XIXth
 but ruder, & so probably of the late XIXth or XXth.
 The fact that all the scarabs are of the fabric of
 the XVIII, & there is none of Ramessu II,
 would point to the early XIXth dynasty. But
 on the other hand, there is not one piece of

on each side [], there are three
 pilgrim bottles
 with concentric circles,
 & other jars with [] patterns.

Then there are 13 vases of the smooth hard
 black or brown ware, known as []
 "Phoenician", I believe, in Cyprus.
 There are also about 50 jars, &c, of Egyptian pottery.

The great question now is the age of this tomb.
 It is certainly after the time of Thothmes III as there
 are his scarabs: and certainly before the XXVIth
 dynasty as the Egyptian pottery is quite different
 to that. It is unlikely to be as late as the XXII, and
 as there are no amulets, figures of gods, or beads,
 such as were used then in the Illahun tombs.
 Nor are the coffins at all like those of Illahun
 of the XXI, & XXII. The contemporary scarab of
 Maket does not seem later than the XXth
 in style. The beads are of the style of the later
 ones of Gurob, i.e. the end of the XIXth. The
 coffin with the 4 genii is like that of the early XIXth
 but ruder, & so probably of the late XIXth or XXth.
 The fact that all the scarabs are of the fabric of
 the XVIII, & there is not one of Ramessu II,
 would point to the early XIXth dynasty. But
 on the other hand, there is not one piece of

the ²⁰blue painted pottery so characteristic of the XVIIIth & XIXth. So altogether, I cannot conclude on any date but the extreme XIXth or XXth dynasty, supposing the XVIIIth scarabs to be all heirlooms. Thus this Greek & black "Phoenician" pottery will all be dated to about ~~1200~~ 1150-1100 B.C. This fits well enough with the ivory vase being later in style than the false necked vases which are fixed at Gurob to 1300 B.C.

It is remarkable that there is not a single ushabti here; nor except on two coffins any Egyptian decoration or religious ornaments. Is it possible that this was a family of foreigners? I have taken care that the skulls should not be destroyed, in case any one wants to examine them in future, though I have only brought away one found with the ivory vase. I should be glad if Mr. Griffith will just read the last page to Mr. Murray, as to the age of this Greek pottery.

Another burial was found elsewhere, with two good scarabs of the XVIIIth dynasty.

Nothing more of importance has turned up this week but there are some curious clay dolls. Mr. Hughes = Hughes arrived safely last Friday, but he has been so strangely sleepless since he came here, that he has not been able to do much.

(All letters have been duly received, & the missing Pub op & Nature stamped at Bromley 10 days late. But the last Pub. op. has not come.)

the blue painted pottery so characteristic of the XVIIIth & XIXth. So altogether, I cannot conclude on any date but the extreme XIXth or XXth dynasty, supposing the XVIIIth scarabs to be all heirlooms. Thus this Greek & black "Phoenician" pottery will all be dated to about 1200 1150-1100 B.C. This fits well enough with the ivory vase being later in style than the false necked vases which are fixed at Gurob to 1300 B.C.

It is remarkable that there is not a single ushabti here; nor except on two coffins any Egyptian decoration or religious ornament. Is it possible that this was a family of foreigners? I have taken care that the skulls should not be destroyed, in case any one wants to examine them in future, though I have only brought away one found with the ivory vase. I should be glad if Mr. Griffith will just read the last page to Mr. Murray, as to the age of this Greek pottery.

Another burial was found elsewhere, with two good scarabs of the XVIIIth dynasty.

Nothing more of importance has turned up this week but there are some curious clay dolls. Mr. Hughes = Hughes arrived safely last Friday, [☉] but he has been so strangely sleepless since he came here, that he has not been able to do much.

(All letters have been duly received, & the missing Pub op & Nature stamped at Bromley 10 days late. But the last Pub. op. has not come.)

Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent. Rd Bromley, Kent.

VI

8-14 Nov^r 1889

8-14 Nov^r 1889 good things seem generally to come at the end of the week; just before I sent off the last journal we found a figure in limestone, seated cross legged, 18 inches high. Unhappily it has no name or inscription, but it is of fairly good work; it is broken across the waist, & a little knocked about on the face, but in very presentable condition, & will make a good fellow to the fine black statue in the exhibition.

A broken papyrus of Amenhotep IV (Khuenaten, XVIII dyn.) was found in one room, but not low down, much like the other scarab, &c, of the XVIII dyn. found in another chamber.

Pieces of a white stuccoed board have hieratic writing on them, which can be washed off clean from the stucco. How the plaster surface was thus made quite impervious to ink I do not understand.

Several rough limestone figures of apes and hippopotami have been found: they are painted in red & blue. One is a hippopotamus in a boat, quite perfect. Another little figure in fine state is that of a girl playing a small harp; the paint is quite bright on it, & only the feet are missing. Her hair hangs down behind in three curly tails, & her dress is all striped.

Another interesting find, crowning (literally)



Good things seem generally to come at the end of the week; just before I sent off the last journal we found a figure in limestone, seated cross legged, 18 inches high. Unhappily it has no name or inscription, but it is of fairly good work; it is broken across the waist, & a little knocked about on the face, but in very presentable condition, & will make a good fellow to the fine black statue in the exhibition.

A broken papyrus of Amenhotep IV (Khuenaten, XVIII dyn.) was found in one room, but not low down; much like the other scarab, &c, of the XVIII dyn. found in another chamber.

Pieces of a white stuccoed board have hieratic writing on them, which can be washed off clean from the stucco. How the plaster surface was thus made quite impervious to ink I do not understand.

Several rough limestone figures of apes and hippopotami have been found: they are painted in red & blue. One is a hippopotamus in a boat, quite perfect [📷]. Another little figure in fine state is that of a girl playing a small harp; the paint is quite bright on it, & only the feet are missing. Her hair hangs down behind in three curly tails, & her dress is all striped. [📷]



Another interesting find, crowning (literally)


(22) the piece of octagonal wooden pillar we got a few weeks ago, is a part of a wooden capital of an octagonal pillar from a house. It is of a form not yet known in the XIIth dynasty the earliest palm leaf column,  with octagonal base & circular top. It was painted dark red originally. This was found in the chamber with the limestone seated figure. From the next chamber came a bronze dish with central  cup, not inscribed.


Some good papyri have at last turned up. One document is of 11 columns, beginning with full titles & cartouches of Useresen III, & only a little injured at the top & ends of the columns. On the same sheet are two other documents in lines, also nearly entire. With this was a large piece of a hieroglyphic papyrus in columns; & several fragments.

A Coptic grave-cross was found quite complete, inscribed $\Lambda\text{I}4\ 4\text{CENHT}$ on the cross bar.

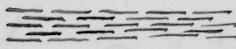

Some very remarkable leather nets, perhaps for hair nets, were found in the chamber over the cellar used for the XXth dynasty tomb: so I cannot be certain of the age, but I incline to their



the piece of octagonal wooden pillar we got a few weeks ago, is a part of a wooden capital of an octagonal pillar from a house. It is of a form not yet known in the XIIth dynasty the earliest palm leaf column, [] with octagonal base & circular top. It was painted dark red originally. This was found in the chamber with the limestone seated figure. From the next chamber came a bronze dish with central [] cup, not inscribed.

Some good papyri have at last turned up. One document is of 11 columns, beginning with full titles & cartouches of Useresen III, & only a little injured at the top & ends of the columns [perhaps ]. On the same sheet are two other documents in lines, also nearly entire. With this was a large piece of a hieroglyphic papyrus in columns; & several fragments.

A Coptic grave-cross was found quite complete, inscribed [] on the cross bar.

Some very remarkable leather nets, perhaps for hair nets, were found in the chamber over the cellar used for the XXth dynasty tomb: so I cannot be certain of the age, but I incline to their

being of the XII dynasty. They are made by (23)
 cutting slits in the leather thus 
 so that when pulled sideways,
 it opens out into a net - 
 & the fineness of the bands
 between the cuts, the regularity of the work,
 & the absence of a single false cut breaking
 the meshes, is surprising. The leather was
 very tender & rotted & crumpled up;
 but by dipping in melted wax, I softened
 it & laid out the pieces so waxed that
 no damp or climate can affect them now.
 Nothing more in particular has turned up
 until post day; except that we are
 now finding chips of painted sculpture of
 the shrine of the small pyramid, which
 stood just in front of the E. face, like the
 shrine of Usertesen III. to his pyramid.
 We have not found the entrance well yet,
 though all the S. side has been cleared far
 out. We are now clearing along the E.
 I expect to be in Cairo next week; &
 Hughes will work Gurob meanwhile.

being of the XII dynasty. They are made by
 cutting slits in the leather thus []
 so that when pulled sideways,
 it opens out into a net - []
 & the fineness of the bands
 between the cuts, the regularity of the work
 & the absence of a single false cut breaking
 the meshes, is surprising. The leather was
 very tender & rotted & crumpled up;
 but by dipping in melted wax, I softened
 it & laid out the pieces so waxed that
 no damp or climate can affect them now.

Nothing more in particular has turned up
 until post day; except that we are
 now finding chips of painted sculpture of
 the shrine of the small pyramid, which
 stood just in front of the E. face, like the
 shrine of Usertesen III to his pyramid.
 We have not found the entrance well yet,
 though all the S. side has been cleared far
 out. We are now clearing along the E.



I expect to be in Cairo next week; &
 Hughes will work Gurob meanwhile.

VI. Mrs Petrie,
8. Crescent Rd -
Bromley -
Kent -



VI. Mrs Petrie,
8. Crescent Rd -
Bromley -
Kent -

VII.

14-28 Nov. 1889.

14-28 Nov. 1889. After starting the work at Gurob fairly, & putting it all in Mr. Hughes-Hughes' charge, I went off for a few days to Cairo. I shut up the Kahun work meanwhile, only leaving a couple of men on it, to see that no one else worked there. In this way I was able to give H-H. all the best men to begin with, discharging the second rates for a week. In Cairo there was not much to be had; I bought 20 or 30 scarabs, but nothing very important. The remarkable thing is a terracotta figure of a woman, of distinctly barbaric, non-Egyptian, work; she has a long lock of hair down the side of the head,  & a patch on the forehead: this lock shews it to be Lybian in origin: but the legs are done exactly as on the earliest marble figures from the Greek islands.  This is probably a figure made by the Lybian invaders of Egypt in the XIXth dynasty, (it comes from the Delta); & those Lybians were allied with the Greeks, & so it was from them that the earliest Greek figures were derived. If I have nothing better to do someday, I will hunt about the place where this comes from. I shewed it to Sir Char. Newton who was in Cairo, & he quite took the idea of it.

The work at Gurob has produced a good lot of small things, but nothing considerable as yet. (I shall take no notice.)



After starting the work at Gurob fairly, & putting it all in Mr. Hughes-Hughes' charge, I went off for a few days to Cairo. I shut up the Kahun work meanwhile, only leaving a couple of men on it, to see that no one else worked there. In this way I was able to give H-H. all the best men to begin with, discharging the second rates for a week. In Cairo there was not much to be had: I bought 20 or 30 scarabs, but nothing very important. The remarkable thing is a terracotta figure of a woman, of distinctly barbaric, non-Egyptian, work; she has a long lock of hair down the side of the head, [] & a patch on the forehead: this lock shews it to be Lybian in origin: but the legs are done exactly as on the earliest marble figures from the Greek islands. [] This is probably a figure made by the Lybian invaders of Egypt in the XIXth dynasty, (it comes from the Delta); & those Lybians were allied with the Greeks, & so it was from them that the earliest Greek figures were derived. If I have nothing better to do someday, I will hunt about the place where this comes from. I shewed it to Sir Char. Newton who was in Cairo, & he quite took the idea of it.

The work at Gurob has produced a good lot of small things, but nothing considerable as yet.

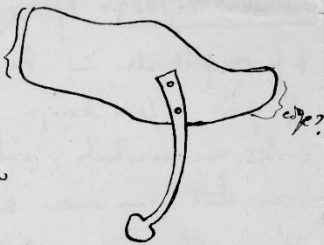
s[o] I shall take no notice.



[This final line continues from the bottom of page 27.]


(25)


There is a curious bronze knife 3 1/2 ins each way, the handle with two rivets & therefore not swivelling any way. I never saw a tool like it. There are some good scarabs, one of Ramessu III (the latest yet found here,) & Ramessu II, Amenhotep III, &c. A little model amphora  of violet glaze with inlaid black glazed inscription  of Queen Thii; also a beautifully glazed staff head with her cartouche in light blue inlaid in dark blue. A bronze knife 10 inches long. Scarabs of netting bones. Pieces of a large sheet of papyrus with a figure of a king offering, no name or head left, but probably the end of the XVIIIth dynasty.

A large lot of pottery, ~~mostly~~ ^{much} of foreign types, & some ^{small} alabaster vases were found, together with pottery rings, glass beads, & a small stone dish with the name of Seti II. which dates the whole lot. The glaze, beads, & pots, are all of them later in style than those of Ramessu II, & it is very satisfactory to be able to trace such rapid changes in the fashions & manufactures.

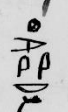


There is a curious bronze knife [] (edge - edge?) 3 1/2 ins each way, the handle with two rivets & therefore not swivelling any way. I never saw a tool like it. There are some good scarabs, one of Ramessu III (the latest yet found here,) & Ramessu II, Amenhotep III, &c. A little model amphora [] of violet glaze with inlaid black


glazed inscription [] of Queen Thii; also a beautifully glazed staff head with her cartouche in light blue inlaid in dark blue. A bronze knife 10 inches long. Dozens of netting bones. Pieces of a large sheet of papyrus with a figure of a king offering, no name or head left, but probably of the end of the XVIIIth dynasty.


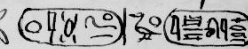
A large lot of pottery, ~~mostly~~ / <much> of foreign types, [] & some <small> alabaster vases were found, together with pottery rings, glass beads, & a small stone dish with the name of Seti II. which dates the whole lot. The glaze, beads, & pots, are all of them later in style than those of Ramessu II, & it is very satisfactory to be able to trace such rapid changes in the fashions & manufactures.



Many clay cappings of wine ~~jars~~ ⁽²⁶⁾ jars are found with stamps, one of Seti I, which dates them. The only large pieces are a ka-name of Tahutmes III, on a slab a foot wide, & the corner of a lintel, both from the ~~first~~ temple here, no doubt. There are some pieces of Greek pottery, & a large number of marks.

At Kahun not much has been done in the ^{4 days} ~~week~~ since I resumed work, as half my men went to Gurob permanently, & we have been mainly clearing large chambers full of sand. I have now got the plan of the place nearly all made out. We found a very fine green glazed cylinder of Usertesen II (the founder), & a private scarab of a man named Rameri, (after King Pepi) . A corner of the town was occupied at a higher level, in Roman times, when they dug stone here for lime burning; and probably those Roman plunderers brought here, from some of the tombs of the XXII. dynasty, a large wooden door. It is complete, though

Many clay cappings of wine ~~jars~~ jars are found with stamps, one of Seti I, which dates them. The only large pieces are a ka-name of Tahutmes III, on a slab a foot wide, & the corner of a lintel, both from the ~~first~~ temple here, no doubt. There are some pieces of Greek pottery, & a large number of marks.

At Kahun not much has been done in the ~~week~~ <4 days> since I resumed work, as half my men went to Gurob permanently, & we have been mainly clearing large chambers full of sand. I have now got the plan of the place nearly all made out. We found a very fine green glazed cylinder of Usertesen II (the founder), & a private scarab of a man named Rameri, (after King Pepi) []. A corner of the town was occupied at a higher level, in Roman times, when they dug stone here for lime burning; and probably those Roman plunderers brought here, from some of the tombs of the XXII. dynasty, a large wooden door. It is complete, though

(27)
 rather cracked & split; the size is remarkable,
 7ft 2 high, & 3ft 7 wide, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick. Each
 plank is fixed to the next by cross tongues let in ^{the thickness} &
 pinned by wooden pins. There has been a bronze
 band along the top & bottom by the hinge  A B
 & this bronze has been chased with the cartouches of
 Osarkon I. of the XXIInd dynasty, 
 Though the bronze plates are gone, the wood beneath
 has been impressed by cutting the inscription, & still
 shows it. On the middle of the door has been a
 carving 20 ins square, ~~scraped away~~ ^{scraped away} in later times; it
 represents Osarkon offering to Neit & Horus. Injured
 as this is, it is an interesting piece, as we have only
 one perfect door preserved, that I know of, that
 in the Brit. Mus. which has no name or date on it.
 Though it is very heavy, & will cost £2 or 3 to bring
 home, yet it is quite worth transport, if Bulak
 does not seize it. Turns out to be only a plunderer's trial digging.
 Just as I write this, at the posting day, we have
 found the entrance to the small pyramid by
 that of Usertesen II at Illahun; so now I
 hope we shall see to whom this pyramid belongs.
 It had never been seen or suspected until began
 work here last year, as all but the rock
 core had been carried away. I expect it is of
 the wife or daughter of Usertesen.
 Letters & papers all duly received. I never promised proofs of
 Kahun to M^{rs} H, & never intended to supply them. She has not asked me,
 s[o] I shall take no notice.

rather cracked & split; the size is remarkable,
 7ft 2 high, & 3ft 7 wide, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick. Each
 plank is fixed to the next by cross tongues let in <the thickness> &
 pinned by wooden pins. There has been a bronze
 band along the top & bottom by the hinge (A B) [] (A B)
 & this bronze has been chased with the cartouches of
 Osarkon I. of the XXIInd dynasty, []
 Though the bronze plates are gone, the wood beneath
 has been impressed by cutting the inscription, & still
 shews it. On the middle of the door has been a
 carving 20 ins square, ~~cut out~~ / <scraped away> in later times; it
 represents Osarkon offering to Neit & Horus. Injured
 as this is, it is an interesting piece, as we have only
 one perfect door preserved, that I know of, that
 in the Brit. Mus. which has no name or date on it.
 Though it is very heavy, & will cost £2 or 3 to bring
 home, yet it is quite worth transport, if Bulak
 does not seize it.

<Turns out to be only a plunderer's trial digging.>






Just as I write this, at the posting day, we have
 found the entrance to the small pyramid by
 that of Usertesen II at Illahun; so now I
 hope we shall see to whom this pyramid belongs.
 It had never been seen or suspected until I began
 work here last year, as all but the rock
 core had been carried away. I expect it is of
 the wife or daughter of Usertesen.

Letters & papers all duly received. I never promised proofs of
 Kahun to M^{rs} H, & never intended to supply them. She has not asked me,
 s[o] I shall take no notice.





[This final line is actually written at the bottom of page 24.]



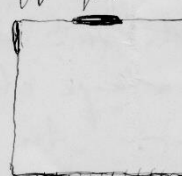
VIII

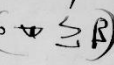


28 Nov - 5 Dec. 1889-

This week has been altogether a good one. At Kahun we have got out a quantity of tools, &c, from a region which I had not yet worked, but which is a continuation of what proved to be the best ground of last year. We have however a great proportion of things of the XVIIIth dynasty, as that quarter seems to have been reinhabited at that time. Of the XIIth dynasty there are three flint knives & a large chisel or axe, bigger than any of last year. An unusually large amethyst scarab was also found; it is quite blank beneath, but well cut & polished. There is a fine heavy ~~bro~~ copper chisel; the base of a statuette of a man named [] Apsar; & many hoe=blades of wood, a plough blade, & other tools. <A large axe & chisel of XII, just found, the axe tied with thread & sealed? maker's mark.> [perhaps ] Of the XVIIIth dynasty, there are several of the enigmatical instruments known last season [], the earlier form being []. Neither the form nor the parts worn give any suggestion as to the purpose of these. On the back of one is the sign []. A large vase of the

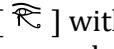


Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd Bromley, Kent.



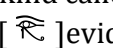
28 Nov - 5 Dec. 1889 - This week has been ^{VIII}
 altogether a good one. At Kahun we have
 got out a quantity of tools, &c, from a region
 which I had not yet worked, but which is a
 continuation of what proved to be the best ground
 of last year. We have however a great
 proportion of things of the XVIIIth dynasty, as
 that quarter seems to have been reinhabited
 at that time. Of the XIIth dynasty there are
 three flint knives & a large chisel or axe, bigger
 than any of last year. An unusually
 large amethyst scarab was also found; it
 is quite blank beneath, but well cut & polished.
 There is a fine heavy ~~bro~~ copper chisel; the
 base of a statuette of a man named  Apsar;
 & many hoe=blades of wood, a plough blade, &
 other tools. <A large axe & chisel of XII, just found, the axe tied with thread & sealed? maker's mark.>
 Of the XVIIIth dynasty, there are
 several of the enigmatical instruments known
 last season , the earlier form being 
 neither the form nor the parts worn give any
 suggestion as to the purpose of these. On the back
 of one is the sign . A large vase of the
 Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd Bromley, Kent.

(29) pottery known in the XVIIIth dyn but of unusual form,  with four handles, is ornamented with the regular Cypriote pattern;  it was found in the next chamber to a burial of about the XXth dynasty, with painted coffin bust but no inscriptions. The curious point of this burial was that between the mummy wrappings, there were three or four perfect shirts  neatly folded up in packets, & wrapped in between the ~~for~~ bandages. I never saw such a stock of clothing provided before.

A batch of tools of the ~~XXth dynasty~~, XVIIIth dyn. is dated by a papyrus with the name of  Amenhotep III found with it. This papyrus was rolled up, wrapped in cloth, & put in a rough pottery tube, broken, alas! in the finding. Of bronzes there were a half-axe, a chisel in the original wooden handle, 3 knives all bent over & broken, & other pieces. Also a ~~pot~~ vase of the kind called "Phoenician"  ornamented with white lines  evidently copied from basket work or rush plaiting.

In a little basket were some strings of unusually bright red yellow & blue beads of XVIIIth dyn., some seeds,

pottery known in the XVIIIth dyn but of unusual form,  with four handles, is ornamented with the regular Cypriote pattern;  it was found in the next chamber to a burial of about the XXth dynasty, with painted coffin bust but no inscriptions, the curious point of this burial was that between the mummy wrappings, there were three or four perfect shirts  neatly folded up in packets, & wrapped in between the ~~for~~ bandages. I never saw such a stock of clothing provided before.

A batch of tools of the ~~XIXth dynasty~~, or so, XVIIIth dyn. is dated by a papyrus with the name of  Amenhotep III found with it. This papyrus was rolled up, wrapped in cloth, & put in a rough pottery tube, broken, alas! in the finding. Of bronzes there were a half-axe, a chisel in the original wooden handle, 3 knives all bent over & broken, & other pieces. Also a ~~pot~~ vase of the kind called "Phoenician"  ornamented with white lines  evidently copied from basket work or rush plaiting.

In a little basket were some strings of unusually bright red yellow & blue beads of XVIIIth dyn., some seeds,

some little packets of powders (medicines?) & a bronze ring of [R].

A curious little box of Roman date turned up in a side of the town which was occupied by Roman lime-burners. It has a sliding lid, & 8 compartments inside, all full of little hemi globular pellets of kohl mixed with some organic paste.

Gurob has however been more exciting than Kahun, & Mr Hughes-Hughes has had his hands full of work there. The strangest thing appears to be a small rough black granite table of offerings, which seems to distinctly state that the Queen Thii, [R] had for her brother the king Amenhotep III [R] always known as her husband. If so, this clears away the one most apparent exception to the rule of descent of the throne in the female line: and Iuaa & Tuaa must be the familiar names of Tahutmes IV & Mutemua. I had before suggested this on the strength of their ^{1st} being said to reign "from Ethiopia to Syria Mesopotamia". This must be threshed out, & I add the inscription, in hopes that F.L.G. will attend to it at once. [R] These around the two sides. Along the base [R] This reads that Thii made her monuments of her brother, her beloved, the great god Amenhotep III.

some little packets of powders (medicines?) & a bronze ring of [R].









A curious little box of Roman date turned up in a side of the town which was occupied by Roman lime-burners. It has a sliding lid, & 8 compartments inside, all full of little hemi globular pellets of kohl mixed with some organic paste.







Gurob has however been more exciting than Kahun, & Mr Hughes-Hughes has had his hands full of work there. The strangest thing appears to be a small rough black granite table of offerings, which seems to distinctly state that the Queen Thii, [R] had for her brother the king Amenhotep III [R] always known as her husband. If so, this clears away the one most apparent exception to the rule of descent of the throne in the female line: and Iuaa & Tuaa must be the familiar names of Tahutmes IV & Mutemua. I had before suggested this on the strength of their <I & T> being said to reign "from Ethiopia to Syria Mesopotamia". This must be threshed out, & I add the inscription, in hopes that F.L.G. will attend to it at once. [R]

[R] These around the

two sides. Along the base [R]




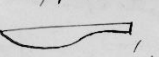
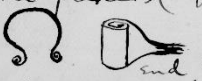



This reads that Thii made her monuments of her brother, her beloved, the great god Amenhotep III.











There have been three or four finds of ornamental
 pottery, &c, in large ash holes in the floors of rooms; though
 how they come to be there is hard to understand. A
 large amount of blue glazed pottery has thus come to light,
 including the finest pieces I have ever seen found. There
 are bowls (one perfect) & vases    all painted
 with lotus & other designs in black outline. Among the
 figures are a monkey eating an orange, two sphinxes face
 to face, & part of a seated figure. Besides these were several
 glass pilgrim bottles, three perfect,  of the variegated
 "Phoenician" glass, & a round saucer. It is very valuable
 getting these examples of a well known style, dated thus,
 with a ring of Ramessu II. A small pair of bronze tools,
 knife &  bound together. Two more of the strange
 bronze cutters . A bronze mirror. A lot of fine
 carnelian eyes & beads, & amber beads. Many alabaster
 vessels. And in each find one or two examples of Greek
 pottery. Of other finds there are a large bronze
 knife a foot long; three pottery stoves (?)  or
 fireplaces, which do not however shew any smoking or
 ash; and there are many more alphabetic marks.
 Some weeks ago, an Arab brought me a coffin inscription of a
 priestess of Hershef from Abusir, but would not take my
 price. Now, however, it has come in from another source.
 It is about XXVI dynasty, of a lady Ta theb,  I.
 Had a bother with an order being sent <by police> that Fraser was
 not to work at the Coptic convent, in consequence of the Copts
 who had ravaged the place, complaining that he was going
 to do the same. This raised the question whether my Kahun
 work was within the Fayum, as it is only a mile from the
 convent, ~~which is in~~ ^{which is in} Benisuef. However, all the
 shekhs sealed, signed, & declared, that my work fell into the
 Illahun district, & so was in the Fayum. A good end to two hours cross
 legged talk.


There have been three or four finds of ornamental
 pottery, &c, in large ash holes in the floors of rooms; though
 how they come to be there is hard to understand. A
 large amount of blue glazed pottery has thus come to light,
 including the finest pieces I have ever seen found. There
 are bowls (one perfect) & vases [] all painted
 with lotus & other designs in black outline. Among the
 figures are a monkey eating an orange, two sphinxes face
 to face, & part of a seated figure. Besides there were several
 glass pilgrim bottles, three perfect, [] of the variegated
 "Phoenician" glass, & a round saucer. It is very valuable
 getting these examples of a well known style, dated thus,
 with a ring of Ramessu II. A small pair of bronze tools,
 knife & [] bound together. Two more of the strange
 bronze cutters []. A bronze mirror. A lot of fine
 carnelian eyes & beads, & amber beads. Many alabaster
 vessels. And in each find one or two examples of Greek
 pottery. Of other finds there are a large bronze
 knife a foot long; three pottery stoves (?) [] or
 fireplaces, which do not however shew any smoking or
 ash; and there are many more alphabetic marks.
 Some weeks ago, an Arab brought me a coffin inscription of a
 priestess of Hershef from Abusir, but would not take my
 price. Now, however, it has come in from another source.
 It is about XXVI dynasty, of a lady Ta theb, [].




I had a bother with an order being sent <by police> that Fraser was
 not to work at the Coptic convent, in consequence of the Copts
 who had ravaged the place, complaining that he was going
 to do the same. This raised the question whether my Kahun
 work was within the Fayum, as it is only a mile from the
 convent, However which is in Benisuef. However, all the
 shekhs sealed, signed, & declared, that my work fell into the
 Illahun district, & so was in the Fayum. A good end to two hours cross
 legged talk.



6-13 Dec 1889


6-13 Dec 1889 Just as I closed my journal last week the men found in a corner of chamber a copper axe & chisel: the axe was worn, & had a thread bound many times around it,  & sealed with a clay impression of a scroll scarab of the XII-XIII dyn; the chisel was of the type used to bind on to the sotep handle, . They are both in excellent state, scarcely at all rusted, though buried in open ground. Then next day another copper chisel was found of the round form, . But the most complete find of the week was a lot in the corner of another room, which was completed by two more objects of the same lot in the next room. This set comprised, in ~~bronze~~ copper - large knife of the early straight backed pattern , 2 small chisels in wooden handles, a tapering piercer handled with a dum nut, three piercers (different size) without handles, a torque , a mirror which retains the polish on half the face still, & which fitted into a wooden handle (found apart) carved with a head of Hathor on either side. In alabaster, there are three cups of the XII dyn. form -  unusually large & of fine work & condition; also another vaselet . Another cup of this type  is made of green paste, which is very rare at that early date. In flint there is a fine knife perfect, with remains of rush & cord




Just as I closed my journal last week the men found in a corner of a chamber a copper axe & chisel: the axe was worn, & had a thread bound many times around it, [] & sealed with a clay impression of a scroll scarab of the XII-XIII dyn; the chisel was of the type < [] > used to bind on to the sotep handle, []. They are both in excellent state, scarcely at all rusted, though buried in open ground. Then next day another copper chisel was found of the round form, []. But the most complete find of the week was a lot in the corner of another room, which was completed by two more objects of the same lot in the next room. This set comprised, in ~~bronze~~ a copper - large knife of the early straight backed pattern [], 2 small chisels in wooden handles, a tapering piercer handled with a dum nut, three piercers (different sizes) without handles, a torque [] (end), a mirror which retains the polish on half the face still, & which fitted into a wooden handle (found apart) carved with a head of Hathor on either side. In alabaster, there are three cups of the XII dyn. form - [] unusually large & of fine work & condition; also another vaselet []. [] Another cup of this type [] is made of green paste, which is very rare at that early date. In flint there is a fine knife perfect, with remains of rush & cord


bound ³³ around one end for a handle. I carefully wrapped this up as soon as I saw it, & then saturated it with wax when heated, so as to bind on the fragile remains safely; thus it is now quite firm, & will last interminably. There was also a bit of another flint knife, & in a leather bag were 7 flint flakes, & a quantity of galls, as well as one of the bronze piercers, & a wooden spoon. One of the pieces of wood  of unknown use, a bit of whetstone, & a small wooden box completes this curious lot. The bronze mirror & handle & the alabaster cups are very fine things, & it is ~~strange~~ strange to see the head of Hathor in the XII dynasty.


An amusing anticipation of the modern chair bottoms of perforated wood is found in a head rest. Desiring it to be cool & ventilating, it was made not supported in the middle, as usual,  but at the sides  (to judge by the piece remaining) & the hollowed ~~is~~ support is pierced with holes 


I picked up a curious implement made of the black hornstone, which is so remarkably tough that the granite-workers hammers are always formed of it: this piece is an axe of the form of the copper axes of the XII   & it has as good an edge as could possibly be made by chipping in such material.

bound around one end for a handle. I carefully wrapped this up as soon as I saw it, & then saturated it with wax when heated, so as to bind on the fragile remains safely; thus it is now quite firm, & will last interminably. There was also a bit of another flint knife, & in a leather bag were 7 flint flakes, & a quantity of galls, as well as one of the bronze piercers, & a wooden spoon. One of the pieces of wood [] of unknown use, a bit of whetstone, & a small wooden box completes this curious lot. The bronze mirror & handle & the alabaster cups are very fine things, & it is ~~xxx~~ strange to see the head of Hathor in the XII dynasty.


An amusing anticipation of the modern chair bottoms of perforated wood is found in a head rest. Desiring it to be cool & ventilating, it was made not supported in the middle, as usual, [], but at the sides [] (to judge by the piece remaining) & the hollowed ~~is~~ support is pierced with holes []




I picked up a curious implement made of the black hornstone, which is so remarkably tough that the granite-workers hammers are always formed of it: this piece is an axe of the form of the copper axes of the XII [] & it has as good an edge as could possibly be made by chipping in such material.

A lot of various rubbishy things were found tied up in a cloth, but among them were several large balls of thread, & a large scarab, of fine green glazed stone, with the name of Amunhotep III (XVIII dyn). [].

At last a trace of the Hyksos has appeared, as in a pit in a chamber we found a wooden stamp with the cartouche of Apepi ; & with it was the front part of the base of a fine wooden statuette, evidently broken off a tomb figure, & suggesting that the plundering of the tombs of the XII dyn. went on during the Hyksos times. This statuette was for a man named Anef, a royal chancellor & great official. If only we could find his wooden statue it would be almost priceless, the foot is so finely worked. Deep in one chamber we found - strange to say - a piece of actinolite, which looks much as if corroborating the Italian origin of the black pottery & the marble here found.

The principal finds at Gurob are not so much as last week, being a wooden cubit subdivided ^{one end broken} with inscription of Tutankhamen & Amenankhs his wife, dating it to the end of the XVIII. dyn; a fine obsidian scarab, but uninscribed; the greater part of a large door lintel of Tahutmes III,

A lot of various rubbishy things were found tied up in a cloth, but among them were several large balls of thread, & a large scarab, of fine green glazed stone, with the name of Amunhotep III (XVIII dyn). [].

At last a trace of the Hyksos has appeared, as in a pit in a chamber we found a wooden stamp with the cartouche of Apepi [] []; & with it was the front part of the base of a fine wooden statuette, evidently broken off a tomb figure, & suggesting that the plundering of the tombs of the XII dyn. went on during the Hyksos times. This statuette was for a man named Anef, a royal chancellor & great official. If only we could find his wooden statue it would be almost priceless, the foot is so finely worked. [] Deep in one chamber we found - strange to say - a piece of actinolite, which looks much as if corroborating the Italian origin of the black pottery & the marble here found.


The principal finds at Gurob are not so much as last week, being a wooden cubit subdivided <one end broken> with inscription of Tutankhamen & Amenankhs his wife, dating it to the end of the XVIII. dyn; a fine obsidian scarab, but uninscribed; the greater part of a large door lintel of Tahutmes III,

(35)
 from the temple of Gurob, which is important, as
 the name of Amen has been erased & recut; this
 proves that the temple was not destroyed by
 Khuenaten, as the name of Amen was not recut
 probably till the time of Hor Em heb; hence the
 temple cannot have been destroyed till the time
 of Seti. Some more Greek false-necked vases
 have been found, & a blue & yellow "Phoenician"
 glass vase.

At the N.E. corner of the small pyramid (whose entrance
 we did not find lately, but only a forced hole in the rock)
 I saw yesterday a stone let into the rock in the bed of the
 casing. Fraser who was here, offered to cut it out,
 & so found a wellshaft full of clean sand. On
 clearing this we found it was a foundation deposit
 of the pyramid. It only contained a model brick
 of mud (under the cover stone), & at the bottom, 5 ft
 down, the ^{skull} of a calf, & about 20 little vases
 & saucers of brown earthen ware, & a few
 green glazed beads. It is interesting, but strangely
 poor as a deposit. We are still seeking for the
 entrance to this pyramid.

We have had a good deal of company. Fraser
 came here on Tuesday & leaves tomorrow (Sat);
 & Hewat & Major Brown came for a night
 on their tour in the Fayum, where H. is resigning
 his office into B's hands. Happily, Major B. is
 as well disposed to my work as H. was.

Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.

from the temple of Gurob, which is important, as
 the name of Amen has been erased & recut; this
 proves that the temple was not destroyed by
 Khuenaten, as the name of Amen was not recut
 probably till the time of Hor Em heb; hence the
 temple cannot have been destroyed till the time
 of Seti. Some more Greek false-necked vases
 have been found, & a blue & yellow "Phoenician"
 glass vase [perhaps ].



At the N.E. corner of the small pyramid (whose entrance
 we did not find lately, but only a forced hole in the rock,)
 I saw yesterday a stone let in to the rock in the bed of the
 casing. Fraser who was here, offered to cut it out,
 & so found a wellshaft full of clean sand. On
 clearing this we found it was a foundation deposit
 of the pyramid. It only contained a model brick
 of mud (under the cover stone), & at the bottom, 5 ft
 down, the head/skull of a calf, & about 20 little vases
 & saucers of brown earthen ware, & a few
 green glazed beads. It is interesting, but strangely
 poor as a deposit. We are still seeking for the
 entrance to this pyramid.

We have had a good deal of company. Fraser
 came here on Tuesday & leaves tomorrow (Sat);
 & Hewat & Major Brown came for a night
 on their tour in the Fayum, where H. is resigning
 his office into B's hands. Happily, Major B. is
 as well disposed to my work as H. was.




Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent.


X.

13-19 Dec: 1889.

13-19 Dec: 1889. This week has finished the (X)³⁶ clearance of Kahun, except at the E side, which is hardly worth finishing as it has been so pulled to pieces in Roman times. The produce has paid the way fairly, up to the end, although I can hardly expect the old dust heaps outside of the town to be as profitable, yet we are trying these as a finish. We have found another flint sickle, to my great satisfaction; it differs from the previous one in having the handle a separate piece , and it has three of the four flint saws still cemented in place, but the tip of the wood is lost. There are two natural hoes, i.e. forked branches trimmed into shape  with a chisel end to the short branch. Another cubit has happily been found, of the same length as one last year, 26.8 inches, divided in 7 palms like the Egyptian cubit, & also in 2 halves of 13.4 inches; this is different from any Egyptian cubit known, & is the foot of Asia Minor, thus connecting the people here with that district.

Perhaps the main prize is a monkey, or rather cynocephalus baboon, carved in ivory, of the finest work; every detail of the face is carefully modelled, & the expression has just the aspect

This week had finished the clearance of Kahun, except at the E side, which is hardly worth finishing as it has been so pulled to pieces in Roman times. The produce has paid the way fairly, up to the end; & though I can hardly expect the old dust heaps outside of the town to be as profitable, yet we are trying these as a finish. We have found another flint sickle, to my great satisfaction; it differs from the previous one in having the handle a separate piece [], and it has three of the four flint saws still cemented in place, but the tip of the wood is lost []. There are two natural hoes, i.e. forked branches trimmed into shape [] with a chisel end to the short branch. Another \times [?] cubit has happily been found, of the same length as one last year, 26.8 inches, divided in 7 palms like the Egyptian cubit, & also in 2 halves of 13.4 inches; this is different from any Egyptian cubit known, & is the foot of Asia Minor, thus connecting the people here with that district.

Perhaps the main prize is a monkey, or rather cynocephalus baboon, carved in ivory, of the finest work; every detail of the face is carefully modelled, & the expression has just the aspect []

(37)
 would-be responsible gravity of the species.
 It is really a gem of carving, & was found
 lying on a baby box which contained beads all of the
 XII. dynasty & a cylinder of Amenemhat II, so
 it is dated: I have never seen a finer piece of
 naturalistic work of the XIIth or any other period.
 Alas! Grebaut will be sure to grab it.

Three little wooden boxes were found, & in one
 was a lot of threaded bead necklaces, which
 I have restrung for security.

But the XVIIIth dynasty has rewarded us as
 well as the XIIth at Kahun, for we turned
 up one of the great scarabs of Amenhotep III
 recording his lion hunts, and this example is
 in perfect state, & of bright blue glaze,
 perfectly unimpeachable in condition, as fine
 as it could be. There are many minor things
 of course, including a four-legged wooden stool
 carved in one block with slanting legs,
 & a stone cushion fitting on it.



Gurob has not paid so well, & is pretty well
 exhausted now. I omitted to mention a
 cubit of wood, with one end broken off,
 subdivided rather roughly, & inscribed all along

of would-be-responsible gravity of the species.
 It is really a gem of carving, & was found
 lying on a baby box which contained beads all of the
 XII. dynasty & a cylinder of Amenemhat II, so
 it is dated: I have never seen a finer piece of
 naturalistic work of the XIIth or any other period.
 Alas! Grebaut will be sure to grab it.

Three little wooden boxes were found, & in one
 was a lot of threaded bead necklaces, which
 I have restrung for security.

But the XVIIIth dynasty has rewarded us as
 well as the XIIth, at Kahun, for we turned
 up one of the great scarabs of Amenhotep III [📷]
 recording his lion hunts, and this example is
 in perfect state, & of bright blue glaze,
 perfectly unimpeachable in condition, as fine
 as it could be. There are many minor things
 of course, including a four-legged wooden stool
 carved in one block [📐] with slanting legs,
 & a stone cushion fitting on it [📐].

Gurob has not paid so well, & is pretty well
 exhausted now. I omitted to mention a
 cubit of wood, with one end broken off,
 subdivided rather roughly, & inscribed all along

one ~~off~~ side with a partly effaced line, naming Tutankhamen & Queen Amenankhs. Also a bone netting mesh (?) carved finely with vines overhanging a wall, & birds among the branches. (38)

This week there is half of a fine blue glazed bowl with an ibex suckling a young one; two wooden wands ending in hands; & a blue glazed plaque of the daughter of Ramessu II, Nefertari.

I do not expect that my friends will hear of anything more now from Kahun & Gurob; the places are done for, & well have they repaid us, by the insight we have gained in the life & manufactures of the XVIIIth & XIIth dynasties. I have now really ~~outlined~~ outlined the greater part of the long blank of hitherto undefined history of domestic & personal objects, which had been such an attractive unknown region to me. If I can now do the VIth, IVth & possibly earlier times, in as complete a way in future, I shall accomplish what has been my particular aim in Egypt.

one ~~edge~~ side with a partly effaced line, naming Tutankhamen & Queen Amenankhs. Also a bone netting mesh (?) carved finely with vines overhanging a wall, & birds among the branches. []

This week there is half of a fine blue glazed bowl with an ibex suckling a young one; two wooden wands ending in hands: & a blue glazed plaque of the daughter of Ramessu II, Nefertari.

I do not expect that my friends will hear of anything more now from Kahun & Gurob; the places are done for, & well have they repaid us, by the insight we have gained in the life & manufactures of the XVIIIth & XIIth dynasties. I have now really ~~blocked out~~ outlined the greater part of the long blank of hitherto undefined history of domestic & personal objects, which had been such an attractive unknown region to me. If I can now do the VIth, IVth & possibly earlier times, in as complete a way in future, I shall accomplish what has been my particular aim in Egypt.

(39)
We have had a pleasant little visit from Sir F.
Grenfell & his aide, Major Maxwell. He
~~he~~ was much interested in the details of the
ages of all the small things, beads, &c, & made
many notes on them, shewing that he really
grasps the relative ages of different objects in
an intelligent way, not as a mere collector
of pretty or strange things. He also went
over the work, & examined the town of Kahun.
He has been in the Fayum for a three days
excursion, & so took one day to ride over
here & back, some 35 miles in all.

We shall do a little more finishing up
next week, & then pack before going
on an exploring trip about the Fayum.

Mrs Petrie,
8. Crescent Road,
Bromley,
Kent

We have had a pleasant little visit from Sir F.
Grenfell & his aide, Major Maxwell. He
~~he~~ was much interested in the details of the
ages of all the small things, beads, &c, & made
many notes on them, shewing that he really
grasps the relative ages of different objects in
an intelligent way, not as a mere collector
of pretty or strange things. He also went
over the work, & examined the town of Kahun.
He has been in the Fayum for a three days
excursion, & so took one day to ride over
here & back, some 35 miles in all.

We shall do a little more finishing up
next week, & then pack before going
on an exploring trip about the Fayum.

Mrs Petrie,
8. Crescent Road,
Bromley,
Kent-

XI

20 Dec 89 to 3 Jan 90.



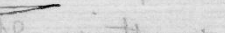

20 Dec 89 to 3 Jan 90. I write this in bed, to which I have retreated because it is too cold to sit up in the evenings. For a week past we have been shivering with the house between 54° & 57° , of course no fires, & only a petroleum stove put under the table to warm the feet occasionally, as Hughes objects to the smell of it. The days have been so cold also, most of the time, with a bitter N. wind, that I have been glad to refuge in sunny corners, & the men have been half helpless, some even throwing up their work. I never knew such a spell of cold so early, if indeed at all, in Egypt.


There has been very little found in the last fortnight; the town of Kahun is all but finished, & the rubbish heaps outside of it produce but few things. These heaps are however valuable as evidence. They were piled, to as much as 5 feet deep in some parts, evidently while the whole town was inhabited; because as soon as part of it was deserted, at the close of the pyramid works, the disused houses were filled up as rubbish holes. Hence we may date these heaps to probably the reign of Userthesen II, & nothing whatever has been found in, or on, them, to which I should require to give a later date. Plenty of rubbish of the XII dyn. has been found in the disused houses, & therefore this external rubbish heap has the strongest claim to be the first.




I write this in bed, to which


I have retreated because it is too cold to sit up in the evenings. For a week past we have been shivering with the house between 54° & 57° , of course no fires, & only a petroleum stove put under the table to warm the feet occasionally, as Hughes objects to the smell of it. The days have been so cold also, most of the time, with a bitter N. wind, that I have been glad to refuge in sunny corners, & the men have been half helpless, some even throwing up their work. I never knew such a spell of cold so early, if indeed at all, in Egypt.

There has been very little found in the last fortnight; the town of Kahun is all but finished, & the rubbish heaps outside of it produce but few things. These heaps are however valuable as evidence. They were piled, to as much as 5 feet deep in some parts, evidently while the whole town was inhabited; because as soon as part of it was deserted, at the close of the pyramid works, the disused houses were filled up as rubbish holes. Hence we may date these heaps to probably the reign of Userthesen II, & nothing whatever has been found in, or on, them, to which I should require to give a later date. Plenty of rubbish of the XII dyn. has been found in the disused houses, & therefore this external rubbish heap has the strongest claim to be the first.

In this heap we have found several pieces of distinctly Mediterranean pottery, some of it painted, & all of it different from the Mykenae pottery of the XVIII-XX dynasties. We have therefore Greek pottery now carried back to 2600 B.C. with as much certainty as we can expect. This pottery is thin, with a black lustrous face on both sides, & painting in white & yellow lines on it. A thicker piece of a black vase has red & yellow lines, & the distinctive Greek pattern  on it. There are also several good flint knives from these heaps, which alone would repay the work on them. Also three of the puzzling bronze implements  hinging in a half hollow painted case . It was not known before that these belonged to the XII dynasty. A quaint chicken cage with groove for a sliding door  & slits in the sides for air, is made of pottery. Beside the mounds I have worked several tombs. From some we got a large amount of beads of about the XXVI dynasty. Others I am now




In this heap we have found several pieces of distinctly Mediterranean pottery, some of it painted, & all of it different from the Mykenae pottery of the XVIII-XX dynasties. We have therefore Greek pottery now carried back to 2600 B.C. with as much certainty as we can expect. This pottery is thin, with a black lustrous face on both sides, & painting in white & yellow lines on it. A thicker piece of a black vase has red & yellow lines, & the distinctive Greek pattern [] on it.

There are also several good flint knives [perhaps ] from these heaps, which would repay the work on them. Also three of the puzzling bronze implements [] hinging in a half hollow painted case []. It was not known before that these belonged to the XII dynasty.

A quaint chicken cage with groove for a sliding door [] & slits in the sides for air, is made of pottery. [London, Petrie Museum, 16773]




Beside the mounds I have worked several tombs. From some we got a large amount of beads of about the XXVI dynasty. Others I am now


working of the XII dynasty, of course all plundered long ago, but perhaps still containing something. A deep well tomb, north of the pyramid, we have not yet reached the chamber of, though already 30 feet down.

The small pyramid is not yet open. The broad clearing all round it has almost completed the circuit, & yet no entrance is found. At the NW corner is another pit, which is doubtless like the deposit at the NE corner, but which is only just found, and I have not yet cleared it. Opposite the middle of the W. side was a pit about 3 ft deep filled with mortar which only contained one rough pot. But yet I have got some clues. On the N. side we have found several pieces of painted stone, & some bits of black granite statue. Two of the latter read,  apparently part of a title nebu, & the other  hesi urt which shews a lady to be in question. The painted stonework gives on one piece  "princess of both lands Atmu...." which is probably the princess's name.

I find that in order to give a square court around Usertesen's pyramid, the adjacent hill was deeply cut into, leaving a

working of the XII dynasty, of course all plundered long ago, but perhaps still containing something. A deep well tomb, north of the pyramid, we have not yet reached the chamber of, though already 30 feet down.

The small pyramid is not yet open. The broad clearing all round it has almost completed the circuit, & yet no entrance is found. At the NW corner is another pit, which is doubtless like the deposit at the NE corner, but which is only just found, and I have not yet cleared it. Opposite the middle of the W. side was a pit about 3ft deep filled with mortar which only contained one rough pot. But yet I have got some clues. On the N. side we have found several pieces of painted stone, & some bits of black granite statue. Two of the latter read, [] apparently part of a title nebu, & the other [] hesi urt which shews a lady to be in question. The painted stonework gives on one piece [] "princess of both lands Atmu...." which is probably the princesses^{sic} {princess's} name.

I find that in order to give a square court around Usertesen's pyramid, the adjacent hill was deeply cut into, [] leaving a

(43)
 face 20 feet high in the N W corner. This
 rock was faced with a thick brick wall, covered
 with white plaster. I have cleared some of
 the deepest parts of this in hopes that there
 might be tombs in this face of the hill.
 The work is all but done now, and I go
 tomorrow to Medineh to buy wood for packing
 up here. The next fortnight will be box
 making & packing: and then comes my
 Fayum tour.
 At Gurob some more burnt bowls & glass
 bottles have been found, luckily I have
 Hughes & I were both on the spot. I now
 see that these strange pits - full of burnt
 valuables, blue bowls, glass flasks, carnelian
 & blue-bead necklaces, wood-work, & stuffs, were purposely
 burnt in the holes, & in this case covered
 over with a layer of potsherds carefully
 placed before covering with earth. They can
 thus only be a sacrificial burning of personal
 effects probably on the owner's death. This is not
 Egyptian, and seems to be the relic of the Greek
 funeral pyre, thus kept up after the
 foreigners had taken to burying in tombs like
 the Egyptians. Then the household valuables
 were heaped in a hole in the floor of the house
 burnt, & buried.
 Mrs Petrie, 13 Romney
 Kent

face 20ft high in the N W corner. This
 rock was faced with a thick brick wall, covered
 with white plaster. I have cleared some of
 the deepest parts of this in hopes that there
 might be tombs in this face of the hill.

The work is all but done now & I go
 tomorrow to Medineh to buy wood for packing
 up here. The next fortnight will be box
 making & packing: and then comes my
 Fayum tour.

At Gurob some more burnt bowls & glass
 bottles have been found, luckily when
 Hughes & I were both on the spot. I now
 see that these strange pits - full of burnt
 valuables, blue bowls, glass flasks, carnelian
 & blue-bead necklaces, wood-work, & stuffs, were purposely
 burnt in the holes, & in this case covered
 over with a layer of potsherds carefully
 placed before covering with earth. They can
 thus only be a sacrificial burning of personal
 effects probably on the owner's death. This is not
 Egyptian, and seems to be the relic of the Greek
 funeral pyre, thus kept up after the
 foreigners had taken to burying in tombs like
 the Egyptians. Then the household valuables
 were heaped in a hole in the floor of the house,
 burnt, & buried.

Mrs Petrie, Bromley
 Kent-

XII

 18-26 Jan^y /90.

 18-26 Jan^y /90.

XII


44

Having now returned from my round in the Fayum, I will state the results. We started for Gharak (extreme S. of Fayum) going past Gurob, & up the desert; from the top of the ridge there is a splendid wide view about 20 miles each way. We went round the edge of the Fayum basin, looking at two Late Roman villages on the way. It seems certain that there never was any canal higher up than the present, & hence no greater extent of land can have been irrigated than what lies below that level. After a smart shower we reached the inspection house of Gharak, a little E. of the village just at the weir where the canal branches into the Gharak basin. Hewat has built a number of these houses about the country, looking like so many little Methodist chapels.



They are divided in two rooms inside, with an outhouse for each wing. Their usual colour is a faded festive pink, which has one advantage that it is quite unmistakable.

The main object in coming here was to see the ruins of Talit, where the inscription of Ptolemais was found last year. The stone Hewat gave to me, & will come in this season's things. The probability Ptolemais was that Ptolemy's Geography.

Having now returned from my round in the Fayum, I will state the results. We started for Gharak (extreme S. of Fayum) going past Gurob, & up the desert; from the top of the ridge there is a splendid wide view about 20 miles each way. We went round the edge of the Fayum basin, looking at two Late Roman villages on the way. It seems certain that there never was any canal higher up than the present, & hence no greater extent of land can have been irrigated than what lies below that level. After a smart shower we reached the inspection house of Gharak, a little E. of the village just at the weir where the canal branches into the Gharak basin. Hewat has built a number of these houses about the country, looking like so many little Methodist chapels. [] They are divided in two rooms inside, with an outhouse for each wing. Their usual colour is a faded festive pink, which has one advantage that it is quite unmistakable.

The main object in coming here was to see the ruins of Talit where the inscription of Ptolemais was found last year. The stone Hewat gave to me, & will come in this season's things. The puzzle about Ptolemais was that Ptolemy's Geography

Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent-

⁴⁵
 put it in the south of the Fayum, but calls
 it a port. I had suggested that it might be
 so called as the terminus of the ship canal,
 where goods were shipped. Here I found that
 the town lies just by the side of the end of the
 present canal, where it is divided into small
 irrigating streams. The ancient canal
 must have been just on that line, &
 could not from the form of the ground have
 ended far from this, as there is a sudden
 fall into the Gharak basin. The conditions
 all point to this being the end of the old
 navigable canal, & therefore exactly
 answering to the Ptolemais Hormos of
 the Geography. Moreover it was the
 most important town in the district
 & the centre for great corn trade, as there
 are innumerable mill stones of enormous
 size all over the town: this again shews
 it to have been a business emporium, &
 probably a place for shipping grain. About
 1 1/2 miles to the S.W., on a commanding hill
 in the desert, stood a Roman fort to
 secure the place from Arab raids; the nearest
 horizon from the fort being to the south, 5 or 6 miles.

puts it in the south of the Fayum, but calls
 it a port. I had suggested that it might be
 so called as the terminus of the ship canal,
 where goods were shipped. Here I found that
 the town lies just by the side of the end of the
 present canal, where it is divided into small
 irrigating streams. The ancient canal
 must have been just on that line, &
 could not from the form of the ground have
 ended far from this, as there is a sudden
 fall into the Gharak basin. The conditions
 all point to this being the end of the old
 navigable canal, & therefore exactly
 answering to the Ptolemais Hormos of
 the Geography. Moreover it was the
 most important town in the district,
 & the centre of a great corn trade, as there
 are innumerable mill stones of enormous
 size all over the town: this again shews
 it to have been a business emporium, &
 a[?] probably <a> place for shipping grain. About
 1 1/2 miles to the S.W., on a commanding hill
 in the desert, stood a Roman fort to
 secure the place from Arab raids; the nearest
 horizon from the fort being to the South, 5 or 6 miles.

So far all this exactly hangs together, & we may well consider Ptolemais as fixed by the geography & the circumstances, as well as by the name being found here. I also found two or three other settlements all of Roman age.

After returning from Gharak Mr Hughes-Hughes was not inclined to go to Tamieh, as he was waiting for business letters, so I went alone. I should say that I bought at Ptolemais a fine bronze-steelyard (without pan or counterpoise) which seems by its scales to have been for weighing Attic minae, a unit very common in Roman times in Egypt & known as the "general mina".

I started north, & went first across the railway & on up to a white heap on the top of the desert hills, due E. of Medum. Here I found the remains of a great mastaba of rough stone, about 25 feet high yet standing. Some one (probably Maspero) has cut into the N. side of it, down to below the foundation, right into the middle, but without reaching any chamber. The stuff cut out is so piled up on the N. side, that it will be very troublesome to open it properly by clearing the ground around to search for the entrance. As it is up about 200 feet of rugged hills, it will be awkward to ~~work~~ work there if I take it.

So far all this exactly hangs together, & we may well consider Ptolemais as fixed by the Geography & the circumstances, as well as by the name being found here. I also found two or three other settlements all of Roman age.

After returning from Gharak Mr Hughes-Hughes was not inclined to go to Tamieh, as he was waiting for business letters, so I went alone. I should say that I bought at Ptolemais a fine bronze-steelyard (without pan or counterpoise) which seems by its scales to have been for weighing Attic minae, a unit very common in Roman towns in Egypt & known as the "general mina".

I started north, & went first across the railway & on up to a white heap on the top of the desert hills, due E. of Medum. Here I found the remains of a great mastaba of rough stone, about 25 feet high yet standing. Some one (probably Maspero) has cut into the N. side of it, down to below the foundation, right into the middle, but without reaching any chamber. The stuff cut out is so piled up on the N. side, that it will be very troublesome to open it properly by clearing the ground around to search for the entrance. As it is up about 200 feet of rugged hills it will be awkward to ~~work~~ work there if I take it.

(47)
I am much struck at finding that the very tops
of all these highest hills here are formed of
gravel & washed stuff, shewing that they must
have been overtopped originally by higher hills
to the East which have been since entirely
denuded away. At present these hills
rise up to a sharp ridge, so sharp that one
may sit with one leg dangling in the Fayum
& the other in the Nile valley; and the slopes are
so steep that a stone once loosened goes
rolling away for a hundred feet or more
below you. This is the natural effect of rain
wash on a hill-ridge of gravel.

Hence went down into Fayum again, & seeing
a rather regularly built hut, among all of the
scattered Arab tents & booths which skirt
the desert here, I proposed to camp by it. To
my surprise the very outermost inhabitant
of the Fayum proved to be a Scotchman, one
Hugh Main. So here I pitched. He is a well
educated man, quite a gentleman, & wears an
Egyptian decoration; but here he lives in a
mud hut without furniture, stores, bedding,
or visible means of cooking, intent on reclaiming
some 500 acres of land, & planting his potatoes,
barley, peas, carrots, &c, with all his heart.
He apologized for not taking me in, but I assured

I am much struck at finding that the very tops
of all these highest hills here are formed of
gravel & washed stuff, shewing that they must
have been overtopped originally by higher hills
to the East which have been since entirely
denuded away. At present these hills
rise up to a sharp ridge, so sharp that one
may sit with one leg dangling in the Fayum
& the other in the Nile valley; and the slopes are
so steep that a stone once loosened goes
rolling away for a hundred feet or more
below you. This is the natural effect of rain
wash on a hill-ridge of gravel.

Hence I went down into Fayum again, & seeing
a rather regularly built hut, among all of the
scattered Arab tents & booths which skirt
the desert here, I proposed to camp by it. To
my surprise the very outermost inhabitant
of the Fayum proved to be a Scotchman, one
Hugh Main. So here I pitched. He is a well
educated man, quite a gentleman, & wears an
Egyptian decoration; but here he lives in a
mud hut without furniture, stores, bedding,
or visible means of cooking, intent on reclaiming
some 500 acres of land, & planting his potatoes,
barley, peas, carrots, &c, with all his heart.
He apologized for not taking me in, but I assured

3/ him that I had everything I wanted, & was quite
 independant. So our establishments were ⁽⁴⁸⁾
 separate. Next morning I wanted to go up to
 see the cemetery, whence the painted portraits
 were obtained, which went to Germany; but Mr.
 Main would not let me go alone, as there was
 a party of thieves somewhere in the desert it
 was believed, who had just been robbing &
 murdering at Beni Suef: ~~So after~~ he was also
 uneasy about the hyaenas, as he had seen a
 man attacked by one lately. So we went together,
 he with a breech loader & revolver & an Arab, &
 I with my revolver. We met one party who
 were rather suspicious, but who left us alone
 after some cross questioning which we hardly saw
 the drift of. I went over the cemetery which
 seems nearly worked out, & which belonged to
 a very large Roman town here. It is
 astonishing how all the side of the Fayum the
 ground which has been cultivated is sprinkled
 for miles with chips of pottery. I then bid
 goodbye to Mr. Main, & went off on my own
 resources, along the desert to the north, tracking
 two Roman towns & making a wide circuit
 round to Tamieh, (N.E. corner of Fayum).
 Of course I kept a good look out with the telescope,


him that I had everything I wanted, & was quite
 independent. So our establishments were
 separate. Next morning I wanted to go up to
 see the cemetery, whence the painted portraits
 were obtained, which went to Germany; but Mr.
 Main would not let me go alone, as there was
 a party of thieves somewhere in the desert it
 was believed, who had just been robbing &
 murdering at Beni Suef: ~~So after~~ he was also
 uneasy about the hyaenas, as he had seen a
 man attacked by one lately. So we went together,
 he with a breech loader & revolver & an Arab, &
 I with my revolver. We met one party who
 were rather suspicious, but who left us alone
 after some cross questioning which we hardly saw
 the drift of. I went over the cemetery which
 seems nearly worked out, & which belonged to
 a very large Roman town here. It is
 astonishing how all the side of the Fayum the
 ground which has been cultivated is sprinkled
 for miles with chips of pottery. I then bid
 goodbye to Mr. Main, & went off on my own
 resources, along the desert to the north, tracking
 two Roman towns & making a wide circuit
 round to Tamieh, (N.E. corner of Fayum).
 Of course I kept a good look out with the telescope,

(49)
 on way one that came within sight for miles
 around, so as not to be caught napping. At
 Tamieh I found the inspection house locked up, the
 guard having gone to Medineh that day; so I had
 to pitch tent again, my man & Cherub having
 arrived there by the direct road which went
 round the desert.


Next day I went off to see Kom Wezūm
 a great town NW of Tamieh in the desert.
 It was an important trade centre, as I
 saw four huge stone weights in different
 places about it. One perfect one I measured,
 & make it out 473 lbs; it is marked W on the
 side. Here two men came about, but were
 less intrusive when they saw my revolver; I
 edged round so that they should never get
 behind me, & after many questionings they
 made off. I then went further west but
 did not see any sign of another town I had heard
 of in that direction, so decided on going a
 long way to the east to pick up some tombs
 which I had seen the day before in the distance.
 I saw a large hyaena, which seemed more afraid
 of me than I was of it, but and tried to lie down

on every one that came within sight for miles
 around, so as not to be caught napping. At
 Tamieh I found the inspection house locked up, the
 guard having gone to Medineh that day; so I had
 to pitch tent again, my man & Cherub [📷 - photograph missing] having
 arrived there by the direct road while I went
 round the desert.

Next day I went off to see Kom Wezūm
 a great town NW of Tamieh in the desert.
 It was an important trade centre, as I
 saw four huge stone weights in different
 places about it. One perfect one I measured,
 & make it out 473 lbs; it is marked W on the
 side. Here two men came about, but were
 less intrusive when they saw my revolver; I
 edged round so that they should never get
 behind me, & after many questionings they
 made off. I then went further west but
 did not see any sign of another town I had heard
 off in that direction, so decided on going a
 long way to the east to pick up some tombs
 which I had seen the day before in the distance.
 I saw a large hyaena, which seemed more afraid
 of me than I was of it, but and tried to lie down

so as to sham a shadow of a rock; but seeing ⁽⁵⁰⁾ I watched it it made off a little. The desert here is most curiously covered with domes of limestone  produced by the weathering of the rock. I kept a good look out but saw nothing suspicious except a man who rode up just to look over a hill in the distance & then retreated again. I next found another large Roman town, & beyond that the tombs which I sought. They proved to be very rough chambers in the rock face, ^{but} ~~by~~ had contained some mummied bodies. This was a long round of 23 miles almost all in the desert.

Next day, we came back from Tamieh to Lahun; a heavy shower in the morning made the ground so slippery that we could hardly get along, & a misdirection led us into a mesh of canals. Furious sandstorms & a tearing cold wind followed, & I was very glad to get in, a little after sunset. Altogether I have done over 140 miles in the past eight days, including one day's rest.

so as to sham a shadow of a rock; but seeing I watched it it made off a little. The desert here is most curiously covered with domes of limestone [] produced by the weathering of the rock. I kept a good look out but saw nothing suspicious except a man who rode up just to look over a hill in the distance & then retreat again. I next found another large Roman town, & beyond that the tombs which I sought. They proved to be very rough chambers in the rock face, ~~by~~ <but> had contained some mummied bodies. This was a long round of 23 miles almost all in the desert.

Next day, we came back from Tamieh to Lahun; a heavy shower in the morning made the ground so slippery that we could hardly get along, & a misdirection led us into a mesh of canals. Furious sandstorms & a tearing cold wind followed, & I was very glad to get in, a little after sunset. Altogether I have done over 140 miles in the past eight days, including one day's rest.