

Copy for G.I.
L.C.(7)I

Extracts / Gizeh / 13.12.06 / p.2.

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Gizeh
13.12.06
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The 23 copies of Religion is only the balance of the 52 after sending out. It is not worth the trouble, to get 1^d or 2^d copy by supplying from U.C. It will do more good to let people get them through booksellers, & so make them known. The 23 are only for our presents, & for exhibⁿ next year.

We have found the remains of some great XXVI tombs, including half of a chapel about 6 ft square. The sculptures are perfect, but uninteresting. If we may bring it away it will make a fine thing for a museum, worth three or four times all we have spent so far. I have asked Maspero whether he requires it to be left, or wants it in Cairo, or will let us remove it.

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p3. Amos & wife & Bonté. They now ask me to go & dine at Christmas with them. I think that I shall. Mrs Amos went to Vancouver with Bonté, & then on alone to Japan, India, &c, & will be here in the spring!!

We are getting many alabaster vases complete (but broken) & dozens of broken bowls from the 1st dyn tombs. Today a large palette of the scribe [red] [black] is quite perfect, & a smaller one similar. It has a hole to hang it by, just as it is shown hung over the shoulder on the sculptures.

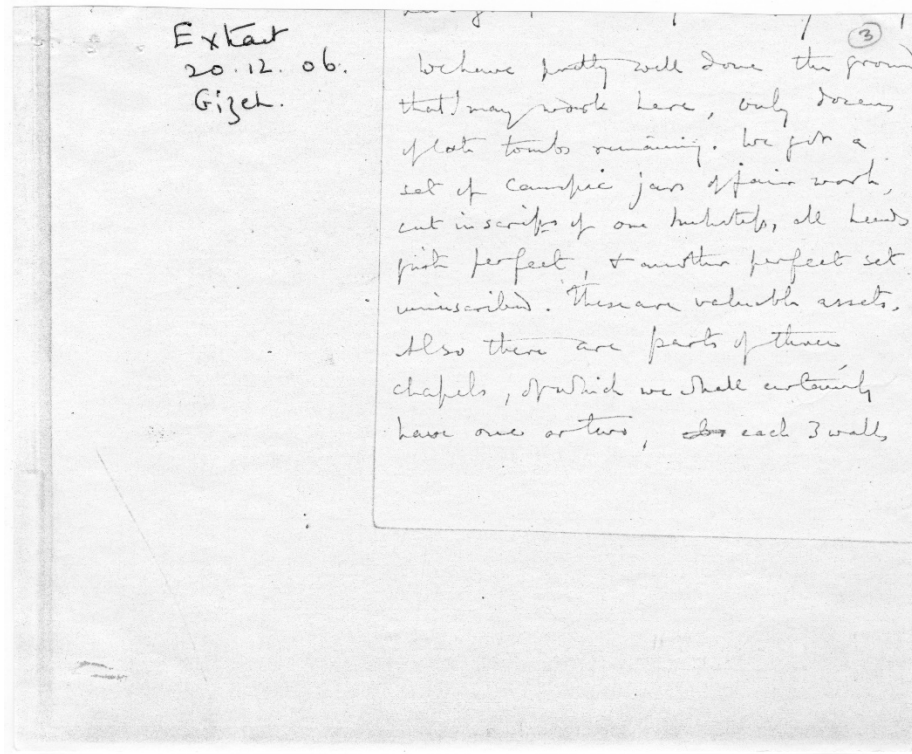
I have a very cordial reply from Pelham about Grenfell, & they are moving to get a large civil list pension & more college money for him. But Firth brings news from Cairo that G. has been brought away from his work by a doctor.

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Extract
20.12.06
Gizeh



[...]

We have pretty well done the ground that I may work here, only dozens of late tombs remaining. We got a set of canopic jars of fair work, cut inscrip^s of one Imhotep, all heads quite perfect, & another perfect set uninscribed. These are valuable assets. Also there are parts of three chapels, of which we shall certainly have one or two, ~~ab~~ each 3 walls

Copy for L.C. G.I.
~~one page.~~
 LC(7)I

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about 6 ft square, XXVI, poorish
 work, but good distributing stuff.
 I got pieces of 20 or 30 distinct bowls
 from the tomb with 7 sealings
 of IInd dyn.
 I shall go in a day or two with Ward to
 prospect Assiut to Sohag, for a week.
 Then leave him to build huts & get
 ready; come back here, & a week
 later go up with most of the men.
 The Firths' & Rhodes will go on here
 on late stuff for a month or so,
 & then probably come to a second
 southern camp.

I saw MacIver today, very cordial. And
 Mace came in for a talk last night
 before going to work Lisht with
 Lythgoe. L. has Egⁿ Dept at New York.
 & Reisner is now working for Boston.


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
10 March 1907.

10 March 1907. I regret that owing⁵
to the press of work I did not send an
account last month. We are now
near the end of the season & can sum
up the results. Since the discoveries
of the Ist, IInd & IIIrd dynasties at Gizeh
we have been engaged on the VIth,
IXth-XIIth, XIVth & pan grave, XVIII-XIX,
& Coptic periods.

Of the VIth dynasty about a hundred
graves were opened, mostly at
Zaraby, & a few near Zowyeh. The
characteristic amulets of the time
were found, - hands, uza eyes, lions,
bull's heads, &c, in carnelian & glazed
pottery. Many small alabaster vases
with pointed bottoms []; and in black
porphyry a tall cylinder jar & a fine
bowl, perfect. An interesting cylinder
with rude figures of a man & animals
was in a grave also of this age; &
a few button seals were found.

The bulk of the work has been on
a large cemetery of the XI-XIIth dynasty

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 at Zowieh. At first there was nothing
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 covering over the cemetery; & on
 digging through this the graves were
 found closely placed together. Only
 one dated piece was found, a large
 engraved shell of Senusert I. But
 the style of pottery & beads ^{also} indicate
 the XI-XIIth dynasties. The great
 feature of this cemetery was the
 frequency of the pottery trays of
 offerings developed into models of
 houses, - "soul-houses" as I call them.
 These shew a great variety of detail,
 & restore to us the general style &
 the various forms of the ordinary dwellings
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chairs, water stands, corn grinders, all
 are found modelled, & thus restoring
 the life of the period in a most
 realistic manner. These soul
 houses were placed on the ground
 generally N. or W. of the graves, & always
 facing the grave. Most of them
 show the effect of sand-blast cutting
 them away, & the stratification
 of the dust which was gradually
 blown over them & stuck on by occasional
 rain showers. Comparing them
 with pottery which has been used
 ever since Roman times I should
 expect that they stood out for
 several centuries on the cemetery
 gradually getting buried by the
 gravel washed down in the rare
 storms. Probably some stood out for
 over 1000 years, or even more; at
 Denderah I found the offering jars
 still on the tops of the VIth dynasty
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(8)
 It is only the rare chance of the cemetery
 being gradually buried in gravel wash
 that has preserved these houses at
 all. Two largest ones that are perfect
 had tumbled in to the graves when
 they were being plundered, & are so
 preserved, models about a foot square
 & 18 inches high. A few small ones
 were quickly buried, & are thus
 intact; but ~~the~~ nineteen-twentieths
 were broken & weathered away at
 the top. The whole subject of the
 development of the form has been
 now cleared up, & I have over a
 dozen classes of successive types
 worked out, & a complete catalogue
 of every detail of each of 150 houses.
 Also photographs taken to show the
 distinctive points of each of these houses.
 The use, position, & history of this
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Extracts

Letter dated 21, March, 1907 "In train"

p1.

<The 19th I went over to Tombs of Kings. Found
Ayrton who shewed me tomb of Thyi. It is>

p2

quite rough & plain, only a storage tomb
for her body & shrine brought up by
Tutankhamen from Tell el Amarna.
Her face was crushed, but I held &
examined the skull;— so strange to feel so
close to her. Then I saw the tombs of
Sipteh, Amenhotep II & Tahutimes IV. Then
lunched with Ayrton. After went over
hill to D.B. Naville had left. Currelly gone
holidaying to Aswan, Dennis feasting at
Luxor, & only Dallison supposed to watch
50 men & boys clearing away chips &
stuff, which he did not do. Two thirds
of the boys doing nothing, & no one
on the watch. There is a season's
work for a copyist on the sculptured
pieces lying about, but no one seems
going to do it! Currelly has been
teaching the natives to strip the whole
region of flints, hundred weights lying
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P2 5, 21.3.07
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p3
(10)

was not there. When I remarked to
Dallison about it, he said that he had
told C. it was immoral to get the
stuff raked up in that way. D. seems
a very nice reasonable fellow, who
appears to see through the rotten state of
the work. I noticed to him a few
important points, which it seemed were
quite new to him, & had not been
observed at all. Among others the block
which no one understood, which was part
of the false door back to the central
shrine of the king. The impression is
just what I expected, entire neglect
of the lesser & unobtrusive matters,
only making a splash of wholesale clearance
& letting the detail be all lost.
Then back to Luxor, & got Carter to dine
with me. He is off next day to El Kab,
to copy all the graffiti for Somers Clarke.
He told me much of affairs. It seems that
a commission of judges reported on his case
in his favour, & the finding was entirely
suppressed by Cromer to please the French!
He is indignant at the losses in the Thyi
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p. 1 &
[p. 4. not Xeroxed]
Letter of March 21, 1907, con^d.
p5

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[p. 4. not Xeroxed]

Letter of March 21, 1907, con^d.

p5 ⑪

Also planned with 6 lectures for U.C.
1 general
2 Gizeh
3 Rifeh
4 } soul houses
5 }
6 other sources of Egyptian houses compared.
I bought about £30 worth in Luqsur. The
scarabs are, large silver mounted heart scarab,
5 big ones of Amenhotep III, 2 of Tirhaqa (one
very fine), Ramesses VI? plaque, fine, a cylinder
of Aahmes XXVI dyn, the latest known, &c; &
an interesting string of gold & carnelian beads
with VI dyn pendants from Aswan; some
white glass pendants said to come from
Abu Simbel, &c.
I met Dennis twice in Luqsur, & he paid
me his £1-1 for the Br. Sch.

I also planned out the 6 lectures for U.C.

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Copy for G.I.

49 for G.I. (12)
~~xxxxxxx~~ Letter dated 24 March 1907 from New Khedivial Hotel, Cairo.

I will begin a letter now, and post in a day or two. After seeing Memphis I went on 23rd to Sir Wm. Garstin. He was quite amiable, talked over my taking up Memphis, and agreed to help us to hire a pumping engineer out of their temporary assistants. I told him of the strange lack of action of the inspection at Asyut, and he was evidently much surprised and kept the list of dates of letters, &c, of that affair. Also I raised the Nubian temple matter, as it is now officially decided to raise the Dam. He is quite anxious to do what he can, and ready to agree to their moving all the temples back to above flood level. But he said that when (continued on Xerox copy)

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[Page also numbered 2.]

he proposed that for Philae before he (13)
was so abused, that he will propose
nothing of the kind again. But he will be
quite agreeable to our pushing that shift
of the temples by action in England. There
is 7 years in which to get it done.

Then I went & saw Anthony about
lands. He explained what he wants to
do in excavating mounds adjoining the
cultivation, & levelling them so as to
exchange with the cultivators. He had
out the maps & went into it, also the
legal questions of expropriation, &
is quite agreeable to my plan. He ended
by asking me to lunch with him on
Monday.

I looked in at Kyticas & got a lovely green
feldspar scarab of a "keeper of the boats"
Antefaa" evidently XI or early XII, &
the first such title that I have seen
on a scarab. It was £4. He had a pretty
carnelian of a Neht per Taa, but wanted £6,
so I left it as it was, unless I had more money.

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[Page also numbered 3.]

1907

1907

(3) (14)
 In the afternoon went to the Amoses. Found Maurice in, & had some talk. Bonté is married! to a Major Ellwood chief of police out here. They asked me to tea ~~today~~ next day to meet M^{rs} S.K. who is in Cairo. I left a card with her in the evening, & got a letter asking me to look in as soon as I could; so I am now just going on to see her at 9.30. am.
 Had a long chat with Mr. Amo, then on to the Museum. I shewed Maspero photographs of the main things. He settled all he wanted, & we shall have $\frac{4}{5}$ of what I have found. There are only three first class pieces which he wants, & we got all the 150 soul houses outside the two finest, all the 7 coffins & the fine tomb set of XII dyn with 2 boats & 5 servant figures. In fact what he keeps would not make any great hole in our collection. Probably he is smoothing over the chapel refusal.
 I then started & settled the Memphis question, & he agreed about all the details, & does not demand more than $\frac{1}{2}$, which is

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[Page also numbered 4.]

good terms, as we may get much statuary, &c. (4) (15)
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 with him & he is helpful & cordial over it
 all. It means of course spending most of
 the season every year at Memphis for
 as long as I shall work. And it means
 booming Memphis for all we are worth, as
 the Great English enterprise, like the French
 at Delphi, or the Germans at Pergamon. You'll
 be sick of the name in three or four years: but
 it ought to draw the public better than
 any other big enterprise. Probably the temples
 were as great as the Theban, & the
 statues as numerous: but of course only
 foundations & scraps will be left owing to
 Arab clearances.

I then lunched with Q at his Cairo flat, &
 then back looking over Museum till I went
 to tea at Maurice Amos, where Mrs S. A. was in.
 She is speculating whether you or Mrs Maurice
 Amos will be first in the field in May.
 They have asked me to dine on Monday, & Mrs S. A.
 to dine with a party at her hotel on Wed.
 I saw Hogarth at his hotel last night; he has
 been working at Asyut, which I thought was
 Schiaparelli's place only 6 miles from us.

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