

151
 came, there were no flies, & the relief was
 delightful; now, alas! they have come &
 multiplied, & insist on accompanying me everywhere.
 Dogs were a great nuisance, as they used to
 come over & ransack the people's booths in
 our Feast of Tabernacles here, & carry off their
 bread, coming also into my tent, for the same
 ends. At last, I shot two of them (one I picked
 off by moonlight at 10 paces with a single bullet,
 which is pretty near for a very kicking small
 revolver) & now their owners, the Bedawin,
 round about, keep them away. One could
 not allow a dog to be a nuisance to 70 people.
 Next day, I went to the silver-site, & scraped all
 around, & turned over all the earth which had
 come from that part; but all to no result. At
 noon, however, the boy who had been at the
 place the day before, brought in to me the
 bowl of the dipper, of which I had found the
 handle, & gave it in to be weighed as silver.
 Of course I knew at once whence he had it, but
 if I asked any questions it would raise the
 subject of all the rest of the find, & he wished to
 say no more, because evidently he had bagged
 it, & kept it until he could hand it to me, clear of
 the man he was with, for fear the man should
 claim it, or a share of it. So I took it, & weighed
 it without further remark, & put down 7/8 to his

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(152)

credit in the wages book, & he went off satisfied. Here come 5 old hags who hunt for weights & beads, all to do their suk (market) with me. Proceeds, beads, carnelian, & a few weights, one fine hematite. Beneath one room, ^{in the Kasr} which was crowded with pots, &c, was a hole in the sand, filled with various pottery, broken & whole, two fine large flat dishes, perfect, amongst it, the room seems to have been a kitchen or such place; for two benches or long recesses on two sides, had more than a dozen jars ~~stacked~~ lying on them, three small pokers of the flat or hand type, such as from Naukratis & Etruria, & quantities of pottery, perfect & broken, fine & coarse. Also the pair of rubber stones; a large iron knife, weights, &c. The reason scales are never found with all these lots of weights, is probably because they were like common scales now, made of wood & string; a beam turned in lathe, holes for suspension, & board pans.

I continually have to buy 5/- to 10/- worth of silver scraps (cut up evidently for jewellers' use), from the Bedawin. Of course they are worth nothing, but there is always the chance of a coin or bit of jewellery among them; & if I do not buy, they will take to Kantara & sell there, & then I may lose getting other things that I do want. So I take everything that comes. It is lucky that they did not find my big haul, almost as good a negative as the positive that I did get it. But I am much disappointed at not getting any coins with the

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silver. The bowl is very thin, with a stout rim; &
 decorated mildly with three concentric rows
 of shallow punchings, five in a group, [☉]
 I rather think I shall make up my mind for Maspero
 to have it; it is the most Bulaky thing I have
 found, & would satisfy an inquisitive pasha who
 might enquire. The Greek vases I hope to pass all
 together, as they are so much broken, & there is not
 a grain of knowledge about cleaning or mending
 things, among them all, at Bulak! To hear that
 the only two vases I can yet get together are in
 60 & 100 pieces, will I think, frighten them into
 dropping the whole. At the worst, I shall offer to
 return a mended vase in quittance.

I have found another bit of the incised vase with
 the lion & goat-headed monster, & it has a rider on
 the pegasus, so no doubt the monster is the
 chimaera. Weights are down again, 18 & 26 in
 two days, & 17 & 16 next two days.

Today I put on the man who found the bulk of the
 painted Greek vases, to a place where his boy -
 who is a sharp one - said he had found a bit of a
 painted vase; & in an hour we had half a basket
 full of pieces, with sphinxes, dancers with
 enormous beards, harpies, & all the regular
 run of VIth cent in pottery. So we are in for
 another haul, I suppose, & I have not yet soaked
 all of the great stack we heaped up before, a pile
 about 4 ft. square, & 8 ft. deep; all pieces of vases
 which have been more or less painted, & which may
 probably fit together, in many or most cases.
 on the war office map Nebesheh is Tell Bedaui.

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 On the war office map Nebesheh is Tell Bedaui.

XXIII.
 Defⁿ
 M^r 10.

1-)

M^r Poole & Miss Edwards should see this.Sunday (May 2)

was hot, decidedly, in so much that one of my men who went with Muh^d to Kantara was quite knocked up, sick & done for, & they had to wait an hour, till a camel passed to give him a lift. I gave him two strong doses of Belladonna tincture in the evening, & next day he was about as usual. But Monday was hotter <as> I think, perhaps because I was out in it more. My tent of course goes up to anything, & in the still air inside, it is quite insupportable. The clinical thermo^m registered 105° in it. Outside I stuck to the work till 10.40, & then I had to bolt back to the only shade worth having, a thatch of boughs, open on three sides around. There it seemed fairly cool, but the ther^m varied from 99° to 102°. Out in the open the ground was to<o> hot to stand on, the sky too hot to stand under, & the air too hot to breathe. One of the girls is bad to day with the heat. Yet Griffith intended to start for 3 ½ days camel in the desert, to Pelusium to day, & is only dissuaded from Arish by me; and writes - still worse - of stopping in Egypt all the summer. I am glad in one way, it shews that he is not feeling the heat, but of course I shall get him off before June, at the latest, as his family expect. This genial warmth has brought out all

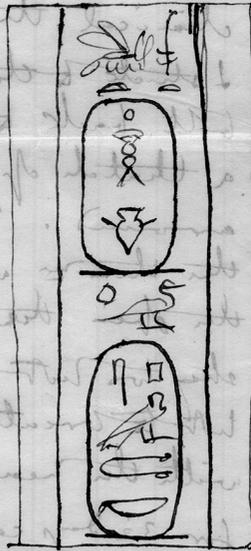
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(154)

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(155)
 sorts of creatures, and mice will persist in
 resorting to my tent, only to perish by the
 fatal doses of Swiss milk & arsenic, with glycerine
 to keep it moist & nice.

Today, having two fresh men on, I thought I
 would tackle what I had long had in view, the
 corners of the palace or fort, to see if foundation
 deposits were put in ~~secular~~ ^(not religious) buildings, & how
 they were placed under a brick building. At noon,
 one of the men brought in a green
 glazed plaque of Psamtik I, of this size & inscription. So
 I at once saw that we had got
 the founder of the Kasr - an
 important find in itself.
 But how had the man got it?
 Alas! He had - Arab fashion -
 not been content with digging
 down the side of the wall as I had
 ordered him, but had gone
 pegging in under it a foot or more,
 & so had cut up the ^{S.W.} foundation deposit,
 which I intended for personal consumption.
 However, at the N.W. the digger had been
 obedient, & I got down into his hole, & began



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(156)

clearing out there and under the wall. The
 lowest
 four courses recede a good deal
 & under the lowest, in the sand, I
 found the complete deposit. It was arranged
 thus, the porcelain
 plaque (like the other) at
 the corner, & by it copper
 & lead; then, along one
 side, a deposit of three
 together, cornelian, jasper
 & green felspar, very
 small but all engraved with the throne name,
 and along the other side another three, gold, silver
 & lapis lazuli, the lapis engraved like the other
 stones, the gold with the two cartouches, one
 on each side.

This find is of some importance; (1.) it is
 the earliest foundation deposit yet cleared,
 (2.) it shows that non-religious buildings had
 such deposits; (3.) it shows that brick buildings
 had deposits as rich as those of stone buildings,
 & shows us where to look for such; (4.) it dates
 the great fort or palace, the first building
 of this group, in which I can trace 5 or 6 different
 periods. Now, of course, we are trying for the

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 lower <lower> courses recede a good deal
 & under the lowest, in the sand, I
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 of the additional buildings. It agrees with the
 Nebesheh deposits of XXVI. dynasty, in being
 symmetrical in the corner, on the diagonal, &
 not left-handed like the later Nebesheh &
 Naukratis finds. It seems curious to squat
 down in a hole, & take out, piece by piece, what
 the old builders had carefully put in place, before
 they began a building which has stood wasted
 & worn away for more than two thousand years,
 in the midst of a wilderness. It seems to bring one
 closer to them than any amount of monument
 put up for all the world to stare it. No one has
 seen, or touched, or known of these since the builder
 laid them here, & sanded them over, in the old days
 before Nebuchadnezzar or the Persians were
 thought of. His care & arrangement now stand
 out catalogued & recorded for all the world.
 And now, hurrah! for the corners, not only
 of all the temples, but of Tell el Maskhuta &
 every other brick building, high & low, up &
 down the country. Who will enjoy that
 historical raid? Let us hope not any of
 the Bulak people, for they will destroy all
 knowledge of the details & leave the things with
 as little history of their positions as if the
 Arabs had looted them. No, that is something
 especially suitable for an Exploration Fund. Cheap,
 easy, certain, & important.

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2/
 Next day, I cleared the S.E. corner deposit. It was a surprise. For a few inches down beneath the lowest bricks, were the bones of a sacrifice, a skull & 2 leg bones, but no vertebrae or ribs; by the teeth I suppose it was an ox. Below these were, not little models of corn rubbers such as we have found elsewhere, but a full sized pair of rubbers, a curved slab, 2 ft long & 1 wide, and an upper stone. This clearly shows that these belong to the ceremonial of foundation ^{with the} the sacrifice. Then below that, was a ^{full sized} green glazed cup - for libation - unhappily very rotten, & crushed by the stone, and a porcelain plaque like the others, a lapis lazuli ^{& jasper} also engraved, and a copper & lead, but no gold, silver, carnelian or green felspar, and I can hardly think I can have missed all those, clearing carefully, by scraping by hand in the sand. But there were three pieces of lead ore (galena) many bits of copper ore, & a mud brick model. Also a half disc of polished alabaster, just under 1 inch thick, & over 3 ins. diameter. What it can be or represent, I cannot see. This find shows us that a sacrifice was offered, as I had suspected, from what I took to be a model sacrificial knife at Nebireh; and that the ^{model} corn rubbers elsewhere refer to grinding corn in the ceremony. It is to be observed how more real & substantial the

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(159)

foundation deposits are, the further back we go. At Nebireh, Ptolemaic, everything was in model, & only one name plaque in each corner. At Nebesheh, XXXth dyn (?) the plaques were merely glass imitations; & at Gemayemi (same time?) the rubbers are limestone models. At Nebesheh the temple of Aahmes ^{about two centuries earlier} had name plaques of porcelain ^{substantial though small} & of gold, but all the mod vases were models. Here, ~~about~~ about a century earlier still, we find the bones of the sacrifice, the actual ^{vase} corn rubbers, & nearly all the plaques engraved with the name. May it be that the earlier deposits are still more substantial, & we may have whole sets of bronze temple vessels? It is evident that as time went on, the whole affair became more perfunctory, & was not the great ceremony that it was at first. One corner of the additional building, that I cleared out to day, was quite blank. It is certain that the XXIst dynasty plaques from San, found by Mariette, were much larger than these of XXVIth dynasty; both porcelain & gold, & 12 of gold instead of 3 or 4.

There are some noticeable differences in the last find of Greek vase fragments, from the first lot, though both were at the same level & near together. The second batch has more of a clumsy, lumpy, rugged style, and is continually lightened by rows of white spots on the figures wherever such a design can

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160

be brought in: the amount of white is striking, not only all the female figures, but a horseman is all white on a black horse, with a white dog running beside the horse, an idea which is not common. The horse trappings are all picked out with lines of white dots.

It occurs to me that the lead & copper ores which seem so out of place among a set of carefully worked memorials, may be intended to commemorate this fort being the store house for the ores brought from Sinai or Midian, & kept here for the working of the Greek mercenaries, who evidently did both copper & iron smelting here. It is to be observed that, though no gold or silver plaques were found with the S.E. deposit, yet the other lead plaques were there, as well as the ore. It was a really pleasant day, after a windy night; lightly clouded, & a N.W. wind at 75° or so. Next day promises to be hotter again.

Getting at the foundation deposits is not the pleasantest sort of excavating. You have to work in the bottom of a narrow hole, & thence to tunnel in under a wall, the bricks of which weighing about 30 lbs each, begin to drop down in ones, or in batches, when you get much beneath them. Hence the bricks have to be watched & felt every few minutes, as a fall while partly in a hole would probably crush one's body. Then it is so dark in such a twisted place, with one's own self blocking out the light, that everything has to be

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1161
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 anything is found, without breaking it. And
 then all the sand must be put in baskets &
 handed up some feet, to a man just over
 one's head, which is no small exertion. Altogether,
 an hour ^{or half} of it is long enough, as I found at the S.E.

To day, a man found a silver ring in clearing
 the great mastaba; it is of $L \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$ which
 I suppose must be read, "first priest of the living
 Horus, Ra men ab" = Psamtik II: but L is rather
 short for $L \frac{1}{2}$ & yet the $\frac{1}{2}$ cannot supply for $\frac{1}{2}$.
 Weights do not revive, 15, 17, 28, 12, is the return of
 the last four days, never up to the forties I used
 to have; so I suppose I have really drained the
 accessible surface supply.

Next day, I cleared under a corner of an additional
 building, E. of the Kasr; the only deposit was a
 hole 1 ft deep & 4 ins. wide, filled with charcoal &
 bones of a small bird; so minor sacrifices
 were made for minor buildings. Weights 20.

At last the deep trench to the N.E. corner of the
 Kasr was finished; the wall there was 21 ft
 high still, & nearly the whole height of it had another
 mass of brickwork against it; so we had to cut
 a trench, about 20 ft. deep, in solid brick. Finding it
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³/₂₀ baskets spanned I got at the deposit. ⁽¹⁶²⁾ It is almost the same as the N.W. corner, rather differently arranged, & so close under the bricks that I had to work out some of it from underneath. There are, the large porcelain plaque, the gold, silver, copper, & lead, (the silver is rather better than the other, & I see the full inscrip; like the porcelain), jasper lapis lazuli & blue green felspar, inscribed like the others; also a model mud brick. I am relieved at getting this, as now we have one set safe for Brit. Mus. I look forward to seeing a table case in B.M. full of series of foundation deposits, some day. Here is the fifth. I think now we ought to try for foundation deposits at the corners of the building in the Great Temenos at Naukratis; the worst is, that they will be under water, I fear. To day was cool, cloudy, & often spitting with rain; but I was so delighted to be able to get about, that I took the opportunity to begin the general survey of the place, taking in the neighbourhood, for a mile or more. I already had the plan of the Kasr done, & of the brick walls I traced on the E. I have found it will repay me, as plans usually do. I had noticed a long narrow space, clear of pottery, & had thought it was a road, but now I see it is one side of a great enclosure all around the Kasr; in fact, the wall of a great camp, three furlongs long & 2 wide.

20 baskets up and I got at the deposit. It is almost the same as the N.W. corner, rather differently arranged, & so close under the bricks that I had to work out some of it from underneath. There are, the large porcelain plaque, the gold, silver, copper & lead, (the silver is rather better than the other, & I see the full inscrip; like the porcelain), jasper lapis lazuli & blue-green felspar, an/inscribed like the others; also a model mud brick. I am relieved at getting this, as now we have one set safe for Brit. Mus. I look forward to seeing a table case in B.M. full of series of foundation deposits, some day. Here is the fifth. I think now we ought to try for foundation deposits at the corners of the building in the Great Temenos at Naukratis; the worst is, that they will be under water, I fear. To day was cool, cloudy & often spitting with rain; but I was so delighted to be able to get about, that I took the opportunity to begin the general survey of the place, taking in the neighbourhood, for a mile or more. I already had the plan of the Kasr done, & of the brick walls I traced on the E. I have found it will repay me, as plans usually do. I had noticed a long narrow space, clear of pottery, & had thought it was a road, but now I see it is one side of a great enclosure, all around the Kasr; in fact, the wall of a great camp, three furlongs long & 2 wide.

163

In the middle of the N. side start two lines of fragments of stone, apparently bordering a road which runs straight to the door of the Kasr; and in the middle of the S. side, are three lines of stone chips which I had seen before but not understood. I now guess that these are the chips thrown aside in breaking up a stone pylon [?] as they occur exactly in the line of the wall; the camp there had a north gate to the canal, & a south gate, to the great Syrian desert road, which ran on the S.

I may be able to trace somewhat of the buildings within this camp in parts, by the signs of chips & shards, only it is washed away utterly, and the great wall though 50 ft. thick, is rather below the level of the ground, as it had no shards in it, to check the wash.

Poor Muh^d has got a cold on the chest, & neuralgia about his head & teeth, probably from chilling during the late heat. So he is in tent all today, sipping quinine in lemonade, at his desire, & I have just fed him with half a tin of hot soup, whereon he talks once more. He has been uneasy - stomach, &c - for ten days past. Carbolic acid is my main dispensation here; they have learnt its value & every one with any skin

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Poor Muh^d has got a cold on the dust, & neuralgia about his head & teeth, probably from chilling during the late heat. So he is in tent all to day, sipping quinine in lemonade, at his desire, & I have just fed him with half a tin of hot soup, whereon he talks once more. He has been uneasy - stomach, &c - for ten days past. Carbolic acid is my main dispensation here; they have learnt its value & every one with any skin

(164)

trouble comes up for some. To test their sincerity I require them to supply some oil themselves, to which I add about $\frac{1}{3}$ carbolic to for an ointment. Otherwise, finding they got a tin or bottle supplied, the demand was too general. To save being bothered for empty tins & bottles, I now let them scramble for them. No sooner does the cry of a bottle to be had go out, than out rush about a dozen or twenty lads & boys, & dance expectantly; up goes the bottle or tin, & they all rush together, one moment it is all heads up, & then next it is all heels out, as they fall in a general heap, of which nothing but struggling legs can be seen; at last out comes a dishevelled boy from the bottom of the pile, hugging his prize. I gave a scramble for girls alone, but a little wretch of a boy rushed in & snatched the tin; he did not take much by that however, as he had five big girls on the top of him at once, & finally came out distracted-looking. Once a small boy thought he had caught the tin between his legs, & so did four others who fell on him at once, but it had gone through, & was caught by a solitary urchin behind. The Diversions of Daphnae. We have now had two days cool & cloudy, & I am vastly better for it; I could not have believed

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165

that Egypt would have been so cool at this time of year; this morning it rained about an hour & one of my men, who was on outlying unsheltered work turned tail, & gave up for 1/2 day. This day 2 years ago, had that fearful cataclysm at San. It has been just what would be called cool, cloudy, showery, weather for the end of August or beginning of September, in England.

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Please pay in enclosed cheque.

XXIV

Kant/<Defth>

M^r 18.

M^{rs} Petrie, 8. Crescent R^d
Bromley, Kent-

Please pay in enclosed cheque.
Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent R^d
Bromley, Kent.
M^r 18.

Defenneh, 10-15 May /86-

Mr Poole to see this.

Mr. Poole
to see this.

Defenneh, 10-15 May /86- (166)

The beginning of the end is come upon me,
& I am making boxes, whenever the heat &
work leave me a practicable hour. I have
bought wood through Royle for 8 boxes, bought
18 petroleum boxes, & sent for 24 more.
I have now done with the Kasr, after clearing
all the undenuded & less denuded part of the
paved area, so as to make sure that I have
not left Jeremiah's stones behind. As I have
dug down 9 to 18 inches ^{below} the surface, & the
whole mass is only about 30 ins thick, I am
fairly certain that nothing has been missed.
I have had most of the men on clearing in the
camp behind the palace. I have had this ground
in prospect for some weeks, but left it
to the last for several reasons. The amount
is undefined, so I can go on just to fill up time,
I wished to see the Kasr done first; it is rich
work for bakhshish, & so would discontent
the men if they had it earlier, whereas now
it serves to keep them all here; & it needs
the least possible attention, so it can go on
while I pack. It is purely looting work.
I reckoned that it could not pay to clear the
ground exhaustively; the camp area is about
1000 x 2000 ft, & to clear all this to 2 ft deep,
would cost £1200; hence we must pick the

Mr Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd - Bromley, Kent

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Mr Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd - Bromley, Kent-

richest & easiest part, to do it at all. So I
 determined to only turn over the surface about
 6 ins: deep, which contains the greater part of the
 things, & which can be very quickly done,
 simply by scraping over, without carrying
 the earth ~~at~~ at all: and this to be done on
 a region where much iron & copper was
 picked up. So I have turned more than an
 acre, & expect to do about 2 acres more
 in this way. ^(The result, see out of the 3 acres) It looked just as if we were
 going to sow a crop, & had hoed up all the
 earth in little ridges, ready. The work has
 paid well; good iron & bronze arrow heads
 by the handful, iron chisels, horses bits, two
 bronze chisels, many other tools, a thick silver
 lid of a cup, many fine stone weights from
 6 or 8 lbs: down to $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, two little plaques of
 Apries, which completes the series of XXVI. dyn.
 king's names here. The stuff we turn is all of
 Amasis, I believe; these two of Apries were
 in a rather deeper clearance. The weights
 will be very valuable, being thus all of one age
 & place, & in fine condition.

It is a great waste of time to be out here so
 late in the season, for I cannot do more

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 determined to only turn over the surface dust
 6 ins: deep, which contains the greater part of the
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 simply by scraping over, without carrying
 the earth ~~at~~ at all: and this to be done on
 a region where much iron & copper was
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 acre, & expect to do about 2 acres more
 in this way <(I hope I shall get a coin out of the 3 acres)>. It looked
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 late in the season, for I cannot do more

(168)

than half a day's good work in the day, owing to the heat, & the flies. To have to keep one hand generally at work ~~at~~ as a fly-flap, & to feel helpless at 90°, is not the way to get on. Each year, I determine to leave earlier, & each year I am detained longer than I intend. I must aim at the middle of April in future.

I have had Griffith here for a couple of days, on his way back from Kantara. The work there proved so short, that he went off to explore Pelusium. The only good results at Kantara are three pieces of Latin inscription of hieroglyphs, saying it was the camp of the 1st Ala Thracum, of some legion, & a bronze bottle in shape of female head, with inlaid blue glass eyes.

He is gone back to Nebesheh, to try for the corners of the older temple there, (please reckon all irregularities of writing to having to leave go of my paper & knock a fly off, which occurs twice a line, in general) & it is supposed that he will leave in a week, take all the boxes thence to Cairo, & pass them at Bulak. I leave them in 10 days, & bring up my boxes, & pass them, so soon as he has done his. Meanwhile, he goes off, for

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XXXV
 May
 24/86
 (169)
 four or five days tenting, to see the tells
 N. of Buto, which need exploring, & can
 only be done in May. Then we join at
 Alex: & come home, by long sea if
 quarantine is still on.
 A fresh party of Bedawin have found out
 that I will buy, & they come from a district
 between here & San. There is a tell there,
El Bahain, (with the place of cattle, called so from
 pasturage there; /<), which seems to abound in
 the small brass weights, rather different in
 shape to those here. I have bought over
 200 in 3 days; beside handful of carnelian
 beads. I have now 1400 weights. I ought to go
 over & see this tell, but it is too hot to do
 anything that can be avoided, so it must
 wait. There is any amount of iron slag
 in the camp, & some beautiful haematite, so it
 is plain that they smelted here as at Nauk^s,
 & the quantity of iron work explains this.
 It is a serious matter soaking everything
 here, to get the salt out; it takes me over an
 hour a day, attending to the changes of water &c.
 I have half a dozen big pots sunk in the canal.
 The camp is more prolific than ever; about
 a hundred bronze arrow heads, iron arrow heads,
 tools, &c, weights, & best of all, 10 fine basalt weights
 all found together. Weights bought, 37. I expect to leave
 Egypt before this can be answer^d

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XXV
 Defth
 May
 24/86

June 1/86

(1)

① June 1/86 ①⑦⑥

At last I can sit down quietly in Alexandria for a morning, without anything else to do but writing. The last week at Defenneh, 17-22 May, was a scramble to pack up in time; each day I turned out about 5.20, went over to the camp, where my men were turning all the surface over, & took names down. Then back & worked away at box making, repairing, & packing till 11 or 12 all in full sun. Then stopped for breakfast (or whatever you like to call it), took in what my men had found up to noon, had a nap, sent the men off again about 2 1/2, then a bath, & then packing again till dark. Muh^d worked capitally, and did nearly all the rougher packing; his feelings were not so acute as mine about risks of damage, & so he packed straight ahead, & was always asking for more boxes & more pottery. I had 24 petroleum boxes from Port Said, but they were the wretched Russian boxes, very badly made, very dirty, & much damaged, in so much that I had to practically re-make each box. & many of them were knocked to pieces to mend the others. At last, I had to stop for sheer lack of wood nails & time & leave heaps of pottery behind, most of it complete amphorae & dishes, broken, but all there. I sent off three camel

At last I can sit down quietly in Alexandria for a morning, without anything else to do but writing. The last week at Defenneh, 17-22 May, was a scramble to pack up in time; each day I turned out about 5.30, went over to the camp, where my men were turning all the surface over, & took names down. Then back & worked away at box making, repairing, & packing till 11 or 12 all in full sun. Then stopped for breakfast (or whatever you like to call it), took in what my men had found up to noon, had a nap, sent the men off again about 2 1/2, then a bath, & then packing again till dark. Muh^d worked capitally, and did nearly all the rougher packing; his feelings were not so acute as mine about risks of damage, & so he packed straight ahead, & was always asking for more boxes & more pottery. I had 24 petroleum boxes from Port Said, but they were the wretched Russian boxes, very badly made, very dirty, & much damaged, in so much that I had to practically re-make each box; & many of them were knocked to pieces to mend the others. At last, I had to stop for sheer lack of wood nails & time, & leave heaps of pottery behind, most of it complete amphorae & dishes, broken, but all there. I sent off three camel

[There is no page 171.]

(172)
 loads one day, three more the next, & expected
 to wind up with some on the next day after, &
 go over to Salhieh, leaving on the fourth morning.
 But the second day to my horror the camels
 came back with the news that the train
 was altered, & left the third morning. So I
 finished packing that night in all haste, ending
 by $\frac{1}{4}$ to 12. Then lay down & got a doze in
 an interval when the mice permitted, & then
 up at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2, packed the tent by moonlight,
 loaded the camels, searched the ground to see
 that nothing was left, heaved over several
 good things I could not carry, into the bushes
 along the canal, & left all packed by $3\frac{1}{2}$. There
 was just the slightest show of dawn then, &
 we marched on over the desert to Salhieh.
 By $\frac{1}{4}$ past 4 the dawn glow quite overpowered
 the light of the half moon, & at 5 the sun
 rose. The canal looked lovely in the dawn,
 the high clumps of reeds rising straight up 8 or
 10 feet out of the water, the birds all shrieking
 & twittering in the tops, & the clear reflection
 of the amber dawn in the cool still water. It
 made me realise ~~there~~ the truth of the old Kingdom
 paintings of the fowling scenes; I had always thought
 the blank wall of reeds straight up behind a boat

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 made me realise there the truth of the old Kingdom
 paintings of the fowling scenes; I had always thought
 the blank walls of reeds straight up behind a boat

was a highly unconventional way of merely shewing that
 the boat was among reeds, as we always know
 reed clumps graduating down with shorter ones
 on the outside. But here were clumps with
 a blank flat side of straight vertical reeds
 exactly like the backgrounds of the sculptures,
 rising to well over a boatman's head. One
 seemed to expect to see a papyrus punt
 come round a corner with some Api or
 Teta standing on it, and a few little Ptah-hoteps
 or Neferts squatting around him.

At last we reached Salahieh, where I had all
 the baggage weighed, paid for it, made a final list
 of all the boxes, & when the train came got in.
 Then up came the station master in a scare,
 saying he had just got peremptory orders
 that no baggage antiquities were to go by
 rail without a special order from Bulak,
 & insisting on having my railway policy back
 again. So I had to go off with a promise of
 sending the order as soon as I could. At Fikus
 I found Said & Midani, who ought to have left
 three days before, but who had to wait because
 the boxes would not be received by the rail
 until a special order from Bulak, so they had
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174
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 scare about some things just found in the Faium,
 & general orders against all antikas had been
 issued. So we all came to Cairo together, reises
 & I, & Griffith went off at once to Bulak to
 get the order for my boxes from Salahieh.
 Then came most hideous delays on the part
 of the railway, and I was dancing attendance
 every morning for 5 days at the railway
 station, Muhammed walking in each day from
 the pyramids, on purpose, every day we
 were told the boxes would be there next
 day. Altogether Griffith & I interviewed
 Skander Bey the traffic manager 9 days
 running, & had innumerable telegrams sent,
 some of which we paid, & some the railway sent.
 It would have paid us well to have brought
 everything up as passenger baggage at double
 rates to save such a delay. The Salahieh
 boxes came to hand first, & I managed to get
 them up to Bulak Saturday morn^g, & pass them
 all on Sat. aft. Then Muh^d got up the Fakus
 boxes on Sunday morning, & on Monday morn
 I passed all of them, opening 6 or 7. As for my
 own purchases, Maspero asked if I had anything
 important; I told him of the best, & he at once
 said pray don't bring them here to be seen,

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 own purchases, Maspero asked if I had anything
 important; I told him of the best, & he at once
 said pray don't bring them here to be seen,

put them in a box ready, & leave them, & we will seal them. I have been much interested in many remarks of his about not shewing things at Bulak; he does not wish anyone else there to see all I have, & for two of our best things (as to value) he asked me not to shew them to him. He remarked to me also on the "large eyes my second made" on seeing one fine piece, when the said second was out of the way; and said of a headless inscribed statue, "If it is seen here I shall be always asked afterwards why I did not take it; but if I propose to exhibit any of the headless statues we have already there is an outcry at once". Brugsch took care to be present at nearly all of our examination; in fact I am amused at the general interest taken in our boxes, I should have thought they would have been looked on as a nuisance, but on the contrary Maspero, Brugsch & Bourriant all sit or stand round & many things pass round them all. On Monday aftⁿ I accordingly packed all my own things & drove them down to Bulak, left them, & bid good bye to Muh^d whom I left in charge to see to the final readiness of the boxes <81 in all> & to carting them to the station & despatching them to Suez, leaving him money for all which he will account for to Cook, & leaving a letter to Mr. West the Consul at Suez to go

(2)

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176
 with the railway policy. I could not do anything
 by stopping till Tuesday as the Khedive was
 coming for an inspection that day, & the
 P.&O. was to leave Wednesday; if I did not
 catch that there was no boat till next
 Tuesday's Messageries. So it was a week
 or nothing. I thought the small risks I left
 behind were not worth a week's time &
 hotel. We have lost several fine things to
 Bulak, but scarcely anything that I personally
 regret. The large steatite figure of Isis from
 Gemayami was what won the day for us;
 that kept, almost anything else we might
 have. It is certainly far finer than any
 statue of Isis they have, & was to be duly
 shown to the Khedive with other things as the
 profit Bulak obtained by granting permission.
 The other good things kept by Maspero were the
 greater part of the glass mosaic figures from
 Gemayami, two splendid Ramesside scarabs,
 the best jar sealing of Aahmes (very good) the
 silver bowl, the silver lid, & the silver dipper (all
 our silver articles) and Griffith's fine bronze
 head-vase with glass eyes. But we have
 got, a large gold handle of a tray found at
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 see it) the gold Horus statuette with silver case (we
 bowed to each other dozens of times over it, each
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 of the gold earrings, the Gemayemi Isis turned
 the scale & I took the Horus), all our cut up silver
 (only worth the metal) the bulk of our gold earrings &c,
 all our coins, the big bronze pail, all our
 Gemayemi bronzes, the alabaster vases of XX dyn;
 all our weights & Greek pottery, subject to
some return. Of weights Maspero only wants
 a type set of forms of each standard about
 50 in all, & leaves the selection entirely to me.
 Of vases he asks for one or two examples
 mended up, leaving me to send such as we
 may have duplicates of in Brit. Mus. So
 this is as good as could be.

I bought a good many little things up in Cairo while
 I was waiting for the boxes; the best perhaps was
 a set of five Roman writing tablets of wood
 with scoring lines on the edge shewing it to be a
 complete set. Unluckily some wretch has
 cleaned off all the wax; what an epistle may
 have been lost! Also 30 king's scarabs & some others.

Griffith left Cairo soon after I arrived to tour
 about N. of Buto. He went thence to Alexandria
 & met me there Tuesday night. He reports that
 all the mounds seem to be late, all having Cufic

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 very much beneath.
 I shall probably be home about four days
 after this arrives, if we are not stopped by
 quarantine. I am assured that there is
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XXVI. Alex^a
 June 8th

Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent R^d
 Bromley, Kent

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