

6-13 XII. 91

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We have cleared the limits of the painted floor which was about 30 x 40 feet. Of this about half remains; the rest has been broken up by plunderers extracting the bases of the stone columns of the hall. No one has yet appeared to see about preserving it, as I proposed; and Moncrieff & Co. have not given me authority to spend a piastre toward it for the Gov<sup>t</sup>; so it is all at a standstill, & left to the mercy of the natives.

The shekh here is troublesome. He told his people to secret anything valuable & bring it to him, & he would pay them better than I do. This was so outrageous that as soon as I heard it I wrote a letter to Corbett on the matter, & sent it by a man who went for some bread

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next morning. <sup>(52)</sup> The Shekh, suspecting it  
 concerned him, followed & took my  
 letter & destroyed it; and the messenger  
 returned, saying he lost the letter  
 in the river. In the middle of all this,  
 the shekh comes in his pushing way &  
 demands why I am so annoyed with  
 him! So I told him plainly. And when  
 he heard that I knew the end of the  
 letter & would write again, he came  
 very differently begging interminably  
 that I should not write (assuming all  
 the time that the said letter was about  
 him, & not to his credit at all, which  
 proved the case completely); but I  
 told him that I had many friends &  
 should write to whoever I chose.  
 Next morning I sent <sup>by one of my own men</sup> another letter to  
 Corbett, adding the fate of the last; &  
 asking him to get some official to write  
 a little note of instructions to the Shekh  
 for his soul's health. He is a fellow  
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firmly taken down. I have told them  
 that if I have anything going wrong in  
 the work here I shall dismiss  
 everyone, & go & live at the other village  
 & employ their rivals.

Luckily I can always have the best  
 advice legally, as it so happens that I  
 knew the Chief Justice, & all the four  
<sup>English</sup> Judges of Appeal of the Native Courts,  
 before they were any of them in their  
 present positions. It is a curious  
 coincidence, as I do not know very  
 many officials in Cairo.

There is plenty to do here with eyewater,  
 &c; & one of my men bruised both his  
 hands, & so produced those horrid  
 gatherings in the flesh which belong to  
 this land. I had one once in my thumb.  
 They come without any breaking of the skin,  
 & last for a week or so, discharging &  
 very sore. I had brought his over quickly  
 by syringing out the place, a day after it  
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(54)  
 Newberry & Blackden came over.  
 It is almost settled that B. will  
 postpone his Fund work for two  
 or three months, & do it in the hotter  
 weather, in order to work here at  
 excavating with me. There will  
 thus be just as much done for the  
 Fund by midsummer, only B. will  
 take his holiday before instead of  
 after his Fund work. Meanwhile he  
 will superintend Fraser's surveying  
 &c, here with general supervision  
 so as not to let that fall through.  
 There is also a prospect of another digger  
 coming here to work under my permit,  
 but independently of my own work.  
 The Dodgsons are coming in January  
 and Wallis is proposing to come &  
 stay. Sayce & Kennard are both  
 probably coming to look me up; & I hear  
 the Cookson & Scott are coming with Sayce. So  
 I shall have plenty of company.

Mrs Petrie, Bromley, Kent

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M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie. Bromley, Kent.

VII/<VIII>  
13-19, Dec. 91.

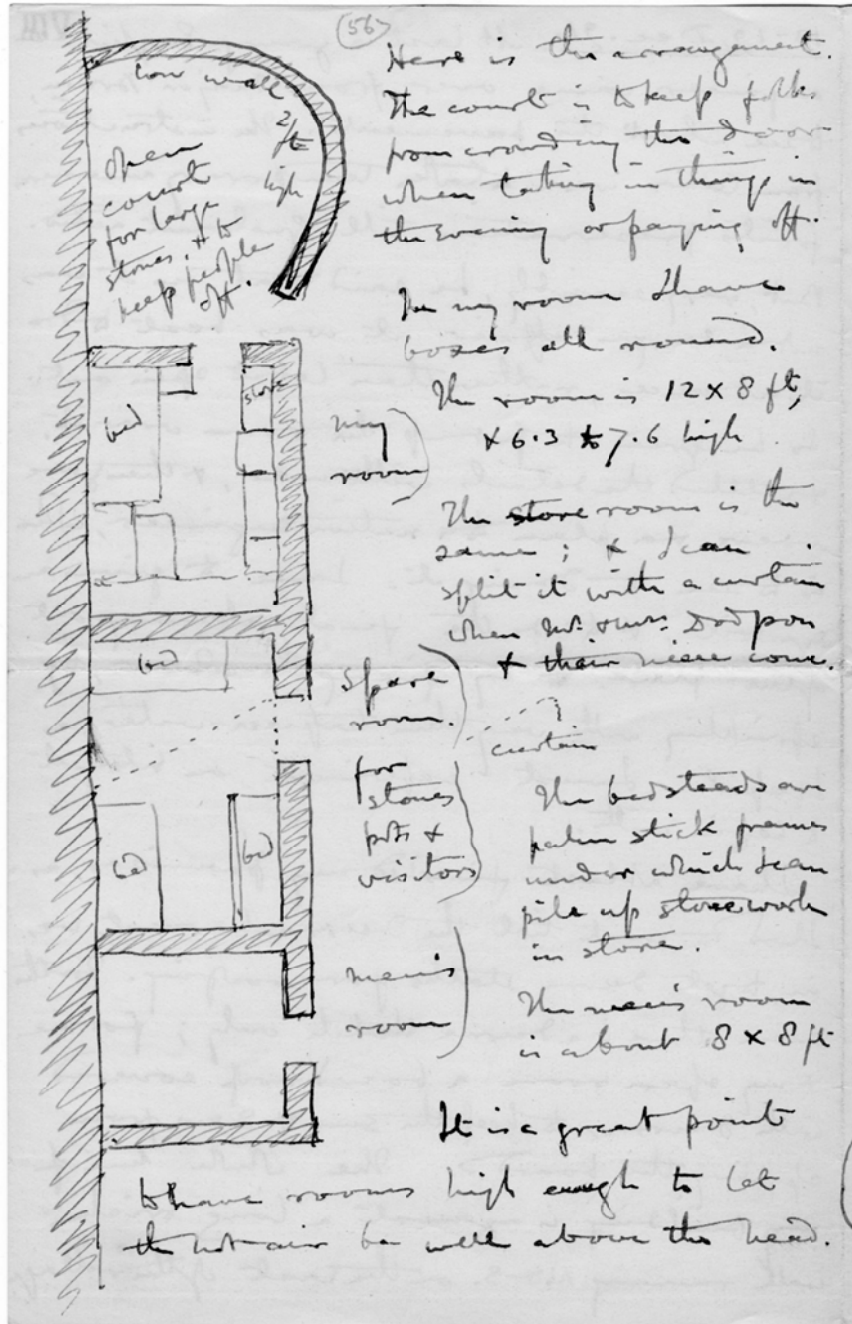
13-19, Dec. 91. At last <sup>(55)</sup> a young English <sup>VIII</sup> engineer came over from Major Brown, to see about the pavement. The instructions from Cairo were to take temporary measures for its preservation till Grebaut acted. But, very sensibly, he said that as it was not a large affair it was best to do it at once, rather than let it spin out. So he agreed to put up the room over it, & settled the details with me, & then gave orders & a plan to a native engineer, who is to see to doing it. I am to give an eye to it, & to do the final cleaning out of the place, & try fixing the colours, by sprinkling with very thin tapioca-water, as I expect. I must experiment on bits of it to begin with.

I have at last finished my premises, as I had to wait till the durra harvest was in, to get durra stalks for roofing. For the men there is a durra thatch only; for me & my spare room a board roof covered with durra, to keep the sun & dew from spoiling the boards. The whole line of my building is against a long brick wall running N. & S. on the east of the village.

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[ R ]

Here is the arrangement.

low wall 2<sup>ft</sup> high

The court is to keep folks from crowding the door when taking in things in the evening or paying off.

Open court for large stones, & to keep people off.

[ R ]

In my room I have boxes all round. The room is 12 x 8 ft, & 6.3 to 7.6 high.

bed stove my )  
room )

bed Spare )  
bed bed room. )

The store room is the same; & I can split it with a curtain when M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup> Dodgson & their niece come.

<--- curtain >

for )  
stones )  
pots & )  
visitors )

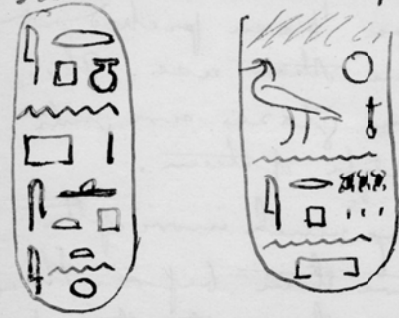
The bedsteads are palm stick frames under which I can pile up stonework in store.

men's )  
room)

The men's room is about 8 x 8 ft


It is a great point to have rooms high enough to let the hot air be well above the head.

Some more wine jar sealings. (57)




Wine of the  
house of  
Khuenaten  
Ra neferu  
khepru

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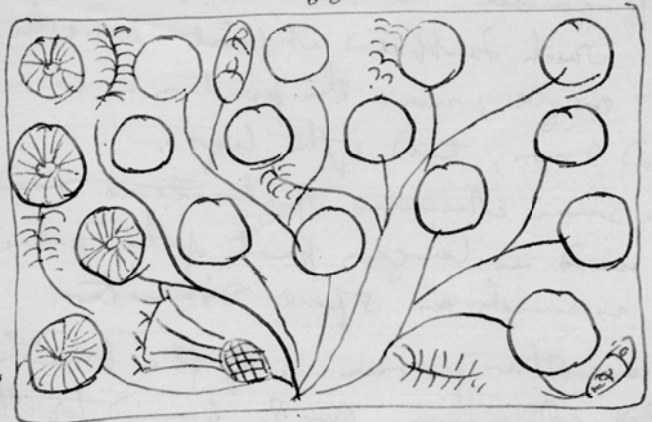
For some time past pieces of green glazed tiles with some blank circles have been often found in the hypostyle hall. They were mostly along the W. wall, & so probably formed a band of tile work there. And at last one nearly perfect turned up. It is a flat tile,

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6.8  
[  ] 4.6

<?>

Thus, circles are all blank spaces; but on one bit of tile was one of the inlaid pieces left, like <?> those on the left here, a rosette of white & yellow.



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As none of these inlays are found loose, it is clear that they have been picked out on purpose for some other use. These flat wall tiles of green glaze are quite new to us in the style of them.

We are also learning much more of the domestic architecture than before. I have nearly every part for the restoration of the columns of a corridor here. They represent bundles of reeds tied together by bands. The knots on the reeds are all carved. The bands are all inscribed with the names of King & queen: and birds are tied up against the reeds. It is these birds which I supposed at first to be the Hittite eagle; now the position is seen to be head down, tied by the legs.

These same columns of clustered reeds were used in larger parts of the palace, being as much as 5 feet diameter.

Then another form is of a bundle of fluted columns, 6 or 8, bound together with inscribed bands.

But the most unexpected columns we have found some fragments of, today.

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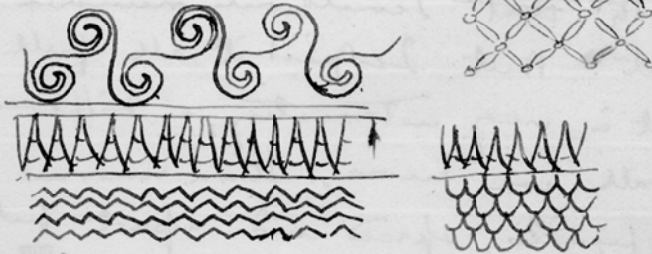
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In another line more architecture is appearing. I find that what I thought to be tomb chapels, are - so far as I have gone - small suburban villas. I have cleared three, & am doing others. So far nothing has been found in them; but the plans are very interesting, as we only know so far of town houses. The general idea of a small villa was a good central hall, two other rooms round it, a large room at each corner, & open verandahs between the corners, with a wall or two dividing the spaces,




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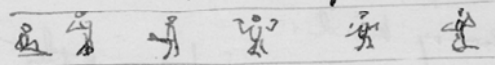
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these verandahs <sup>(60)</sup> serving for the servants probably, by day & by night.

On one wall in the palace a band of fresco was happily preserved, though so utterly rotted by white ants & grass roots that I could only remove bits of it. But I copied it all full size, & it is very interesting, as different to all we know. It is a narrow band of figures, spaced wide apart, but all connected. First an open door , a figure seated, a servant talking to this with a brush under his arm, a steward walking in with a baton, two servants bringing in dishes of food. Then a wide space, & another open door, a servant sweeping the floor, a steward with baton running in, a servant running with two stands, on which are dishes of meat, a servant sprinkling the floor, by shaking a jar of water with his hand partly across the top, so as to splash it, three large stands of fruit, a steward standing *at ease*.

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leaning both hands <sup>(67)</sup> on his baton, & a messenger half skewed round who has run up to tell him the master is coming. This brings us to the end of the wall, & on the next wall joining is the prancing group of horses & the chariot just going to round the corner of the room. The artist thus skilfully used the corner to give the break of idea between the waiting household & the master coming round the corner. Some of the figures are almost entire, & others only enough remains to shew the action. But the manner in which they are spaced out  & yet connected shews good design. The drawing is very beautiful & delicate, but unhappily only fragments of the original can be preserved. I can now restore the architecture of the river front of the palace. Enough scraps of the great columns, 5 ft diam, have been found to shew that they were like the lesser ones in the palace; & those I have

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settled almost <sup>(62)</sup> entirely, being reed columns, with leafy bases & capitals, bound with inscribed bands, & with birds hung up on them. We have also found the use of the hundreds of squares of brilliant glazes; they were let into the face of the stone walls in patterns.

A fine bronze ring was found, [ R ]  
 "Living Horemkhuti beloved of Ra", of which king is uncertain. Many fragments of beautiful glazed vases, with delicate inlaid inscriptions of different colours, have been found. And of cartouches of Khuenaten & Nefertiti there are no end, on stone of every kind.

The engineer is here, & the house over the pavement is begun, with 50 or 60 boys & men ravaging all over the place to get stone & brick from the ruins. I have my own way with them, but have to keep a constant look out to avoid mischief. We found an ancient well in the palace, close by where the water is wanted for building, so they cleared it, & use it now.

I hear from Corbett that Johnson Pacha will send my shekh a good wiggling, & teach him manners.

Mrs Petrie, 8. Cres<sup>t</sup> R<sup>d</sup>  
 Bromley, Kent.  
 21/12/91

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M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie, 8. Cres<sup>t</sup> R<sup>d</sup>  
 Bromley, Kent.

H/X

21-27 Dec 1891.

21-27 Dec 1891. ~~IX~~<sup>(65)</sup> Our further excavations have brought out parts of two more rooms with painted floors. One is in rather poor state, like most of the first room, but the other piece is as firm & bright as the day it was done, over 3000 years ago. The whole amount now known here is

- (1) Room of 128 square yards, of which about half remains painted,
- (2) Part of room with about 40 sq yds,
- (3) Part of room with about 85 sq. yds in fresh condition.

Considering that a single square yard of this work would be honoured in a museum in Europe it will be seen what a large find this is, nearly 200 sq. yds of painting in all.

The whole will be preserved; the house over the first room is nearly built, & has to be roofed. I have had to constantly attend to small points, such as the positions of the pillars to allow of gangways for visitors, &c, &c. I am


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 arranging so as to have a complete circuit for visitors <sup>to view all the pavements, which are adjoining;</sup> as when 50 or 100 tourists come off a boat, they must not crowd the place or be tempted to turn on to the painting. The gangway will therefore be continuous, from the entrance round the rooms & back. This is the most important discovery artistically, that there has been since the Old Kingdom statues of Mariette. The style of the vegetation, as all agree, is better than anything known in Egyptian or classical work.  
And - I have found some fragments of sculpture in the same style.  
 Here is a flake out of a column



covered with thistle plant in low relief, twining & overlapping in the freest manner; the only thing I can compare with it is the fine Florentine

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XVI<sup>th</sup> cent reliefs on pillars, nothing Greek or Roman is so unconventional & purely natural.

And here is a scrap of a capital



I can only hope for fragments of these sculptures, as the place was so stripped of stone by the Egyptians; but every such scrap is of value, as unlike anything yet known of Egyptian or Oriental art. There are also some good bits of regular Egyptian work.

I find from 1 to 2 yards deep of chips & dust over the foundations of the palace, though very little over the floors & courts. So there is some space in which to find the leavings.

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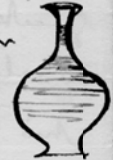
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


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(66)

More Aegean pottery comes in; one piece  
of a neck  probably from  or   
form. It is curious how the  
forms here were not found at Gurob, &  
the false-necked vase so common there  
is scarcely seen here. Yet the period  
is the same.

My expectation of Blackden joining me  
is closed, as he has thought needful to  
refer to the Committee about it, & so he  
cannot have an answer in time to be  
worth while. But Mr. Tyssen Amherst  
wishes to do a little here under my  
permission, & so Mr. Carter is to  
come here to work, not exactly with  
me, but on parts of the ground which  
I may assign to him. Having no  
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Mrs Petrie  
Bromley, Kent

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**M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie,  
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27 Dec - 2 Jan /92

27 Dec - 2 Jan /92 <sup>X</sup> Newberry & Carter have  
 been to & fro here, finding the various  
 stelae of the place, & each day in hopes  
 of a bigger prize. I went with them  
 two days up in the desert; one day  
 I saw a very fine large stela of Khuenaten,  
 almost perfect, & is very fresh state; also  
 another which had suffered, both anciently  
 & by a modern smasher. The other day  
 I saw another stela, also in the SE valley;  
 none of these are on Lepsius' plan. At the  
 last I sighted a print of a boot in the sand:  
 and a boot in out-of-the-way desert is almost  
 as much as the foot to Robinson Crusoe.  
 Who had been over here only a day or two  
 before? And where had they gone? There  
 was a wild hope that it was some official  
 going to look after the tomb of Khuenaten;  
 for that, & Tutankhamen's, have been  
 known to the museum for two years  
 past, & are being kept in reserve by  
 Grebaut to float his reputation at  
 the last gasp. We anxiously tracked "Boot",  
 who was accompanied by a native "Barefoot",  
 up & down little ravines Boot went in the  
 most headlong way, & after a couple

Newberry & Carter have  
 been to & fro here, finding the various  
 stelae of the place, & each day in hopes  
 of a bigger prize. I went with them  
 two days up in the desert; one day,  
 I saw a very fine large stela of Khuenaten,  
 almost perfect, & is very fresh state; also  
 another which had suffered, both anciently  
 & by a modern smasher. The other day  
 I saw another stela, also in the S E valley;  
 none of these are on Lepsius' plan. At this  
 last I sighted a print of a boot in the sand:  
 and a boot in out-of-the-way desert is almost  
 as much as the foot in Robinson Crusoe.

Who had been over here only a day or two  
 before? And where had they gone? There  
 was a wild hope that it was some official  
 going to look after the tomb of Khuenaten;  
 for that, & Tutankhamen's have been  
 known to the museum for two years  
 past, & are being kept in reserve by  
 Grebaut to float his reputation at  
 the last gasp. We anxiously tracked "Boot",  
 who was accompanied by a native "Barefoot",  
 up & down little ravines Boot went in the  
 most headlong way, & after a couple

68  
 miles or so some confusion came, &  
 Boot struck away from the mountain. I  
 hunted closer, & found that Barefoot had  
 led Boot up to see a natural pit in  
 the rock produced by water action, which  
 would never have been adopted for a tomb.  
 When Boot went down, & soon mounted  
 a donkey that was waiting for him, &  
 joined a camel, & so returned. Who  
 Boot was is a mystery; he must  
 have been hunting the place only one  
 or two days before, & no European  
 has been seen about.

I also went over to Der Moës, to see  
 after an inscribed stone said to be there.  
 I could not find any, & wasted half a day;  
 hearing after my return that it was  
 buried 4 or 5 feet deep, & had not been  
 seen for three years. But it is said  
 that the man will dig it out for me.  
 I heard however on the ferry from an old  
 man, what Der Moës means. Der is of  
 course a convent, so Moës must be a  
 proper name. Moës is only a wretched  
 French form of Mowas [𐤌𐤓𐤀], & the old

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man said it was <sup>(69)</sup> Mowas or Mas, & that people said it belonged to Thomas; this seems very likely - Der Thomas becoming Der Mowas. We are finding some pounds weight every day of the coloured inlaying of the palace. The stones were brilliantly patterned with bits of red & green glaze let in, some merely rectangular bits, some hieroglyphs. Some of the signs were monstrous, pieces of great ~~red~~ <sup>(or aten)</sup> discs of 8 inches across in red glaze. Beside this general inlaying there was a rarer inlaying with hieroglyphs cut out in black granite, obsidian, <sup>yellow</sup> limestone, &c, probably inlaid in alabaster. In a house we found the ankle & heel of a foot, ~~the~~ nearly life size, cut in red jasper! It is the largest piece I remember. At first I was much puzzled by the foot being finished above, & not having joined a leg. Now I feel no doubt that it comes from a composite statue of the queen, probably in alabaster with jasper face, arms, & feet. Another bronze ring of Khuenaten has been found. Also some more pieces of the beautiful spiral ornament on the columns.

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Also some more pieces of the beautiful spiral ornament on the columns.

I began clearing some <sup>(70)</sup> chambers on the  
 opposite (E) side of the road <sup>opposite to</sup> ~~from~~ the palace,  
 which I thought were only store rooms.  
 But I found all the dados finely painted  
 with lotus groups, & above that in one  
 room the bottom of a scene remaining,  
 of Khuenaten & the queen seated on low  
 stools face to face, on a richly embroidered  
 carpet & attendants between them; only the  
 feet & knees of the large figures, & the lower  
 half of the others, remain; but by the queen's  
 side, in the foreground, is an exquisite  
 group of two of the infant princesses,  
 one half reclining, the other seated squatting, on  
 rich cushions, one talking & holding the chin  
 of the other: they are <sup>about 6 inches high,</sup> painted so closely  
 like good Indian miniatures that I was  
 startled. The condition is perfect, except  
 a crack & a bruise the colour quite fresh.  
 To preserve such a treasure <sup>this is not to be published.</sup> was the question.  
 After measuring, examining the condition &  
 thickness of the plaster, & searching for  
 cracks & weak places, I determined  
 how much I could safely move in one piece.

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27 XII - 2192

27 XII - 2192 } All the usual methods of  
 pasting over the face, &c, are quite out  
 of question with this delicate distemper per-  
 colouring. I very gingerly took away  
 the wall from the back of the plaster,  
 having first cut nearly through where I  
 intended to part ~~the face~~. Brick by brick I  
 loosened the <sup>wall</sup> taking the greatest care not  
 to punch the plaster off in shifting each  
 brick, as corners tend to push forward  
 in turning it. At last, the sheet of  
 mud plaster <sup>was left</sup> standing on edge in the air  
 scarcely holding to anything: a box lid of  
 larger size was then set against the face,  
 sheets of paper dropped in between, &  
 then firmly clasping together the plaster  
 with one hand & the lid with the other.  
 I lifted the painting clean away on the  
 lid, a matter requiring much care, as the  
 slab of mud is heavy as well as delicate.  
 Lashed down on the lid with tight stringing  
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do with it. Any <sup>(12)</sup>wet backing is very risky, for fear of bringing away the paint by damp. Wax backing would be good, but it must be melted in some way, & might run through to the face, & spoil it all, & in contracting by cooling the waxed back might tear off the unwaxed face. On the whole I see nothing better than a gridiron of wooden slats; the back to be scraped down that this may lie as close as may be, & then bed it on with as thin a layer of mud as may be. With a protective edging, & lashing over to keep the plaster tight against the back in travelling, I hope this may do. To deal with a cake of mud, much pierced by white ants, 30 x 16 inches, & not 1 inch thick, & to prevent any chance of its breaking up, & yet not to be able to use any fluid backing - wet or melted - is a troublesome matter. Any trouble is worth while for what is the finest Egyptian painting that I have yet seen.

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(73)  
 Carter has come over, & the mystery of  
 "Boots" & "Barefoot" is out. It was Fraser  
 & Blackden, intent on forestalling  
 Newberry; having heard all N. had to  
 say they rushed over & began searching  
 for Khuenaten's tomb; they kept away  
 up in the desert for three days that we  
 should not know about it; but the Arabs  
 told N. of the matter, & they had to  
 agree to the whole story, boots & all.  
 F & B came over with two camels, servant  
 on donkey, & a guide. The affair does not  
 leave a pleasant taste in the mouth.

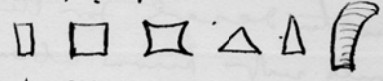
The fresco is safely transferred to the  
 wooden grids & bedded in fresh mud  
 plaster to support the back. It seems  
 none the worse for the transfer, &  
 the little princesses are intact. I long  
 to see them safe in South Kensington.

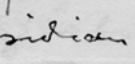
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(74)  
 is too rotten for it to travel; but I shall copy the colouring, & then if any drops out it can be replaced. It will also serve as a model for arranging samples of the coloured pieces in sets for collections. Have  $\frac{1}{2}$  cut on so of the pieces,  of coloured glaze from the inlayings.

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Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd.  
 Bromley, Kent 2

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 Bromley, Kent—




3-9 Jan 1892

3-9 Jan 1892 W. Carter <sup>(75)</sup> came here, & settled in, building a room & roofing it with boards & durra-stalks like mine. His position here is to be as agent for Mr. Tyssen Amherst M.P.; she takes much interest in Tell Amarna, & had wished to work here. Hearing of this I offered to him to allow him to appoint a worker to dig for him under my permission, provided I controlled the work & had the exhibiting & publishing of what was found. Thus I expand the amount of ground worked & the information, without any responsibility or expense to myself. I was also hoping to have expanded my own work by Mr. Blackden coming to join me personally; but his engagements to the Committee tied him so that he could not arrange it. Mr. Carter is a good-natured lad, whose interest is entirely in painting & natural history; he only takes this digging ~~as~~ as being on the spot & convenient to W. Amherst, & it is of no use for me to work him up as an excavator. The main matter this week has been turning over some remains of amulet factories; over a thousand pottery moulds have been found,


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IX  
 (76)  
 much remain to be turned out yet. I have  
 sorted out 70 or 80 varieties, & shall be  
 able to make up a great many sets of  
 forms for different collections. There are  
 all the various little ornaments so common  
 at this period \* † ‡ § ¶ † ‡ & c. with  
~~these~~ these are pieces of the frits & of the  
 waste glass & pots. The puzzle is a great  
 many cylindrical ~~hard-wear~~ infusible pots  
 about 6 ins across, which have glaze  
 on bottom, & run on to sides, but never any  
 inside. They seem to have been used in  
 the furnace, but how is unknown. The  
 factories are much denuded, only a few inches  
 of rubbish left, so the furnaces were lost.  
 I am most happy to say that several  
 more pieces have turned up of the  
 beautiful naturalistic thistle relief  
 on columns, & I hope for a more from  
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such art. (47)  
 A favourite decoration of capitals here was  
 by inlaying lines of different coloured glazes  
 down the leaves of the capital.  

 The dividing lines are left as  
 raised ridges of limestone, which  
 were very likely gilded originally, so as to  
 represent a gigantic jewellery. These  
 raised lines make a sort of network pattern,  
 which though not designed from a net, yet  
 irresistibly remind one of it. Here then  
 we see what is meant by "the ~~network~~<sup>nets of</sup>  
~~checker work for~~ <sup>checker work for</sup> ~~which is upon~~ the chapters" in Solomon's  
 architecture: and as this is the only type  
 of capital in which this network is known  
 we have a strong lead to the style of the  
 temple work.  
 much glass rod is found here of various  
 colours, such as was commonly used for  
 making earrings O; but a handful of  
 small glass tube has also turned up, &  
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At the painted pavement, the second room is now finished; & the posts & roofing & windows are next required. After it is all done, I shall have a long job to see after cleaning out the inside, fixing the colours, fitting gangways, &c. Very possibly I shall stay on in Ramadan (April) drawing the floors, as I could do that comfortably during the heat in those large rooms, & have no work going on outside. I have asked Pickard if he could join me for a fortnight in Sicily on my way home, in April or May.

Many pieces of cartouches of Khuenaten, of Nefertiti, & of the Aten are continually being turned up; & I have a stack of about a couple of tons of stone lying in my courtyard, which is mostly worth carrying away, although fragmentary.

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Appendix to Flinders Petrie's Journal of Work in Egypt, of 1892 January 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>. top of its 3<sup>rd</sup> page.

1 (3) Kings VII: 16, 17, 19.

From the Hebrew, xxx[?] Codex, E.V.

Verse

16. And he made two Chapters, molten brass, to set upon the tops of the Pillars: . . the height of the one Chapter, five cubits; and the height of the other Chapter, five cubits..

17. Nets of checker-work, and wreaths of chain work, . . . . . for the Chapters which were upon the top of the Pillars: . . . . . seven for the one Chapter, and seven for the other. . . . .

R.V.

18. And so he made the Pillars, . . . . . and two rows round about upon the one Network . . . . . to cover the Chapters that were upon the top {of the pillars (Revised

Version)}

{with Pomegranates. }

and so he did for the other Chapter . . . . .

From the LXX. Greek, of B.C. 240±.

16. And he made two {<[ R ]> Imposts <Chapters>} <[ R ]> molten, to set upon the tops of the Pillars:

five cubits the height of the one pillar, and five cubits the height of the second.

17. And he made two Nets,

to cover-around <[ R ]> the Chapter of the Pillars: even a Net to the one Chapter, and a net to the second Chapter.

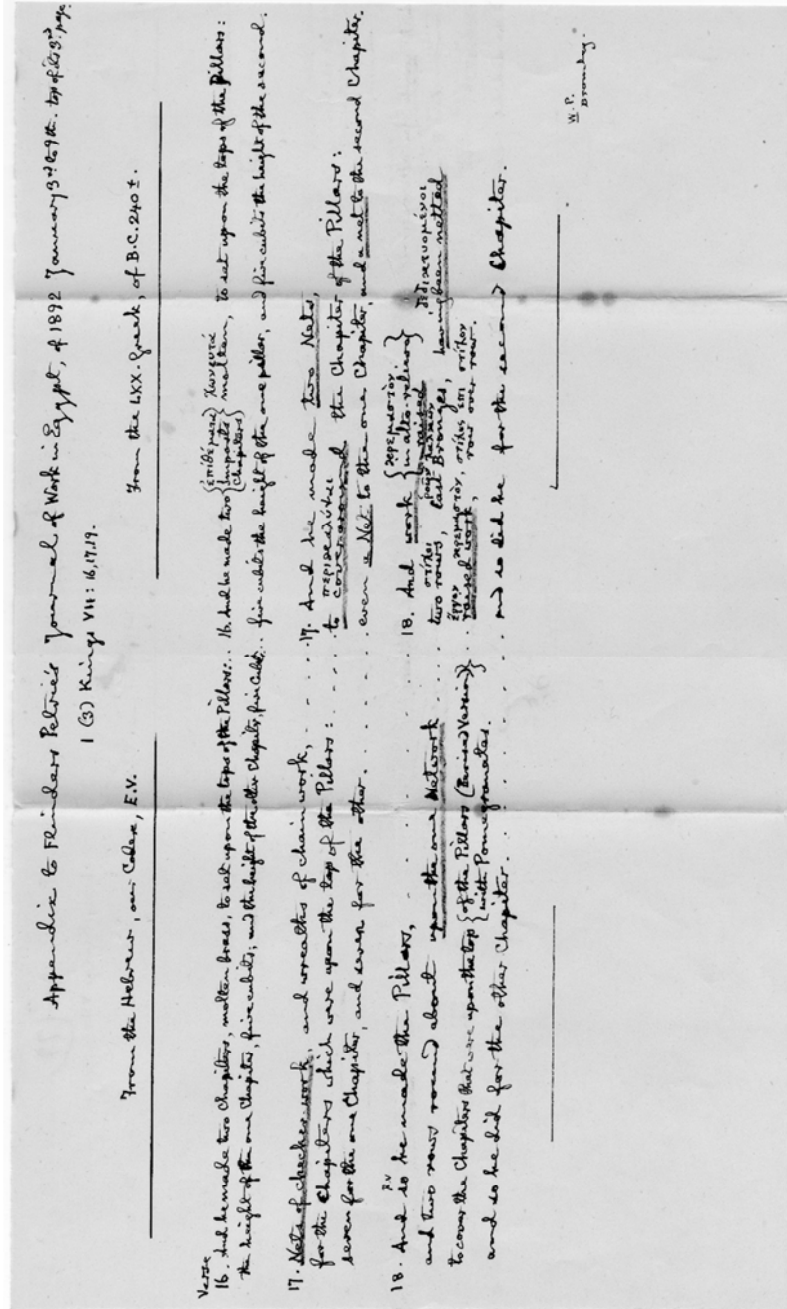
18. And work {<[ R ]> in alto-relievo <raised>}

two rows <[ R ]>, Cast Bronzes <[ R ]>, having been netted <[ R ]> raised <[ R ]>work<[ R ]>, row<[ R ]> over<[ R ]> row<[ R ]>.

and so did he for the second Chapter.

W. P. Bromley.

[This page was written by William Petrie, father of W. M. F. P.]



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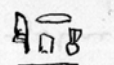

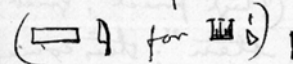
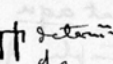
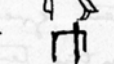
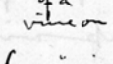

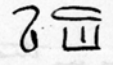

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W. P. Bromley.

10-17. Jan. 92. XII 80  
 Some more wine jar sealings  
 give us new inscriptions  "wine of the vines"  
 "wine of the vines"  of the  
 (  for  )  of a  
 north   
 also there is  "wine" written on a jar.  
 The amount of wine jars here shows that  
 festive living went on here in Khuenaten's  
 time. A fresh factory of pendants has  
 been found, & more hundreds of moulds  
 come pouring in, some fresh types  
 among them. Some good pieces of  
 sculptors' trial slabs, with the inevitable heads  
 of Khuenaten were found in the ancient  
 filling up of a pylon.  
 Among the various ring moulds & ring bezels  
 one of great interest has turned up,  
 of Tutankhamen headed with the  
 double-faced name of Amen & Aten,  
 evidently of the critical period when Aten was  
 on the wane, & the king had to "save his skin"  
 (as Sayce says) by conforming to the Amen  
 worship. There are many moulds of   
 which seems ~~like~~ like a royal name,  
 perhaps of some short lived usurper.  
 Mrs. Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd. Bromley, Kent

Some more wine jar sealings  
 give us new inscriptions [  ] "Wine [  ]  
 "Wine of the vines" of the  
 north"

( [  ] for [  ] ) [  ] determ<sup>d</sup>  
 of a  
 vine on a trellis  
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Among the various ring moulds & ring bezels<sup>sic</sup> {bezels}  
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M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie, 8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup> Bromley,  
 Kent-

(81)  
 An impression from a metal ring shows a royal title here which I do not remember before - "Khuenaten great aqu (? high priest, great one of the chapels) in the temple of Aten"; this comes off a bag of stuff tied up with cord.



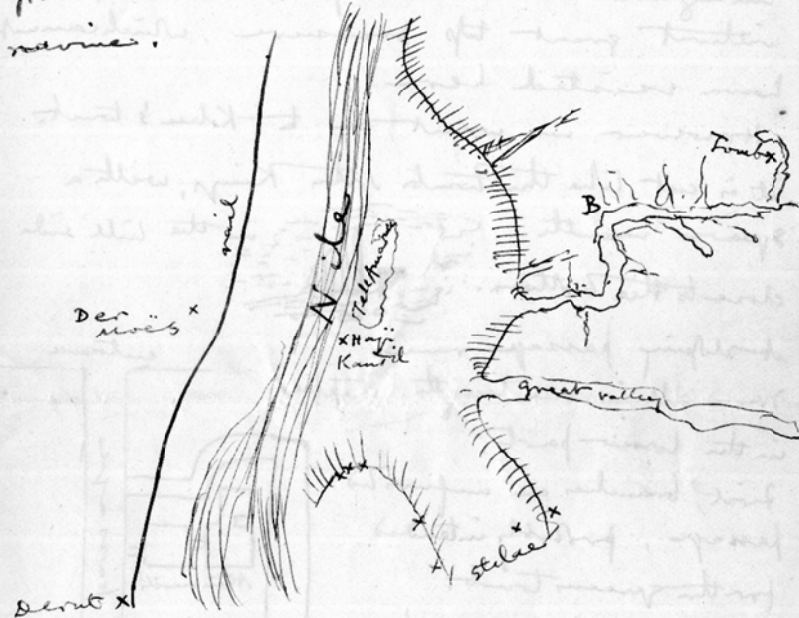
Mr. & Mrs. Spicer came here in their boat, & stayed some days waiting for Sayce. I dined with them twice, & directed them to the various sights which I had not time to go to myself. Then Sayce came, & we all went over to the great stela in the valley, in which they were all much interested. Alexandre who is here (from Ghizeh Museum) lately cleared the bottom of it, & Sayce & I copied it entirely; the upper part was copied & published by Prisse A. says. Then A. told Sayce that he had been lately clearing Khuenaten's tomb! I had known that there was some work going on, but preferred not to put my nose in before convenient to Alexandre. He asked Sayce to come & see it next day, with Spicers & myself. So I followed up the iron gates which they were transporting, next morning, & went up the

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valley with Daressy & Alexandre, the first European beside them to enter the place. It is most cunningly concealed, up <sup>the second</sup> great valley here, about 4 miles from the mouth, in a narrow side ravine.



At B in the valley is a grand break down of the strata,

the limestone having subsided a hundred feet or so for about half a mile length. If it took place before the great ravine of the valley was cut out through the strata, some 300 feet deep by the rainfall, there must have

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		[ R ]				
Der	rail	Nile	Tell Amarna	Hagi	B	Tomb
Moës				Kandil		
Derut					stelae	Great Valley

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been a lake there, of which I saw no trace, & yet it could scarcely have been faulted like this subsequent to the ravine. It is grand to see the limestone beds bent over like putty, & I cannot imagine how such a flexure took place without great top pressure, which cannot have existed here.


However we went on to Khu's tomb. It is cut like the tombs of the Kings, with a square mouth [☐] in the hill side close to the bottom.

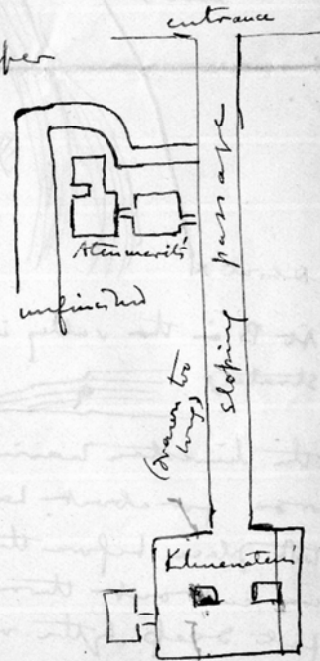


A sloping passage runs down all in one length, steeper in the lower parts.

First, branches an unfinished passage, probably intended for the queen's tomb.

Then three chambers of Atenmerit's tomb, shewing that she died before her father, who is represented standing under the Aten

 weeping for her, along with a crowd of other weepers; ~~before her~~ she is standing in a tent or shrine.



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[☐] entrance

sloping passage

First, branches an unfinished passage, probably intended for the queen's tomb.

Atenmerit's

unfinished

Then three chambers of Atenmerit's tomb, shewing that she died before her father, who is represented standing under the Aten

(drawn too long)

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Khuenaten's

Then at the bottom <sup>(84)</sup> is Khuenaten's chamber, about 30 ft square, with two pillars. It is finished off in a very slight manner, evidently in a hurry. All the walls are plastered & nearly all the carving is cut in the plaster & not through to the rock, & most of the plaster has fallen off. No door can be seen. The scenes are all of the formal type, & no inscription of interest remains. The place was plundered & destroyed in early times & the granite sarcophagus smashed to pieces. Some pieces of ushabtis were found. How it comes that the heart scarab with gold plate was left behind for the Arabs to plunder, is a puzzle. The tomb was found some four or five years ago by the Arabs, & has been rifled by them of all that they thought saleable. Then they sold the secret of it to the government; but it is hard to get to the bottom of the matter, as accounts vary. Alexandre professes to have discovered the tomb by his unaided abilities on 30 Dec /91, while some days before that an official said he knew all about it, that it had been known for two years to them, &

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 me that Daressy had come here on  
 1 Jan to see it, & D. seemed to know all  
 about the place as I went up with him;  
 yet Sayce was told that D. had only  
 seen it first the day we were  
 there. Then one of the workmen  
 muttered to me that they had been  
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 The truth of the business will probably never  
 be set down, & certainly not if Grébaut  
 has his way, for he has telegraphed to  
 Alexandre to stop clearing it till he  
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 gone on as slatternly as museum business  
 usually does. Alexandre began on it,  
 certainly by 1 Jan., & when I went with him  
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 six times, so two days out of three, the  
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 supervision. Then A., who was the only  
 European, was quite ignorant of the  
 important points to be cleared up about

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Khuenaten, & the <sup>(86)</sup>necessity of getting any fragments of the body to settle (1) what the physiognomy was, (2) whether male or female, (3) if tattooed. He was simply looking for things, & knew nothing of these historical questions. Now the place is to be left for Grabby to grab some credit if he can, & who will clear it, & when, is all unknown. So I fear the Khuenaten questions may never be cleared up, after all.

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As the Eg<sup>t</sup> gov<sup>t</sup> have passed Grebaut's obstructive regulations for digging, en bloc, after I had fully explained to Baring, Moncrieff & Palmer, that such terms were surely prohibitory, I have now written a formal letter desiring to know if Baring cannot protect the English interests; and, if not, saying that the choice must be put before the public at home of efficiently protecting our interests, or of English archaeologists transferring their service to some other power which has fewer diplomatic questions involved with France. I should be sorry to become a German or American subject, but as matters now stand that is the only way to do work in Egypt.

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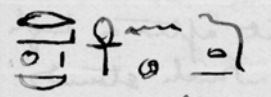
XIII  
24-30. Jan. 92.

24-30. Jan. 92. <sup>XIII</sup> <sup>88</sup> went down to the S. end of the plain with Mr. Dodgson, & on to see the Roman town beyond that on the Nile side. The people appear to call it after a high isolated piece of the mountain which stands apart above it, & which they called Sanje fil koam (Koam for Koam in this dialect). When returning I sighted another Khuenaten stela in the cliff face, & went up to see it. It is about 1/2 mile S. of the Shekh at the corner. The scene & hieroglyphs are larger, & the amount of text shorter than the others. In the 6th line I noted the [𓆎] & after a break [𓆎]


[𓆎] This queen Tai seems to be unknown yet, & to have been the sister of Khu's mother, i.e. of Thii, [𓆎]. The inscription begins 1st line with [𓆎] &c, so it can be identified, if a known text. The Arab told me that it had been squeezed with paper by some one, & said that there was another on the other side of a valley i.e. about 1/4 mile S. of this. Thus from the corner there are 7 at 30 yds N of Shekh, 2 at 20 yds N of Shekh (small & nearly all gone) 3 at 1/4 mile S of Shekh, 4 at 1/2 mile S of Shekh (noted above) & 5 said to be about 3/4 mile S of Shekh. I then went round &

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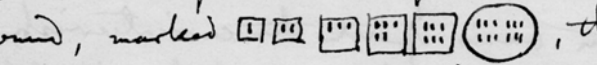
saw the tablet on the middle of the S. side of the plain, in which Iser Ra is named  
 much of it was patched with pieces which are now lost. On this Meritaten the eldest daughter is given, as on the stela by the shekh; & the 2<sup>nd</sup> dau<sup>r</sup> is added later; while on No 3, <sup>last page</sup> ~~before~~, two dau<sup>r</sup>s are added. So it is evident that only Meritaten was born by the 6<sup>th</sup>? year, while on tablets of the 8<sup>th</sup> year in the SE wady two dau<sup>r</sup>s <sup>originally</sup> occur. Thus we can settle the births of the family. ~~As~~ Meritaten was probably born therefore ~~by~~ in about the 6<sup>th</sup> year, & as she was married to Ra saaka khepru, & died before Khuenaten, he must have reigned 18 or 20 years, at a maximum. This is important, as we have no monument later than 8<sup>th</sup> year, & Manetho gives 36 years, which we now see is more than half guaranteed. On tablet 3 were 79 lines originally, the 40<sup>th</sup> is the last visible until the 74<sup>th</sup>, 41 to 73 being entirely weathered out. Thus I now know of 5 S.W. tablets, 1 S. tablet, & 3 S.E. tablets, 9 in all beside what are on Gebel Tuneh

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A nice set of Roman weights in lead has been found, marked , the standard of which is about 115 grains; this seems to be the didrachm of the Phoenician Ptolemaic unit which was common in later times.

We have begun on a glass factory, & find hundreds of pieces of coloured glass rods, &c, for making earrings. Evidently the glass was melted up in a lump, cooled, chipped clear of the pot, broken in bits, & then remelted & drawn out.

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that without any <sup>91</sup>doubt it is a direct cast from KHUENATEN'S OWN FACE, taken after death. This is astounding: no plaster casts from the person are known in Egypt hitherto, nor any plaster casts as early as this. It is unmistakably Khuenaten's head, exactly the basis of all the caricaturish heads so often found, yet with a beautiful & natural expression. That it is a cast from the person is clear, by the touching up & outlining artificially done to the eye, & the absence of a strong eyebrow, & the general perfection of the anatomy. And that it is done after death is certain, as there is no place for breathing, & the eye was half open. The cast extends from the collar bone (showing the throat splendidly) up to a bandage across the hair; and from the back of the left ear round to the right side of the mouth & nose, & up the middle of the forehead. The nose is a little rubbed at the end, otherwise it is perfect all over. The object of making such a cast was


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I have found how they arranged the furnaces for the ~~glass & gla~~ frits & glass making. Short pots  5, were set mouth down in the furnace floor in rows, & the bowls

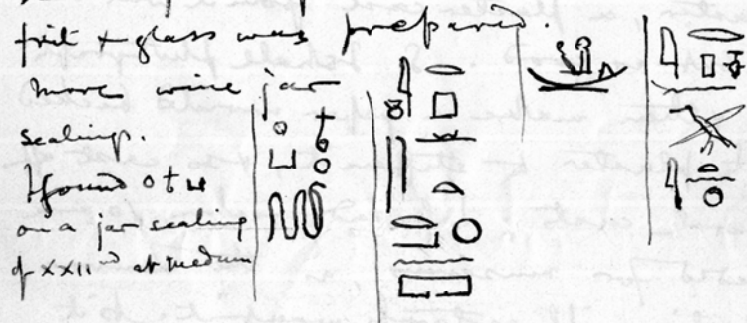
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93  
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Also a glass jar & cover, half full of ashes,  
 a Roman cinerary urn, 8 ins high.



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Future work is hopeless on the present terms; and the Fund is only working because Naville has weakly given in, & assented that he will not remove anything except small objects, which he never finds. The Fund will have no more sculptures to distribute, nor anything else so far as I can see.

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At last <||> I have got touch of the cuneiform tablets. A bit of one was found in re-clearing the house in which they were said to have been found; & there, most unexpectedly, we found in

old rubbish pits under the <sup>house</sup> walls a lot  
 of scraps of the peculiar clay, bits of  
 broken tablets, a large tablet broken  
 up before being written on, where the scribe  
 had scrawled about & dug into the clay  
 with his stylus & tried the point of it  
 here & there, also a tablet idly covered with  
 some fifty presses of a small seal of  
 Khuenaten. So it's certain that such things  
 never were sent from Babylonia. I  
 read it thus: - The Babylonian scribe  
 who did the cuneiform correspondence, lived  
 up there, outside the palace, some way to  
 the east. Outside his house were sand  
 pits, dug for sand when building it. His  
 rubbish was thrown in there. Then the  
 store rooms were built over those pits,  
 & the tablets from Babylonia stored there  
 close to the scribe's house. These tablets  
 have all been cleared out now; but the  
 scribe's rubbish, memoranda, spoilt pieces,  
 & a charm cylinder of clay, were left in  
 his old rubbish holes beneath. It throws  
 an entirely new light on the correspondence.  
 Thanks for letters & papers. The Dodgsons still  
 here. W. Petrie, 8. Crescent Rd.  
 Bromley, Kent.

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M<sup>rs</sup> Petrie, 8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup>  
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

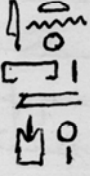
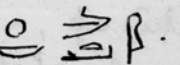
(XIV.  
1-7 Feb. 1892.



1-7 Feb. 1892. A delightful <sup>96</sup> find has just (XIV) capped the matter of the cast of Khuenaten. I set some men to turn over all the ground where the boy had picked up the cast; on the chance of finding more casts possibly, of the face or other things. And they have found several of the blocks in the rough for carving ushabtis, in granite & limestone. As Khuenaten's ushabtis are in granite, it all hangs together. Here they had the cast for carving the coffin & ushabtis; & here we find the cast & the unfinished ushabtis. This clinches that it is a death cast.


When I heard that pieces of ushabtis had been found in the tomb I urged Alexandre to pay for them & secure them all; & he assured me that he was doing so, following my system as he said, for everyone seems to look on it as a peculiarity of mine. However he plainly did not pay enough, for now after he has left, & the place is duly locked up, a man brought me a head & a body of ushabtis of Khuenaten in granite. I bought them of course, as I could not be encouraging abstraction after the Museum work was ended here.


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A very fine blue scarab of Khuenaten has come in. My stone yard continues

to be filled up with <sup>98</sup> pieces of columns,  
sculpture & inscriptions.

We are now cleaning up the pavement,  
& it will before long be on show.

The Dodgsons were anxious to see Beni  
Hasan, & as it is awkward to get there by  
train, having two ferries each way, I proposed  
boating down it. They desired it, so  
we engaged a boat, & if they went, with  
an Arabic dictionary, & my best man  
(who knows no English). The boatmen were  
troublesome, & would not start <sup>early</sup>, so that  
it was dark by the time they got to  
Shekh Temay, 3 or 4 miles from B. H.  
This proved most happy for them, the  
shekh there insisted on housing them,  
sending them on with donkeys, & men next  
day, dining them next night, & would  
not take anything, nor allow his men  
to do so. They then got into their boat  
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99  
 affair amazingly, & thanks to the Shekh  
 got on very well, considering they could  
 only converse by pointing out vocabulary  
 sentences. Miss Oldroyd has quite cleared  
 off the influenza cold, & seems better for  
 the trip.

I had long ago thought that the inlaid  
 capitals of columns were gilt on the ribs  
 of stone between the columns, thus  
 imitating jewellery of gems in gold. I  
 concluded this from the painted examples  
 being yellow on the ribs. Now we have  
 a bit of the glazed inlay with gilding left  
 on the edge of it, which proves that  
 the "network" on the capital was gilt.

I fear that Waterlow has made a muddle of my  
 plates. After waiting for 3 months for a few  
 proofs which would not have taken 3 hours more  
 work to have sent with the others at first,  
 I get them with the lines spread out & spoilt by  
 the stone being left ungummed & the ink spreading  
 all this time. I fear it is beyond remedy now.

I have sent an account of Khuenaten's tomb  
 with drawings to Daily Graphic, so it may  
 appear there (or in Graphic) before long.  
 Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent R<sup>d</sup> Bromley, Kent.

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XV. (XV)  
8-13 Feb 92

8-13 Feb 92 The ~~Dodgson~~<sup>Dodgson</sup> left for Cairo safely, having entered into this style of life better than I expected - in fact they protest that they enjoyed it, & Mrs D. says she shall have an auction of superfluities when she gets home & live simple ever after. I went off with Carter to see the alabaster quarry, working up my plan of the plain as far as where the road goes on to the top of the mountain or table-land. Along the top I tracked down the road by pacing & compass bearing, for about 5 miles. The quarry is Khufu's, & shows how carefully the desert was searched for stone at that early date, to open a great quarry 10 miles from the river in that way. The road way is evidently made for the quarry, from the river side here, between Haji Kandil & the S. end of the plain. I hope to make some more explorations of the desert around this plain; but as it is a 22 mile walk to the quarry & back, one cannot make much of a circuit in addition.

I have begun on buildings in the S.W. corner of the great enclosure of the

*Mrs Petrie - Bromley, Kent*

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