allress -10 Jan. 1897. 28 Dec. 189 Ribeh, Up. F Store the our two de etch them as 4 atter corrand w afraid he was

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address <u>Bibeh, Up. Egypt</u>. 28 Dec. 1896 – 10 Jan. 1897.

After returning from the southward round to Minyeh, I stayed two days at Behnesa to look after matters, writing up journal, getting stores out, &c, before going north on further exploration. (I write this on boxes in an open boat, amid continual little lurches & gusts, of which you will see the "graph" in this writing.) In these two days Miss Oldroyd came down here with her nephew, and I sent over Ali to Beni Mazar to fetch them, to their great satisfaction, though their language in common is but a dozen words. I saw them settled down, & in touch with the rest of our company, & then started off north with Ali & donkeys as before. This time we had a different man, who was an utter coward, & would not go a day's journey alone, but required to get sight of us half way each day to encourage him. It made our standing joke; & so well known is he in the village for this, that when starting north again in the boat he asked if I would take him, & I asked if he was afraid to stay alone in

his village, a byestander said "Al the khawaga kurr your walk. our travelling sopences were not muley ta man & piastres, this Soulary grates, Jonly for 4 p. Ali 4 p. Istal 16 p. or 3/3' a day for a farty of three sorting there men. Such in ly pt when you know the prices. Such is not Egy pt to the townst. (Here it became so bitterly cold that I give up writing with reached shelter, That day we saw four probable sites oftombr, + three Roman villages, reached El mesid that night. Near bur camping twent on alread on fort to book for a place, 2000 after house of an trak Bey. Isaw a horseman in hit persuets, X his servant overtook me with a pressing invitation to go talay in him , & the bait added of a horse Stake me where a next day. However Anab hospitality is rather wearsome, 50 went on to the village. my Donkeys came up by dark, twe pitched.

his village, a byestander said "Ah the khawaga knows your walk". Our travelling expences were not serious. Two donkeys & a man 8 piastres, Ali's donkey <u>gratis</u>, donkeys food 4 p. Ali 4 p. Total 16 p. or $3/3^d$ a day for a party of three donkeys & two men. Such is Egypt when you know the prices. Such is not Egypt to the tourist. (Here it became so bitterly cold I had to give up writing until I reached shelter.)

That day we saw four probable sites of tombs, & three Roman villages, & reached El Mesīd that night. Near our camping I went on ahead on foot to look for a place, & passed a house of an Arab Bey. Soon after I saw a horseman in hot pursuit, & his servant overtook me with a pressing invitation to go & stay with him, & the bait added of a horse to take me wherever I wished next day. However Arab hospitality is rather wearisome, so I declined & went on to the village. My donkeys came up by dark, & we pitched.

It was well I did 50, for Smet here the only lypteon who had a real in the autoparters. After Dinner come to see me, very politely not mo the tent, + with him 9 30 Umman Khallil, an honest who began to pour out an ac each town & cemetery all nomes + position of with the things, + made notes 10, nearly avery one my m end. He afterward de : but por plu not done any dagge the places. there 1 + observ visle 5 get sitter was no nateon on any promise kind ; but simply he told me as interested in ming, & told me more, pointing out places in the hills. The Thethe sent us a bourd of with we the roning, twas more polite + detrusive than any Heave wet with. . Next day Isaw there Rom an villages +

It was well I did so, for I met here the only Egyptian who had a real interest in the antiquities. After dinner the shekh came to see me, very politely not pushing into the tent, & with him a scribe Umran Khallil, an honest-looking man, who began to pour out an account of each town & cemetery all the way north, with the names & positions of each. I saw he knew things, & made notes at once on my map, nearly every one of which I afterwards verified. He had also been over the east side; but had apparently not done any digging or plundering, only visiting & observing the places. There was no endeavour to get either payment for information or any promise of any kind; but simply he told me all he knew because I was interested in it. He came again next morning, & told me more, pointing out places in the hills. The Shekh sent us a bowl of milk in the morning, & was more polite & less obtrusive than any I have met with.

Next day I saw three Roman villages &

three constants, beside a large tom, , mean Mazurale This has a great cemeter, nors a plundered, + for half a mile the geset is white with bon of Saules. Here, north of masur we pitched an a grassy rise near -, close by a cemetery to The tomb. We asked a man of the hand by it there "No the shake is their guand " - the tout that their respect fo the wit fit, they e able tund foride so as to visit the chamber und in The Jome. which stands now half in the sand. Ih + all the night was cloudy, reated the air; while all night there came fait wafts of tama that seemed too Sweet 5 that a batter, + in the Evening interesting long talk with All on the varieties offices. He hates hyme most hearting, yet often wring my conscience

three cemeteries, beside a large town, "Kom el Ahmar", near Mazurah. This has a great cemetery, now all plundered, & for half a mile the desert is white with bones, & thousands of skulls. Here, north of Mazurah, we pitched on a grassy rise near the stream, close by a cemetery & a shekh's tomb. We asked a man of the farm hard by if there were any guards, "No, the shekh is their guard". Such is their respect for this tomb, that as an advancing sand dune thre buried the lower part of it, they built a long tunnel of brick so as to still be able to visit the chamber under the dome. which stands now half in the sand. The night was cloudy, & al the fields scented the air; while all night long there came faint wafts of tamarisk that seemed too sweet to be believed. I had a bathe, & in the evening a very interesting long talk with Ali on the varieties of lies. He hates lying most heartily, yet often wrung my conscience

with statements to other people which I must ignore on contradict. and his views. 5 a lie, but only a polite prevarice Itold him the Institution son white his thead lies a to be white his is more at all, so long as it is not against the interests which his bound to serve. their comons of wrong, as then one can take own ground. Thave n in him anything but als mattiful to me; but them + feels bound to let He total me that he had warned that if Su told him a single lie he would discorce has at once The next day we came on a commelling with some large tombs, none yet spend, + a bit of XVIII dy patting close by

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B)

with statements to other people which I must ignore or contradict. So I enquired as to his views. It seems that to Egyptian consciences a lie is/<means> an injurious falsehood; but a falsehood which is only to save a person's feelings (such as "Not at home") is not a lie, but only a polite prevarication. I told him the distinction some make of white lies & black lies. & to him a white lie is none at all, so long as it is not against the interests which he is bound to serve. It is well to get to understand their cannons of right & wrong, as then one can take them on their own ground. I have never known him anything but absolutely truthful to me; but then he is "my man" & feels bound to let me know all. He told me that he had warned his wife that if she told him a single lie he would divorce her at once.

The next day we came on a cemetery with some large tombs, none yet opened, & a bit of XVIII dyn pottery close by.

The sign of such tombs is a slight sinking in the ground, with a righter ne on one 2 is to see of there I after sile, with a Jesert After this we of softer Stuff two Doman sites ta cometery, reached Deshashek. a large came Here Hound gthe IV-VIth granty on the ranch fat has been blun by nature agents of Josen fton four the mo have get se int who with sulp Ivon, ta guand trace that as the finde notse not broken medmet el fa key is kept at borth of the Isaw another village, the grubbed up bits of

The sign of such tombs is a slight sinking in the ground, with a slighter ridge on one side where the stuff has not yet been levelled. The test is to see if there is a sharp edge of desert soil at the side, with a filling of softer stuff. After this we saw two Roman sites & a cemetery, & then reached Deshasheh.

Here I found a large cemetery of the IV–VIth dynasty on the hills. Much of it has been plundered out by native agents of the Museum, but dozens of tombs yet remain, & it is far the most valuable site that I have yet seen. Two tombs are sculptured, & are now shut up with doors, & a guard to see that they are not broken. I could not see them as the key is kept at Medinet el Fayum.

North of this I saw another Roman village, Ali grubbed up bits of papyri,

+ I found a long line of flint 69 tundi just behind it, quit undered West of myana (Amyana a small Roman willage, which my friend Umran had told me of, calle mayalet Belesan. At my pitched for the night, on the drich bed of a lake mich was all soft below. In the village next morning Isaw a an inscription dedicated hart of Ptolemy Soter, apparently by Amadokos, seems a Thracian name. greek, on a bit of a basalt + came from Ahmas. on to Almas, which I . All the mounts are see agai signatic masses of 11- 10th cent. Roman Muntil for Naville's tample, +f (as that suffored) that he has not been below the Ramessile floor level. tops of great blocks are maring, but the substructure has never

& I found a long line of flint tumuli just behind it, quite unopened. West of Myana (Amyana of map) is a small Roman village, which my friend Umran had told me of, calling it Mayalet Belesan. At Myana we pitched for the night, on the dried bed of a lake which was all soft below. In the village next morning I saw a part of an inscription dedicated under Ptolemy Soter, apparently by Amadokos, which seems a Thracian name. It is in Greek, on a bit of a basalt shrine. & came from Ahnas. Thence we went on to Ahnas, which I was anxious to see again. All the mounds are hopeless; gigantic masses of IInd–IVth cent. Roman. I hunted for Naville's temple, & found (as I had supposed) that he has not been below the Ramesside floor level. The tops of the great blocks are shewing, but the substructure has never been seen.

As the water in a pit close by a four feel under the floor now, we shall have afleast six feet to leave, So front seen of there is anythe as at the other temples that . sug Thence we went on to Illalum or rather Hawarat el makta. Two letter spendes were in the inspection bourse - my du home - so I fut had in the garden by the shrice bridge, near the gentle rush prevater pouring through to the my del friends, who had Isaw several of not been up to the three years Southern work ; + where they that was to work near there, they bubbled over with delight, patting on the back, all mady to be off the was much cast four atfinding that his unscruppedious father had not only swallowed so much flin money, had sold his roukey, tralled in + refused to pay a prestre. The No man must be a miser, tub a pendtherift.

As the water in a pit close by is four feet under the floor now, we shall have at least six feet to work in before I leave. So I must see if there is anything older below, as at the other temples that I have dug.

Thence we went on to Illahun, or rather Hawaret el Makta. Two little effendis were in the inspection house – my old home - so I pitched in the garden by the sluice bridge, near the gentle rush of water pouring through to the Fayum. I saw several of my old friends, who had not been up to the three years' southern work; & when they heard that was to work near there, they bubbled over with delight, patting me on the back, all ready to be off at once. Ali was much cast down at finding that his unscrupulous father had not only swallowed so much of his money, but had sold his donkey, & called in his loans, & refused to pay a piaster. The old man must be a miser, & not a spend thrift,

Jas it was only three we he had then maised £3. + his u unged him to pe mothing could be gove 1 the better take it out in bo services from eightgen old more than their keep. So the to the There A ha sarring which won carried of with the little yusuf his yougest brother much sip yo boy, who had much better be with Ali there with the father, + can earn 12'or 15'a month by his keep. I give these affairs of Ales because it is harroy ever that of fa fellatis life com work one of us so fully We went over to near moderat el Faym bree a cametery, which is getter ow king Im than been slowly worked out, by the cipto Are neigh barning convient, for meter in the rock tomber. There is still much which should be secured. formuldbe a hand fight to get it from es the Capts, as they would 3 wear that all the

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as it was only three weeks ago he had thus raised \pounds 3. & his wife urged him to pay Ali. Finding that nothing could be done I told him he had better take it out in boys, whose services from eight <or ten> years old are worth more than their keep. So Ali is to confiscate the share of Mahmud's earnings which would have gone to the father; & he carried off with him little Yusuf his youngest brother, a sweet slip of a boy, who had much better be with Ali than with the father, & who can earn 12^s or 15^s a month beyond his keep. I give these affairs of Ali's because it is hardy ever that the real working of a fellah's life comes before one of us so fully.

We went over to near Medinet el Fayum to see a cemetery, which is of the Old Kingdom & has been slowly worked out, by the Copts of a neighbouring convent, for reburials in the rock tombs. There is still much of it remaining which should be secured. It would be a hard fight to get it from the Copts, as they would swear that all the

C)

ancient tombs were in their cometery + and not be dug up, in order to keep them to themselves. S. Jashed I morgan to put a guar on the year. Af delimit the apter right, + applied to be allowed & work it next year, after the copts are grieted. It ought to be the countery of the Zaymen in the W-VI the dynastin, furnich we know nothing yet. The touts are all the many of them Stairway tombs like those of Nagada, and stone vases & statuettes are found in them, Labor saw a Roman + P totemare tom close by, & another Roman ville cemetery ecoupt finiles west, & then neturnel ecross the descrit to Illahum. The next day hvent over Gurob again, +saw that much get remains untonched there. There not seen anywhere so und Atte XVIII-XIX dy. to work as there still is there. Three men had gone on with the donkeys & Deshashed & await us Had a good whe over the cemeter of Almas on the way, see that there is yet much to them, after Namille + the

ancient tombs were in their cemetery & could not be dug up, in order to keep them to themselves. So I asked de Morgan to put a guard on this year, & to delimit the Coptic rights; & applied to be allowed to work it next year, after the Copts are quieted. It ought to be the cemetery of the Fayum in the IV–VIth dynasties, of which we know nothing yet. The tombs are all sta many of them stairway tombs like those of Nagada, and stone vases & statuettes were found in them. I also saw a Roman & Ptolemaic town close by, & another Roman village & cemetery a couple of miles away west, & then returned across the desert to Illahun.

The next day I went over Gurob again, & saw that much yet remains untouched there. I have not seen anywhere so much of the XVII –XIX dyn. to work as there still is there. Three men had gone on with the donkeys to Deshasheh to await us. I had a good look over the cemetery of Ahnas on the way & see that there is yet much to do there, after Naville & the

- husen people have plundered it. 73 Sworth from Illaham & Je ma Deshashele + the desert abling for worth to the Almas cemetery ; 50 hope soon to be able to begin On neading Deshashed, and Istopped at an trab handlet where the trut guard lines, when is a very descent fellow. This place is called Egh ghigher, which is unpromiceable without practice + may be anglicised an Ex Rige. If a good flat sandy bit at the sud a dune, just hidden from the noise Athe hamlet, close to the canal as near our work (2miles) as any available place. The Shekh had just made 10,000 bricks, which he modely asked double price for (3/1° a loos), twhich Lagnet to ave time. Meft my builder lad there, marked out a siaron have, + left two men + a bu y bisul, with my baggage, taking only planbet, Shi + Ithen went of 5

Museum people have plundered it.

I wrote from Illahun to de Morgan applying for Deshasheh & the desert north to the Ahnas cemetery: so I hope soon to be able to begin work.

On reaching Deshasheh, or I stopped at an Arab hamlet where the tomb guard lives, who is a very decent fellow. This place is called Egh Ghigha, which is unpronounceable without practice, & may be anglicised as Er Riga. I found a good flat sandy bit at the end of a dune, just hidden from the noise of the hamlet, close to the canal & as near our work (2 miles) as any available place. The shekh had just made 10,000 bricks, which he modestly asked double price for $(3^{s}/6^{d} a 1000)$, & which I agreed for, so as to save time. I left my builder lad there, marked out a six roomed house, & left two men & a boy beside, with my baggage, taking only my blankets. Ali & I then went off to

Bibel beet the tran south so as Ih road h thing Si for Iwalked for Sixteen one have go er we som his off, & anothe Now the wish of the A. 7 arinin half in home also all day. So we had to we 12 tream 5 pm. wh lift - a food train. mean which the bought wood for our & The theory of the t sent ones goods train in that passinger may second class fares in the quart's van. The Jonaction of the may only is by at into the van, + pay the great about and I saw a levely wrange class fare that he would and the as to the an take. At last we got prem Maza, Shows for 32 miles, mainly spent in stillinger

Bibeh to get the train south so as to save a day. The road however was very winding [\Re] thus, & on a high embankment with ditches at the sides, so that no short cuts were possible. So ten miles direct, became fully sixteen, for I walked hard for four hours in hopes of saving the train. However we saw one train go when we were 3 miles off, & another at a mile off. Now the wisdom of the railway administration is to run two trains half-hour apart, & no more all day. So we had to wait from 12 to near 5 p.m. when we got a lift in a goods train. Meanwhile Ali bought wood for our roof, & engaged it to be sent over. The theory of the goods train is that passengers may go at second class fares in the guard's van. The practice of the majority is to get into the van, & pay the guard about half a 3rd class fare; and I saw a lively wrangle as to the amount of tip that he would take. At last we got to Beni Mazar, 3 hours for 32 miles, mainly spent in stoppages.

P By that time it was long after dark, we set if full Jund for Belines 1 flambets carrying the hum The road is level half the way, but with must chips, which hop into one thave to be shaken out every five min walking on pears is nothing to it. Wrest Atter way was ste field patters & ploughed C. is to never speak to any one, so that stand hurren monthly. past survey startled follis in sace on , + has at last 5 go through avillage. The first grand of two Effect; the Dogs flew yelloing at our heals; the can the main good setting by a fire of Who's thes ? " Whoose this ?" in aby tones they shouted as we came on past them, full Spen in silence. them "Stop them, They are effects, were the oles. I as we u into the silence of the fields, we h a confused babel fterrified queros A house

By that time it was long after dark, & we set off full speed for Behnesa, Ali carrying the lump of blankets on his back. The road is level half the way, but covered with mud chips, which hop into one's boots, & have to be shaken out every five minutes. Walking on peas is nothing to it. The rest of the way was stumbling over field paths & ploughed land. Ali's way is to never speak to anyone, so that any one seeing him may stand in dread of him as an unknown quantity. We raced on past sundry startled folks in the fields, & had at last to go through a village. The first guard challenged us to no effect; the dogs flew along yelping at our heels; & we came to the main guard sitting by a fire of embers. "Who's this?", "Whooose this?", in abject tones they shouted as we came on. We brushed past them, full speed, in silence; "Take them", "Stop them", "Fire at them", "They are efrīts", were the terror stricken orders & remarks; & as we went out into the silence of the fields, we left a confused babel of terrified guards muttering & howling behind us.

D)

At last we got to Sandafal Aparts our house, + sow light still in the moons: Jumps into the Jarry boat, noved over with my measuring Stick & mittant once got up to our suturbing the great. Altrighter about 26 miles of walking that I Lives quite fresh after it, only my feet felt a little knowled about from much ground . So west mor I kull meaning: floringer over some for granfell + ftunt are getting hundred of shulls, + to same time + seeme result thave got Hunt to Cate up doing all the principal measurement on the sport (10 a cach), after which any the best or remarkable ones need backed They are clearing hundred of Roman tombs + some already plundered one of XXII sparty; but nothing tempting for me has turned up. That afternoon Spacked up, twent morning loaded a boat after intermable rows over prices with the boatman. The people have to not

At last we got to Sandafah opposite our house, & saw lights still in the rooms: jumped into the ferry boat, rowed over with my measuring stick, & got up to our rooms without once disturbing the guards. Altogether about 26 miles of walking that day: I was quite fresh after it, only my feet felt a little knocked about from the rough ground. So next morning I lounged over some skull measuring for Grenfell & Hunt are getting hundreds of skulls, & to save time & secure results I have got Hunt to take up doing all the principle measurements on the spot (10 on each), after which only the best or remarkable ones need be packed.

They are clearing hundreds of Roman tombs & some already plundered ones of XXII dynasty; but nothing tempting for me has turned up. That afternoon I packed up, & next morning loaded a boat after interminable rows over prices with the boatman. The people here do not

understand a bargain ; but after a matter is agreed they will abthe to bargo Ali took second by Il up. the boat with a punting pole. + held At last for of but that beauld not write up this ;. board an Sintended. 2has to the last clothes, what we as night age っ it was only the's unda which helpt the boat man who to in the teeth of the y tow a it tooth in 48 hours to go just 48 At night Spitched tent shelp When Igor to Er Riga Iwas glad to see our house built & all the board ready that walked on a head easant were wante yusuff told me that an

understand a bargain; but after a matter is agreed they will at the last moment try to bargain again or throw it all up. Ali took security by a punting pole, & held the boat with a guard till we loaded it. At last I got off, but the wind was so cold that I could not write up this journal on board as I intended. I had to get out my thickest clothes, wrap up in a blanket, & just endure existence. The gale was right against us, & it was only Ali's undaunted manner which kept the boatman up to towing in the teeth of the storm all day; often he would go & tow alone. So it took us 48 hours to go just 48 miles. At night I pitched tent ashore for sleeping.

When I got to Er Riga I was glad to see our house built, & all the boards ready for roofing. I had walked on a-head for the last few miles, & I found two unpleasant men waiting about here. Yusuf told me that one was

the prother of Alis wife . Now A had about them : de thear mother a me two of there years seen Jon tien porticularly wished p near ~ bitter the men off at once but the first. 2 stay to feed the toward us but they would re. The 5 wp formand came He wanted then went 5th village bomen came up the boothe roubt from the ? h referred sent & Form a d llar A E the 5 wa mt this 5.70. At

the brother of Ali's wife. Now A. had told me about them; the mother & two brothers are all thieves, one is now doing three years sentence, & Ali particularly wished to keep them from coming near him, as his wife was a far better character. So I ordered the men off at once, but they would stay to feed first. I watched them eating, & watched the boat drawing on toward us, & tried to move them on but they would not. At last the boat came in, & I told Ali to hurry his folks up to the house. The brother came forward, & I barred him. He waited. & then went in a rage to the village, as I saw by his walk. Women came up to talk to Ali's wife, no doubt from the brother. Then the brother sent to borrow a dollar. Ali referred to me, & I said he should never have a farthing. At last I sent Ali to the village to warn the people that we had no responsibility for the men, & only wished them to go. At about this

E) point Ales wife ripped out + 19 ther proter, which of . A. went it songthe P over + told her she have on the botter luicus ose to stay with her Ithought he would have been brok . but his view see Jow at this is so bed, it is well that she "If she Then a little later they the boother leader bussed our lionse t Stund away, as At his sister. seemed too hideous ; + get blocked as men will look at a house te or a surling Sh the however Juile have the for they are mine ; he followed, t bath there he Stopped har, + in the with the - Them I am Abringht them, + in my room for safety. Hung which fur would seem to firm our , mour eyes to both at, were to but so much silver. They he a me now + Dlow them on I

point Ali's wife slipped out & bolted to her brother, which of course upset everything. A. went over with our men, & told her she must take her choice between him or the brother, & she chose to stay with her brother, I thought he would have been broken down at this; but his view seemed to be "If she is so bad, it is well that she goes". Then a little later they passed our house, the brother leading off his sister. I turned away, as it seemed too hideous; & yet I looked again, as men will look at a house on fire or a sinking ship. Ali however exclaimed, "but I will have the bracelets for they are mine"; he followed, & in the path there, he stopped her, & took from her wrists the bracelets, & brought them, & put them down in my room for safety. Things which to us would seem to burn our hands to touch, or our eyes to look at, were to him but so much silver. They lie before me now, & I look at them as I

E)

might at a dead bod . get this is the for a few kind some man who will sof won't at barting from so that he cannot speak. It makes one realese for once the an unt view of the friend ship for women. I really believe twees more Shaken abter afternoon results than any one else, & felt as if that such a blow that there no breath left in m Itold Ali & come in to feed with me, x had a long touthe with him. These people it well seems have no trace of affection left if they once distruct the character fanyone. At one point he was shaken; she had carried of the infant about eighteen months M. just begin trat + to be intelligible, + Mi was very ford fithe bake. He can said, - should be go & claim it ? his latte consin could look after it, tit could bat now. He was afraid its monther would be careless ofit, the would nother it Died with him them with her. I saw it

might at a dead body. Yet this is the same man who for a few kind words at parting from me will sob so that he cannot speak. It makes one realise for once the ancient Greek view of the friendship for men & for women. I really believe I was far more shaken at the afternoon's results than any one else, & felt as if I had such a blow that there was no breath left in me. In the evening I told Ali to come to feed with me, & had a long talk with him. These people it really seems have no trace of affection left if they once distrust the character of any one. At one point he was shaken: she had carried off the infant about eighteen months old, just beginning to eat & to be intelligible, & Ali was very fond of the babe. He came to me & said, – should he go & claim it? his little cousin could look after it, & it would eat now. He was afraid its mother would be careless of it, & he would rather it died with him than with her. I saw it

would never to bleam it to thoughtless little imp of about 11 & take care + dissued The morning after this he was greatly cast down about the maintenamer order he might have made ag him by the Qade ; VSU affter much sole he want of to Illahu get first word, pay what's needful to square that judice authority, + be quet of future twees very sorry bleave Belinesa; the place was one of the pleasantest been in. The palue grows the house the Splenton establishment of 9 min Brick rowing all make me nearly to lam like the morrish la . Have at En Ri absolutely bare without 200 min but only some fields + I to quest d

would never do to leave it to a thoughtless little imp of about 11 to take care of it, & dissuaded him.

The morning after this he was greatly cast down about the maintenance orders he might have made against him by the Qadi; & so after much dole he went off to Illahun to get first word, pay whatever was needful to square that judicial authority, & to be quit of future claims.

I was very sorry to leave Behnesa; the place was one of the pleasantest I had ever been in. The palm grooves round the house, the splendour of our establishment of 9 mud brick rooms, all made me ready to lament like the Moorish lament on leaving Valencia. Here at Er Riga we are absolutely bare without a tree near, no minarets to look at, but only some fields & sand dunes. Yet it is quiet, clean ground, & good water, & our row of

six huts is guit good mough the time we are likely to be here The peace glife consist in learning not to trouble about what not essential So soon now as hear get de morgans orders Ishall begin work. At least Uhame some a good storthe als in a full survey of the sites along go miles fromty which was scarcely at all kumm as yet my address will now be Bitch upper 2 supt. Of course littlers & Bene masar will be sent on, as the Egyption post is very good at the Little yusuf comes in & squats in doorway just for somety now that the is away. Mag my friends' pe fine too large a dose of trab affor but it is very seldom that one can for into their minds; Anothing a more fascinating to me than getting inside the thoughts of another wave of men. Please forward to 7.4. griffith, River vala, Ashtim u. Lyne: Dr. Walker; 7.C. J. Sperrell, Bessigher Norwich; him S. Harvey, hilford, godal A'L' Lewis, 54 Highbury Hill, N.

six huts is quite good enough for the time we are likely to be here. The peace of life consists in learning not to trouble about what is not essential.

So soon now as I can get de Morgan's orders I shall begin work. At least I have done a good stroke already in a full survey of the sites along 90 miles of country which was scarcely at all known as yet.

My address will now be <u>Bibeh</u> <u>Upper Egypt</u>. Of course letters to Beni Mazar will be sent on, as the Egyptian post is very good at this.

Little Yusuf comes in & squats in my doorway just for society, now that Ali is away. I beg my friends' pardon if I give too large a dose of Arab affairs; but it is very seldom that one can see so far into their minds; & nothing is more fascinating to me than getting inside the thoughts of another race of men.

Please forward to F.L. Griffith, Riversvale, Ashton u- Lyne: D^r Walker; F. C. J. Spurrell, Bessingham, Norwich; Miss S. Harvey, Milford, Godalming; A. L. Lewis, 54 Highbury Hill, N.

11 Jan. 1897 For three daugs there been writing letters, journal, report, te; all the stuff which everyone seems think worth but which very few seem to acknowled Jing. like presentation apries of a product of sort of spontaneous sufficiently impersonal thank Providence + pass by on the others Swent over to see a reported mide Hound had saisted, but was long since all Jug from + 6 mean which I for permission Suddenly a man said there they ere; complet up the telescope, + saw Ali, an a hand taken any write - another figure - the penitents fatma, - following belied. Ali went prepared to 7 in reason, to be quit of her; betwees talked over by are inspector of folice, two dief Shekles + the Radi. The Inspector told him that a new negulation decrees that levies No flee to their ancestral how may be brought back by a passe of price: Inather suspect it was a pions fiction ophis to sorth Mi. Fatura portests

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11 Jan. 1897 –

For three days I have been writing letters, journal, report, &c; all the stuff which everyone seems to expect, but which very few seem to think worth acknowledging. A journal is something like presentation copies of a book, a sort of spontaneous product of nature, sufficiently impersonal for anyone to thank Providence & pass by on the other side. I went over to see a reputed Kom, which I found had existed, but was long since all dug down & built over with a village. Meanwhile I was waiting for permission.

Suddenly a man said "there they are"; I caught up the telescope, & saw Ali, and the man whom he had taken as witness, and – another figure, – the penitent Fatma, – following behind. Ali went prepared to pay up anything in reason, to be quit of her; but was talked over by an inspector of police, two chief shekhs, & the Qadi. The Inspector told him that a new regulation decrees that ladies who flee to their ancestral home may be brought back by a posse of police: I rather suspect it was a pious fiction of his to sooth Ali. Fatma protests

that she only went in dere feer other brother giving her a drubbing, a ficture also finather think as she went to him herelf. Perhaps as affection a cure as any in the case is that (an Ali report) her reprobati found are near starway +filthing derty. Acondetion of thing that extracted a dollar from A , which was mally the bait that brought the man over here. However it all came about, matter Seem re-settled; and above all we have the strict injunction of the price thelebs to seize the orther or I the family that come round, bind then tsend them under soort to the maderage How some English filks would bless the law that allowed them to hand cutt an unposternate finfecunions brother in-law, + hand tim over to the Hyp Therit in the county town. Junst confers that from the muslem point fries- Tras a trifle soory tree hertun up again, since The can't be trusted. However as Their the breadmaker, + my prospection cook as well, Isuppose prudence must rejoice. At last Igot a supply from de morgan saying that he had tetegraphed to we (men

that she only went in dire fear of her brother giving her a drubbing, a fiction also I rather think, as she went to him herself. Perhaps as effective as a cure as any in the case is that (as Ali reports) her reprobate family are near starving & filthily dirty. A condition of things that extracted a dollar from A., which was really the bait that brought the man over here. However it all came about, matters seem re-settled; and above all we have the strict injunction of the police & shekhs to seize the brother or any of the family that come round, bind them, & send them under escort to the mudiriyeh.

How some English folks would bless the law that allowed them to handcuff an importunate & impecunious brother-in-law, & hand him over to the High Sheriff in the County town. I must confess that – from the Muslim point of view – I was a trifle sorry to see her turn up again, since she can't be trusted. However as she is the breadmaker, & my prospective cook as well, I suppose prudence must rejoice.

At last I got a reply from de Morgan saying that he had telegraphed to me (I never

got anything) I also to the Juspector in the raym, that Smight work here, + Las written to gluicely so as to amoid any hitch When Twant to go to Alman when the will order to morrow finest go miting for good fellows in seco villages, as Ido not want to h many trabs four handet, for the will not be tough like the fellah. I Lusted a good stram of last in the let in Er Richa The neo in other mouths

got anything) & also to the Inspector in the Fayum, that I might work here, & has written to Ghizeh so as to avoid any hitch. When I want to go to Ahmas I am to give him a week's notice & he will order that also. So tomorrow I must go recruiting for good fellows in the villages, as I do not want to have two many Arabs of our hamlet, for they will not be tough like the fellah. I noted a good strain of lads in the next village.

The real name of this hamlet is Er Righa [$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$] as I now hear it in other mouths.

Here it is

[photograph missing]

The, was mut Shed with the is as I first heard it; though Scould hardly believe in lies I as mever heard Jassimilation befor S. (This for 72.9.). Is for our house well - theme who the con to pour tray t, it is so dolef utilitariam, thus - wise it scentflifies what Lalways say, if there is an ugly house, live wet, Athen look out. you could see it when you At lest Usegan work on the can One Avives well of a tomb two days on, + are subject abits bottom about 30 ft down. One went down 10 feel + there stilpped with a flat clean ral. tuther bottom, no chamber two b went 15 ft, vended likewise; about 4 ft, + Equally blanke. the Jone had a good cham burials part into hill such bothed very fall of such indesturbed filling. But the attur tout been burgled at W, as we found after Spinding

The [\Re] was muddled with the [\Re] as I first heard it; though I could hardly believe in [\Re] as I never heard [\Re] assimilated before [\Re]. (This for F.L.G.). As for our house, well – I have not the courage to poortray^{sic} it, it is so dolefully utilitarian, thus-wise [\Re]; & so it exemplifies what I always say, if there is an ugly house, live in it, & then you can't see it when you look out.

At last I began work on the cemetery. One obvious well of a tomb we have been two days on, & are not yet at the bottom about 30 ft down. One went down 10 feet & there stopped with a flat clean Bottom, no chamber & no burial. Another went 15 ft. & ended likewise: another about 4 ft, & equally blank. Another had a good chamber, with a dozen Ptolemaic burials put into it. A tomb in the hill side looked very promising. It had passage & antechamber, all [^ℜ] (W) full of quite undisturbed original filling. But the chamber had been burgled from another tomb shaft at W, as we found after spending nearly

By hay on cutting out the tonghed 87 a concretes gypsin stuff. So somen when for have a 10th dyn. comete whall prises The most interesting matter in fin Aburil. New that me, the day record; though I find the men employed to plunder by the all ab surface ofthe rock, under the tits with wich cracks about 9-10 ins winde - Que of these and scraped out, bones laid in it, our with bit of - love our The State of the bones in the strange of The Taule was cut of with only 2 vertebras ace S above the bouls. glay on the side The bones were all disjointy, fland pour in the rock crack, the heads feter beenen + the top for Shim being batteres of with blows of a flint (?) zwel wide. The pelvis buy bach up with four wrtational attacked, With the for new one. The mils were mary all borken at both Ends, as if the lently ent up. There body herd been were only 14 ofthe 24 notebrae, + us hover join.

a day on cutting out the toughest concreted gypsum stuff. So even when you have a IVth dyn. cemetery, it is not all prizes.

The most interesting matter is finding a new mode of burial. New that is to me, & to any record; though I find that the men employed to plunder by the Museum know all about it. The surface of the rock, under the top gravel, is seamed with wide cracks, about 9-10 ins wide. One of these cracks has been scraped out, bones laid in it, & heaped over with bits of loose surface stone. The state of the bones is the strangest point. The skull was cut off with only 2 vertebrae & lay on its $\langle R \rangle$ side, face S, above the bones. The bones were all disjointed, & laid parallel in the rock crack, the head of the humeri & the top of a shin being battered off with blows of a flint(?) $\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide. The pelvis lay back up with four vertebrae attached, but the thighs removed. The ribs were nearly all broken at both ends, as if the body had been violently cut up. There were only 14 of the 24 vertebrae, & no lower jaw. PAGE 87

B)

The scule is for very los type, with low retreating forchess; but has the upright face to very pro chare terrs tre of the Sil ans Some ofthe verte battered to pieces; and I that the Dones were be as loose ubly cutting up reparate after v body. It in fact just mutilation case ofthat ame formed thave for the last few weeks taken thalf notice dress, ronly wish that that some so long ago out Iseful Islall find the nature to transers rather miserable after the comfort of the wind calico backs that hum wear, which an fear better walking & riding, + the only tress in which one can set comfortab cross legged. Socks fromse the wear here; to pair of scalet letter

The skull is of a very low type, with low retreating forehead; but it has the upright face & very prominent nose [\Re] characteristic of Libyans.

Some of the vertebrae are battered to pieces; and it is evident that the bones were buried as loose & separate, after violently cutting up the body. It is in fact just an extreme case of that mutilation which we found among the new race.

I have for the last few weeks taken to half native dress, & only wish that I had done so long ago out here. I expect I shall find the return to trousers rather miserable after the comfort of the wide calico bags that I now wear, which are far better for walking & riding, & the only dress in which one can sit comfortably cross legged. Socks of course I never wear here; & a pair of scarlet leather

slippers finish of my press below. Lettek to the black jacket above, as being more convenient than flowing nobes to became back from the first days work Smit his ornog the replan strotting out. they had not wanted for the boat, as time was getting Short, but traved to Bein Such, + slept there; + then come on here west day, so as to duride the long amount of wad. We had more at got our monton, but buchily the Straw had come so we could putit up. The third day we got an under turbed trub of the Ond Kingdom . A rectangular - affin 4 andiets long, 1 cubit with (82x 202 in) containing the body weakbed in cloth; + with a wooden hear rest, openiel the piller was fluted. There were no bead or ornaments: + this is closely like some of the Medeum burials. Ibrought away

slippers finish off my dress below. I stick to the black jacket above, as being much more convenient than flowing robes.

As I came back from the first day's work I met Miss Oldroyd & her nephew strolling out. They had not waited for the boat, as time was getting short, but trained to Beni Suef, & slept there; & then come on here next day, so as to divide the long amount of road. We had not yet got our roof on, but luckily the straw had come, so we could put it up.

The third day we got an undisturbed tomb of the Old Kingdom. A rectangular box--coffin 4 cubits long, 1 cubit wide (82 x 20½ ins) containing the body wrapped in cloth; & with a wooden head rest, of which the pillar was fluted. There were no beads or ornaments: & this is closely like some of the Medum burials. I brought away

the mole coffee + skeletan, as I know will like to have it at Philadelphia In another trut there remained the life size for fa ka statue. Just below that we found a Stopping passage, with wood still at the sides of it, down which the society offices had been stid. The while was covered with on two days we worked with filling + + great zest in prospect of an intouched tout. Atlast 2got in the that plan square estim (When the previous ove) much rotted + fallen in ; it had been pland in a pit in the chamber to fit it. There was not even a p a head rest in the whole place. I hegen & preserve the Sheleton, which was a wo when hear astonished & Find that the hand lay on the chast, the knee calls have Down, Atte fast on the Stome. there were no traces franch me the right positions. The hands + had been cut of at the and gotter long bones, Athe kase caps excised before briel: therewas all the boves were in apticulation.

the whole coffin & skeleton, as I know they will like to have it at Philadelphia. In another tomb there remained the life size foot of a ka statue.

Just below that we found a sloping passage, with wood still at the sides of it, down which the sarcoph coffins had been slid. The whole was covered with intact filling, & for two days we worked with great zest in prospect of an untouched tomb. At last I got in & found a thick plain square coffin (like the previous one) much rotted & fallen in: it had been placed in a pit in the chamber floor, cut to fit it. There was not even a pot or a head rest in the whole place. I began to preserve the skeleton, which was a woman's, when I was astonished to find that the hands lay on the chest, the knee caps lower down, & the feet on the stomach, while there were no traces of such members in the right positions. The hands & feet had been cut off at the ends of the long bones, & the knee caps excised, before burial: otherwise all the bones were in articulation.

We then pulled the Stones out of an inner my, & from another buril another chamber seathy sim man's. There were no heards arive position. The radii were in articulat to the humani ; but both almas were removed + placed sich by side with their humane, one right way tone inverted One fortwar nearly all in the pelins, only a few helbones being left outh lig; the other for the times were removed The miles were all brosse, but about position, which a large part of the s had been cut out + invertid. One beece cap was in the pelvis, the other in Fragments Apottory found in the filling are precisely like the finest me pottery. These saterisin mutilaters, elaborately closed tombs, prove (as always believed) that the ather to displace original. - ments of bones at Meder And thing naturally links to the later Libyan mutilations ofthe Ver Race. The absence fall frence bjecto with the mutilates botis is also as at Aleduna.

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C)

We then pulled the stones out of an inner doorway, & found another burial in another chamber exactly similar, but a man's. There were no hands or wrists in position. The radii were in articulation to the humeri; but both ulnas were removed, & placed side by side with their humeri, one right way, & one inverted. One foot was nearly all in the pelvis, only a few heel bones being left on the leg; of the other foot the toes were removed. The ribs were all loose, but about in position, while a large part of the spine had been cut out & inverted. One knee cap was in the pelvis, the other in position. Fragments of pottery found in the filling are precisely like the finest Medum pottery. These extensive mutilations, in elaborately closed tombs, prove (as I had always believed) that the other tr displace--ment of bones at Medum were original. And they naturally link to the later Libyan mutilations of the New Race. The absence of all funeral objects with the mut<i>lated bodies is also as at Medum.

(92) Quanforman to 7. L. griffith 75 Ridgement Dr walker ham Norwick F.C. J. Spunde, Bessi him S Harvey, milford, goda A.L. Lewis, Seg, 54 High burg Hole, N.

PETRIE MSS 1.15 - PETRIE JOURNAL 1896 TO 1897

Please forward to F. L. Griffith 75 Ridgemount Gardens

Gower St W.C.

D^r Walker

F. C. J. Spurrell, Bessingham, Norwich Miss S Harvey, Milford, Godalming, A. L. Lewis, Esq, 54 Highbury Hill, N.

(93) 19 Jan. 1897 - 25 Jan more Strange burials turned up. Que is a link between the cut up burial in a crack + the Egyletion. In the cometery in a regular square pit trut, 4 ft square, we came at 3 # ft down on three rough blocks lying across the bottom. In lifting them a trench was found which only constanted legbones, on armbone, a figer, 2 outstance the smale ofthe face. So this shews that the crack burials are ofthe same general age as the fit burials in the cemeter One pit trut contained a good Streke of pattery, almost exactly the same as at Medun in a wooden affin, + looked at The brind was first as if it was a mormal lightime body. A heard rest lay in the coffin begrow the touching the coffin at sides around, the proving that it was arranged as it stord som the tout; as any till in getting the cost would have stid it to one side! He budy lay on the left side, + - like all others have - inthe head to N. The head was all night, with four wartebrae in place. Then came a pling of doth for yor's inches long, in place of neck. Then a long juncher of losse vertebras in Every position, + loose vibs. Two benecalos thes in chest. The hand were cut of , + (ain) where the fore armes. The pelvis was cut to pieces

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19 Jan. 1897 – 25 Jan.

More strange burials turned up. One is a link between the cut up burial in a crack & the Egyptian. In the cemetery, in a regular square pit tomb, 4 ft square, we came at 3¼ ft down on three rough blocks lying across the bottom. On lifting them a trench was found which only contained leg bones, an arm bone, a finger, 2 vertebrae & a scrap of the face. So this shews that the crack burials are of the same general age as the pit burials in the cemetery.

One pit tomb contained a good stock of pottery, almost exactly the same as at Medum. The burial was in a wooden coffin, & looked at first as if it was a normal Egyptian body. A head rest lay in the coffin beyond the head, not touching the coffin at sides or end, & so proving that it was arranged as it stood down in the tomb; as any tilt in getting the coffin in would have slid it to one side. The body lay on the left side, & – like all others here – with head to N. The head was all right, with four vertebrae in place. Then came a plug of cloth for 4 or 5 inches long, in place of a neck. Then a long jumble of loose vertebrae in every position, & loose ribs. Two kneecaps & toes in chest. The hands were cut off, & laid upon the fore arms. The pelvis was cut to pieces

which were roughly laid in order, bubtter thegen 3 inclus out of articula hep were separately workful round in these men cluth The heree a been excised, but the splints were in Sharing that the bo and there was no trace of andes through there were sincher of show in the affin turter intonched burial is a city only 5 vertabras attached to the Seule; two bound, + the rest in 3 grow biside many loose ones, all disco The hands & fut ware b t flater lay between the place. Low These Stren lego. are by no means mely selected are in good places in cemeting, cut 200 20 ft deip, with a the or large chamber in is put in me it steways have been costly we have a south would which boke up in a furion sand storm. Our could hardly than against the wind, which his the country in

which were roughly laid in order, but the thighs 3 inches out of articulation. The legs were separately wrapped round in thick masses of linen cloth, <as also was the body>. The kneecaps had been excised, but the splints were in place on the shins, shewing that the body had not been reduced to bare bones. At the end there was no trace of ancles or feet, though there were 3 inches of spare space in the coffin.

Another untouched burial in a coffin had only 5 vertebrae attached to the skull; two were about it, & the rest in 3 groups beside many loose ones, all disconnected. The hands & feet were however entire in place. Two flint flakes lay between the legs. These strangely mutilate burials are by no means of poor people. They are in good places in a finely selected cemetery, cut 20 or 30 ft deep, with a large chamber in the rock; & the body is put in massive wooden coffins, 2 ins thick, which must always have been costly.

We had a south wind which broke up in a furious sandstorm. One could hardly stand against the wind, which hid the country in

a cloud of sand. It wifed of half of the 95 which had to - on the top. be replaced by little yusu prother curious burial but in a large entire ent out trunk for tree, 84×23 × 20 deep Ilu old lady in it was borken her night thigh just one mana child, so that it walked therefore with a float by beneath her; + was very to much that the vestebre keeping all the Sheleton Earl Date 1 Arthe Istail really get a f they solid affin tem. wasn duray oppendy shared grave a weak's stay here, which they ip no cork have enjoyed, in Aprile of Der consideration more the wiches brother in pluse) could not be satisfied at premises at his meroy if he came

a cloud of sand. It wiped off half of the straw covering of our roof, which had to be replaced by little Yusuf on the top.

Another curious burial, not mutilated, but in a large coffin cut out of a single trunk of a tree, 84 x 23 x 20 deep. The old lady in it was very powerfully built; had broken her right thigh, just over the knee when a child. So that it was 2 ins short, & walked therefore with a stout stick which lay beneath her; & was very demonstrative, wagging her head so much that the pivot vertebrae is greatly worn away. I am keeping all the skeletons of early date, & marking all the bones, so that we shall really get a firm knowledge of the details of the early Libyo-Egyptian. This solid coffin was in good state, & I have brought it away.

Miss Oldroyd & young Borwick left after a week's stay here, which they seem to have enjoyed, in spite of our having no cook. On consideration M^{IS} Ali seemed so much under the wicked brother's influence that I could not be satisfied at leaving all our premises at his mercy if he came over again,

a, we are all out all day long on the hills. So Isent up & grenfill for a Bel boy who would cook tymes h He sent one - when Ithought desira but the unclime was uttacky day reclared he could never coole, of was monorful that I sen Thave now got another who see sing well, to very take to por boiling but matching the the new boy suddenly flas! At, o the guardhere forma SULA the boy would the boy assented of to the wor leeve t Such a refrection affair She some one here making mis chi been tething over all possible can 1, and feere & I can doly such a scher issibilities, openel three by the removal To weat weeks work begins by

as we are all out all day long on the hills. So I sent up to Grenfell for a Behnesa boy who would cook & guard here. He sent one – whom I thought desirable – but the urchin was utterly despondent, declared he could never cook, & was so fearfully mournful that I sent him back. I have now got another, who seems to take to his work fairly well, & is very attentive. We want someone, for I have to sit watching the pot boiling for breakfast while I mark skeletons, & divide my attention between vertebrae & eggs, ribs & coffee.

Alas! the new boy suddenly turned off, & the guard here came forward saying that the boy would not stop here, to which the boy assented. I told him that he must stay for a day or two, & went off to the work. Geere & Ali tried to keep him by all persuasion possible, but he bolted & was not seen again. Such a repeated affair shews that there is some one here making mischief. I have been talking over all possible causes for such a scheming, and Geere & I can only imagine four possibilities, of which three will be settled by the removal of Fatma from this place. So next week's work begins by

B setting seeve to work abite Roman (9) 3 miles north getters, with the about to support him, + of course fatma as well. to Land mand (day) + cooling have & man t This then Ishell see whether crushed this affair. That way be the cause. The night grant have is in It working fit ; but boys were saw them; he actor spokesman till he setting the second boy away; told a futile tale of recuse So we have our diplometer here. An interesting rebusial was formed, of about XVIII Dyn. in an AN IV degn. tout , the first terrant of which was pushed on one side. The new comer was not metilater in any way, but lay at length. At his head two large jars one on sother side, I bet painted Ce them two small At his night sade lay a cubit formo-befor of 13 inch fort not the Egyletion cubit, long on Thort. A Stringed lute had been proken across, x by half a sitter side ofthe body. While

setting Geere to work at the Roman town about 3 miles north of this, with Ali to support him, & of course Fatma packed off there as well. Then I have asked Grenfell to send me down a stout man to do guard (day) & cooking here, & then I shall see whether I have thus crushed this affair, whatever may be the cause. The night guard here is in the working of it; both boys were tractable till he saw them; he acted spokesman for getting the second boy away; & he has told a futile tale of excuse for him since. So we have our diplomatic amusements here.

An interesting reburial was found, of about XVIII dyn. in an old IV dyn. tomb, the first tenant of which was pushed on one side. The new comer was not mutilated in any way, but lay at length. At his head two large jars one on either side, & between them two small painted Cypriote jars. At his right sa/<i>de lay a cubit measure, of of 13 inch foot found before at Kahun, not the Egyptian cubit, long or short. A four stringed lute had been broken across, & lay half on either side of the body. While

B)

on each sich was a throw stick. The neck gete lute was moved with of in in name was tah-dad Me the wood was much rolled to that be lifted, except in show her. I first lengths of two Athen packed all filled with sand the pieces Asplitting theelp them from day the outer air. At night Lop state them out, much reduced to bit under an inch long, + then dephis melted wed weg surap m they are all safe it can be up on tablets in highered co stood on a Another important tomb forominant Spor of the will. It when as if it must have been plumbered ovins, write a hollow on the top, large ring of rebbesh around it. some way down the folling was all quite dean, large Thomas & chilps. At about 30 ft orm we reached a walled up

on each side was a throwstick. The neck of the lute was inlaid with [$\widehat{\mathbb{R}}$] in ivory so I suppose the man's name was Aah-dad. All the wood was much rotted, so that it could not be lifted, except in short lengths of two or three inches. I first measured the cubit, & then packed all the pieces <of wood> in a tin box, filled with sand to keep them from drying & splitting in the outer air. At night I opened it & took them out, much reduced to bits under an inch long, & then dipped every scrap in melted wax. Now they are all safe, & can be mounted up on tablets in England compete.

Another important tomb stood on a prominent spur of the hill. It looked as if it must have been plundered, so obvious, & with a hollow on the top, & a large ring of rubbish around it. However some way down the filling was all quite clean, large stones & chips. At about 30 ft down we reached a walled up

doorway. And in the comer of the well by it were many bearts, -a neeklace has been Inopped On taking out filling the well. Atter walling I got in + forming buriel quite meterstred, Atter mgs 10th dyn. type, with half of a co hand-made for ofthat time on the The large wonder affin had of the baards to pieces, he morning Hound the Sheleton any trace felth on fine worden herd rest lay un one leg. The fact, hands, & kneecafes had apparently all been in wrong places. Strange to say that there were no ornament in the cont the ships Houst under it were full of bears. These glass portery bears found doubt are of the Ear sprasty, the only ones known so far back They are persons of great long tutor bears of Thort bears, green. Such would make just the aller mich is

doorway. And in the corner of the well by it were many beads, -anecklace had been dropped in before filling the well. On taking out some of the walling I got in & found the burial quite untouched, of the regular IVth dyn. type, with half of a coarse hand-made pot of that time on the floor. The large wooden coffin had fallen to pieces. On moving off the boards I found the skeleton bare without any trace of cloth or ornaments. A fine wooden head rest lay under one leg. The feet, hands, & kneecaps had apparently all been cut off, & lay in wrong places. Strange to say though there were no ornaments in the coffin the chips & dust under it were full of beads. These glazed pottery beads I cannot doubt are of the early IVth dynasty, the only ones known so far back. They are pendants [\Re] green & black, long tube beads & short beads, green. Such would make just the collar which is

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shown on the neck of Neferto elature as J Weithe So all they long fag The forma a great timb. felundered The whole proint in wide, if it is symmet free must wai there been trying byet the very of the to barn to tomb , bral here But though thave auth in Treator at Medenet that me in, he would not y messenger, + has not hey 5 m said he would. as he come hum set So all dean do is to stop work in fills (2miles of westward) + leave en tombs to go on with which Law exp the sauftures; and mutil the keep take work hunting tedge not along the de 2.4. griffith 75 Ridgemanit gardens, gover J, we. In Walker, Fre J. Spurrell, Bessingham, Norwich nin Sittarvey mousehile, willow, god alming. Ach Lawis 54 Hich berry Hill Ir.

shewn on the neck of Nefert's statue from Medum, so far as I remember it. So all this hangs together.

Then I have found the long façade of a great tomb; plundered, but – I hope – containing sculptures, as the fore part has remains of figures & hieroglyphs. The whole front must be over 50 feet wide, if it is symmetrical.

All this however must wait awhile. I have been trying to get the keys of the two painted tombs here, to copy them. But though I have permission, & the inspector at Medinet is authorised to let me in, he would not give the keys to my messenger, & has not come himself as he said he would. So all I can do is stop work in the hills (2 miles off westward) & leave enough tombs to go on with while I am copying the sculptures; and until the keys come take work hunting late cemeteries along the desert edge northward. [O][O][O][O][O][O][O]]

For F. L. Griffith 75 Ridgemount Gardens, Gower S^t, W.C.,
D^r Walker, F. C. J. Spurrell, Bessingham, Norwich,
Miss S. Harvey Mousehill, Milford, Godalming.
A. L. Lewis 54 Highbury Hill N.

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26 Jan. – 1 Feb. 1897

The cemetery to the northward proved very interesting. Some Ptolemaic burials, or possibly earlier, in gross wooden coffins, with barbaric carved faces, & doubly done figures of the goddess Amentit on the bottom. One big well was found, which they have not done in the day, & must be finished.

At last the keys of the tombs came over, and I hope to begin copying at once.

Here are the portraits of the oldest beads known, probably of IVth or Vth dyn.

[photograph missing]

[0][0]

that a joke with laying down a couple two here f of the flat pendants on + asking one of our fellows to pick up the potter over. He is not mornighted but he blee the polley from then made a mistate once out of three trials Law Delighted to say that Them got out ofthe Railway Administration the full compensation of \$ 4-17-0 Alis Jookey which was staten bythe official, last spring. They mis-sent it and not metron it. Ihis is the substantial remainder out poor t's fortune flast year. Low geere At bday to stay at the vestvillege, near the Roman tom work that the goes with him, + Jubions tatme foliours her bord, so thelpe we shall have ferrer con for a time On opening the tombo office Figuring of the having the name of Tela,

I had a joke with laying down a couple of the flat pendants on two here figured, & asking one of our fellows to pick up the pottery one. He is not short sighted, but he put his head within six inches to see the pottery from the drawing, & then made a mistake between them once out of three trials.

I am delighted to say that I have got out of the Railway Administration the full compensation of \pounds 4–17–0 for Ali's donkey which was stolen by the officials last spring. They mis-sent it & would not return it. This is the most substantial remainder out of poor A's fortunes of last year.

I saw Geere off today to stay at the next village, near the Roman town to work that. Ali goes with him, & the dubious Fatma follows her lord, so I hope we shall have fewer complications for a time.

On opening the tombs I find that they are of the beginning of the VIth dynasty, having the name of Teta, if indeed this is

whether Teta of the 11 m Spreak. He style is most like the Early Vot Symmet . The tout which Ibegan elpon in of Shedre It all "Shedre surround Leta." is determined by a water skin I find that Shed will take 84 sh paper (about to x ory ins card), + the thus tout purchely 100 or 120. I get through Bsheet today; but dese that take me all the time her one forto the to finish these but most of the are blank, of Samages & weather could untor 13 my afritude theman a this will Shek we rest of the season year. bur lest new cook has arrived a sober man, who knows somewhat foodbung Awashing. To now we shall see what halphans. Ihave warned not to pay attention to what the p here may say.

not the Teta of the IIIrd dynasty. The style is most like the early Vth dynasty. The tomb which I began upon is of Shedu [\Re] [\square] [\square] [^ℝ] "Shedu surnamed Teta". Shedi is determined by a water skin apparently. [I find that Shedu will take 84 sheets of paper (about $\frac{18}{20} \times \frac{24}{26}$ ins each), & the other tomb probably 100 or 120. I got through 12 sheets today; but I see that it will take me all the time I can manage to finish these before I go to Ahnas. Of course much or most of the area is mere blank, of damages & weathering, or I could not do 13 sheets in a day. I greatly wish one of my copying friends was here, for this will stick me for the rest of the season I fear.

Our last new cook has arrived, a sober man, who knows somewhat of cooking & washing. So now we shall see what happens. I have warned him not to pay attention to what the people here may say.

ler wise. we could that lox16 ft, w plat Islat for in the side pet in the

The next day I did 14 sheets of copying: <then 12 after that, and> and the day after that I was reckoning on a long pull, & had done 10 in the morning, when suddenly everything went to the right-about-face. It was thus-wise.

For the last few days a party of men have been pegging away at a spur of hill on which I noticed a large quantity of chips thrown below, clearly from some great rock cutting. All that we could find was a scarp of rock, some 60 ft long. Plan thus. [$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$] (pit – flat cutting – Rock)

In the corner of this they found a pit a few feet deep. This led into a chamber about 10 x 16 ft, with a raised platform along the back, & a recess in the side $[\mathcal{R}]$ (platform / pit – recess / pit) A long slope of sand led down from the doorway & almost covered a large pit in the floor.

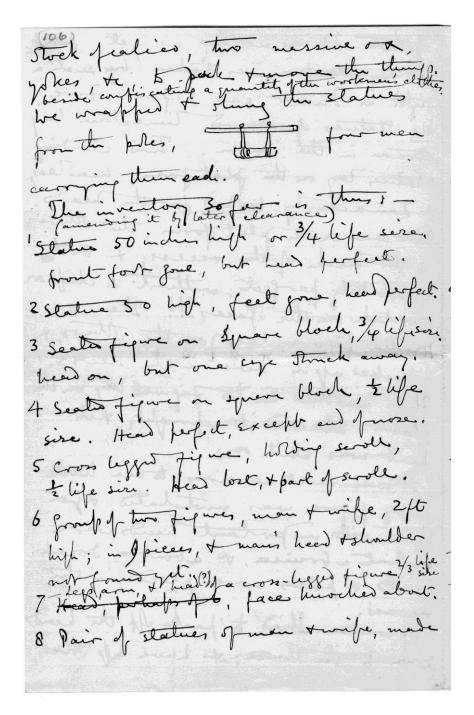
Boy that I know writing as all my attention in themer saw before sellt Ka Statues of no sla the on the plat status + Lanxcousty lodked for Que was on the plat form in the back of the recess absolutely perfect with scratch on the faces !! lang on the Aters, x oure stated fi Ipicked up to Then another seals fig floor, theaves it upmphil, heard was still a It was most curious to see how we wer mutil Ever the most un portant pieces were placed in hear? + of course that to pack of the head's recers your to the house, I have up towely

Of that I know nothing as yet, for all my attention was taken up by such a sight as I never saw before. Five ka statues of coloured limestone lay strewn in the room. Two standing statues lay on the platform, headless, & I anxiously looked for the heads. One was on the platform, the other in the back of the recess, & both absolutely perfect, without a chip or scratch on the faces!!! Then a seated figure lay on the others, & I picked up its head in the recess. Then another seated figure lay on the floor, I heaved it upright, & its head was still on.

It was most curious to see how every figure was mutilated, & yet the most important heads were without a bruise, & about a dozen heads & pieces were placed in the recess.

Of course I had to pack off the heads down to the house, & have up towels,

B)



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stock of calico, two massive ox yokes, &c, to pack & move the things. <beside confiscating a quantity of the workmen's clothes.> We wrapped & slung the statues from the poles, [$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$] four man carrying them each.

The inventory so far is thus: – <(amending it by later clearance)>

1 Statue 50 inches high or ³/₄ life size, front foot gone, but head perfect. [**O**] [**O**] [**O**] [**O**] [**O**]

2 Statue 50 high, feet gone, head perfect. [•] [•] [•] [•]

3 Seated figure on square block, ³/₄ lifesize, head on, but one eye struck away. [**1**] [**1**] [**1**]

4 Seated figure on square block, ¹/₂ life size. Head perfect, except end of nose. [**1**] [**1**] [**1**]

5 Cross legged figure, holding scroll, ¹/₂ life size. Head lost, & part of scroll.

6 Group of two figures, man & wife, 2ft high; in $\frac{8}{9}$ pieces, & man's head & shoulder not found yet. [•] [•]

7 Head, perhaps of 6/<Legs, arm, & head (?) of a cross-legged figure $\frac{2}{3}$ life / size>, face knocked about.

8 Pair of statues of man & wife, made

separato + insertio in one base. Oulp'or bases + lower leg N & man's find 9, figure of a boy from a group, been arme gove , 10 in high without 10, middle of figure for boy, about 1/4 life sire, The while of the Jegures, so far as in scriptures nemain, (none on Nos 1+2) + hin wife # \$ \$ 1 - 5 P. Nepersens He was 70 R = 3 Price of the town of the souther town of the orga, There are two pieces of inscribed bases, the belongings of mich 220 mb kuns. Ifully hope to Find the rest of uses in the southeafp in broken to the chamber. So for those my we would not get the seater figure 3. packing the statues, & going to & fro,

PAGE 107

separate, & inserted in one base. Only

bases & lower legs <of woman;> & man's body yet/<figure complete>. found. About ¼ life size [🙆] [🙆] [🙆]

9, figure of a boy from a group, head & arm gone, 18/<0> ins high without head

10, middle of figure of a boy, about $\frac{1}{4}$ life size.

The whole of the figures, so far as inscriptions remain, (none on Nos 1 & 2) are of [\mathcal{R}] Nenkhetefka & his wife [\mathcal{R}]. Nefersems He was [\mathcal{R}] Prince of the town of the southern town of the oryx.

There are two pieces if inscribed bases, the belongings of which I do not know.

I fully hope to find the rest of the broken figures in the sand heap in the chamber. So far I have only taken out what was visible. And we could not yet get the seated figure 3. down that night, it took so long packing the statues, & going to & fro,

about 2 miles to the house. that But as they now slaw they are worth a good coming out all that my than year, We shall this cost the get all out mor plenty Jouch 7 as they have e the ghisch, m synxl 5 I may get of toler The work Attre large heads is better evor: Isho the Varis Ra-hitely, Nonly exceeded The ages are n since. with comptal; but Ittun as high, on high Unam we without hinestone head those a + clean, with the pa ins So thave stored gh things & after all thou t Thave an timprove the record yet.

about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the house.

But as they now stand I see that they are worth a good deal more than all that my coming out will cost the Fund this year. We shall not get all out of the country; but as they have plenty of such figures at Ghizeh, while we sh have not one equal to these in England, I hope I may get off tolerably.

The work of the large heads is very good; I should say better than Ra-hotep, & only exceed by Paris scribe. The eyes are not inlayed with crystal; but I think these stand as high, or higher, than any other limestone figure without inlay. The heads & bodies are beautifully fresh & clean, with the paint unspoiled.

So I have scored this year after all, though things did look bad; & I have another month to improve the record yet.

The next day they cleared over all in the chan of figures , but Italue the large they JEEn ross-legged Tossi month of the to we cannot thong But . The all the wes roe on the crest of This is bourably New well : enned Id haved mahren s. in a trusty

The next day they cleared over all the sand in the chamber, & got some more pieces of figures; but only chips of the bases of the large statues, which seem as if they had been broken up.

Another cross-legged figure, headless, 9 ins high, was found. Possibly we may get he pieces still missing by hunting all the sand about the mouth of the pit.

But though we cannot quite complete all the figures, there is another chance before us. I noticed that a well we were clearing was just behind the middle of this rock scarp, on the crest of the hill [$\widehat{\mathbb{R}}$]

This is probably Nenkhetefka's tomb well: it is large & deep; & the filling of it is clean blocks & chips of fresh stone, so it has never been opened yet. Luckily one man of the four who were on it did not turn up today. So I immediately clapped in a trusty old hand, Mahmud, a **PAGE 109**

C)

Fayning, to do the deep digg I reach the cham her. - not to be Sisturbed on rai eat v The was best sven glad tin baki leaver of + Exce The really responsible fime about bottom of tim to tom the ballesti who could the top hand hold of things by any chan let that one mapper ben honesty whe ne pet tomber was open An interestin first right Litter boday. Ar ofit, it has been opened be ofthe usua ton which the That them all bodies were placed. So cleaned anney, + then a few bones of the

Fayumi, to do the deep digging, & reach the chamber. It is quite safe not to be disturbed or raided by him. The great find of statues was made by my best Fayumi boy, to whom I was very glad to give a good lump of bakhshish, as he is quite trustworthy & exceedingly careful. The really responsible man at the bottom of a tomb I give about ²/₃ of the bakhshish to, & only ¹/₃ among the top hands, who could hardly get hold of things by any chance. The principle being that one pays for honesty where it is needful to have it.

An interesting pit tomb was opened today. At first sight I thought nothing of it, it had been opened before, & some of the usual Roman mummies were lying in it. But I saw a massive wooden coffin, in & on which the later bodies were placed. So I had them all cleared away, & then a few bones of the **PAGE 110**

first man were found; a good, perfect. head rest of old hing down form walking Stick; + a scribes paint palette, for net 7 black ink. There cannot be a doubt that these all belong to the IV-V dyn buriel ; and so this is the only palette burn of that age, . Lit is made quite differently from later ones Perhaps my friends hardy understand what sort of words this is every day Ispend as much time the sulptures, but every hour ortwo aboy comes to say that a well is paned. L'then go over to one of the half dozen groups of tomb digging. There I find a pit open, anything between 10 x 40 ft deep. I see if there is mongh cheered me toget into the chamber : have the refre ladder Jon; Strip, farit is far that to wear anything but light trab Travers down in the deep holes; & then swing down the rope ladder. At the

first man were found; a good, perfect, headrest of old kingdom form; [probably one of ^(C)] a walking stick; & a scribe's paint palette, for red & black ink. [^(C)] There cannot be a doubt that these all belong to the IV–V dyn burial: and so this is the only palette known of that age, & it is made quite differently from any later ones.

Perhaps my friends hardly understand what sort of work this is every day. I spend as much time as I can copying the sculptures, but every hour or two a boy comes to say that a well is opened. I then go over to one of the half dozen groups of men who are tomb digging. There I find a pit open, anything between 10 & 40 ft deep. I see if there is enough cleared for me to get into the chamber: hang the rope ladder down; strip, for it is far to[o] hot to wear anything but light Arab drawers down in the deep holes; & then swing down the rope ladder. At the

bottom light a candh, they full length who the small cho in which plets or con tu tree o wp Joen Jone my cop Shee dome funse the great Statues ever yet reco All that been more plendering toget Those Specimens.

bottom light a candle, & begin to crawl full length into the hole. Inside I find a small chamber, only 3 or 4 ft high, in which I spend half an hour or an hour, clearing sand away, planning out the skeleton to see if it is complete or mutilated, noting the position of everything, sending baskets ful of bones & woodwork up to the top, & streaming all the time with the exertion & cramped position in the heat. When all is done I come up, dress, & go back to my copying, where I get a few more sheets done before the next well is ready. Some of course are shorter, but others – such as the great find of statues - take several hours.

It is all well worth while. For no one has ever yet recorded fully any cemetery of the pyramid age; and all that I am doing is the only information that we possess about such burials. All that has been hitherto done has been mere plundering to get show specimens. **PAGE 112**

» I find that I must make yet another in the coole line. I totall distrusted this man as soon as ; but hold against all saperence tmt possession wels wro that Asar what order 5 de alone water a good him yester hashesh after hands to to, when Dering what twored up a con there mue, two of the best tayun hand of from the work 's to I fears ago Ithurk J them is not over through Jomor econt Shall make he resent The great well, which I the that of Neutentefter provis & have neused in the sarly XVIIIt of ...

D)

I find that I must make yet another experiment in the cook line. I totally distrusted this man as soon as I saw him, but hoped, against all experience, that my prepossession was wrong. First my jam had a flavour of sardines, shewing in what order his finger had sampled the tines. Next a few bread crumbs, with which I adorned the jam in the next tin, have disappeared, along with a good lump of jam. And yesterday morning he was drunk with hashish, & began spooning ground coffee into a cup of water far from boiling, & afterwards put out a lot of tea, quite beside himself.

I was wondering what to do, when there turned up a couple of old Fayum hands of mine, two of the best from the work 5 to 8 years ago. One of them is not over strong, & I think I shall make him a cook. Tomorrow morning I clear out the present fool.

The great well, which I think to be that of Nenkhetefka, proves to have been opened & reused in the early XVIIIth dyn.

potter which we have found the well; but we are not yet at the End fat by a good deal. Avery interesting lit was turned af in a tombe well, just as we stopped for the night. A par for iv-v shows the age, swith it were for mallets of beary word, well worn; I eight worden chisely, much ockedover, Jh for culture puts in the herd of here. There is some on pe, & the pe yet ther thing , in the so the cleand 0 Thave nearly finished the co Sheden, oned of the tout of will end it a party to empty out the trube well & search the serdat , we me possibly get both aftin & Statues not only in this tout, but also in the other large sembletuned tomb here.

by the pottery which we have found in the well; [•] but we are not yet at the end of it by a good deal.

A very interesting lot was turned up in a tomb well, just as we stopped for the night. A pan of the $IV-V^{th}$ dyn shews the age, & with it were four mallets of heavy wood, well worn; & eight wooden chisels, much knocked over. Shewing what they used for cutting pits in the hard gravel here. [•] [•] There is some rope, [•] & I hope yet other things, in the sand waiting to be cleared out.

I have nearly finished the copying of the tomb of Shedu, one day more will end it. Then I shall turn in a party to empty out the tomb well & to search the <u>serdab</u>. We may possibly get both coffin & statues, not only in this tomb, but also in the other large sculptured tomb here.

115) feere + Ali are Roman town two or three miles N. Ith They will probably bit of freek papagras of V-V is all worth name fell is have with greek paper. flory between Quibell has got one un old king Dom tomb at 21 Kab, + clos others. glease forman mountforde 7.1. griffithe 75 Rid thanks for letter De la F.C. J. purall Skeletons, te, and int.) manter he miss S. Harvey, hilford, godalming. A. L. Lewis 54 High burg Hill . N. Ctrank for letter

Geere & Ali are pegging away at Roman town & cemetery two or three miles N. of this. They will probably return here in about a week more. One bit of Greek papyrus of V–VIth cent is all worth naming that they have found.

Grenfell is having grand times with Greek papyri, both Biblical & literary. So there will be plenty of glory for the Fund this year between papyri & <u>ka</u> statues. Quibell has got one important old kingdom tomb at El Kab, & also others.

Please forward to
F. L. Griffith 75 Ridgemount Gardens, Gower S^t, WC
D^r Walker (thanks for letter)
F. C. J. Spurrell, Bessingham, Norwich, (wanted here for skeletons, &c, <u>ad inf.</u>)
Miss S. Harvey, Milford, Godalming.
A. L. Lewis 54 Highbury Hill. N. (thanks for letter)