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 brown limestone, & red mottled limestone. The
 things were found within an inch or two of
 where I told the men I expected them; the
 guide being that, (as in the other corner), they are
 in the diagonal line ~~of~~ beneath the corner stone
 of the foundation, at about 26 inches from
 either side. There is no preference for the left
 side of the corner as at Nebes/~~Nauc~~ratis, & at the building
 in the cemetery here. The Gemayemi deposits were
 equidistant from the sides. Altogether, the study
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 special branch of Egyptology; a branch which
 though trivial in its original importance, seems
 likely to be of considerable value, owing to the objects
 being always undisturbed, together, & complete in their
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XIII. 209. 1000 pp. Year: 20/80 (102)

From finding that this temple was founded by Amasis, ~~yet he is~~ that the pylon was doubtless also his work, as blocks of Ramessu II are there reused, I begin to think that the site which had suspected was that of a big temple, in the middle of the area, was the Ramesside & XII dynasty site, which was so encumbered & messed up that Amasis struck out to a fresh piece of ground for his building. Now one of the pits went down on to a ^{brick} wall with sand beside it, evidently part of the retaining wall of the foundation. If we can only track this to its corners, we may get a Ramesside or earlier foundation deposit.

Since writing this, we have made several more pits, & found more of this wall & sand, & on the south as well as the east side. So I am fairly certain about it now. But I do not consider the site worth clearing ^{except the corners,} as Amasis had doubtless carried off all the stone, (as he has used very rubbishy pieces for the bedding of the pylon road) & all the statues. Further, I have cleared another corner,

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XVII: Teh/103/ Nebeshch. Mar 30/86
 the SE, of the Aahmes temple, & got out another deposit, like the N.W. The N.E. corner I also cleared, all over the part analogous to the deposit in each of the other corners, & nothing was to be found, even though I scraped down to 6 or 8 ins under water. This is like the Gemayemi enclosure, in which G. found deposits in each corner, except the N.E.. An unexpected deposit was found, however, only of pottery, within the area; I suspect under one side of the doorway of the inner cella of the shrine. The pottery was higher up & more numerous than at the corners; but though I cleared out by careful scraping, all the sand beneath it for 15 ins. or so, down to below water, there was not a chip of anything in the sand. We are going over to San, for three days, so I write this for post earlier than usual. I must go thence to Dibgu, to see an inscribed stone I hear of there. A burnt house in the temple area, has given some bronzes, & 2 doz. Ptolemy I & II tetradrachm. The independant diggers have tapped some tombs, & bring in pounds of beads.

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22^d March.

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After sending off the last journal, Griffith & I went off to San. This trip was for two purposes, for G. to see San, & for him to check my copies of inscriptions, for the second part of "Tanis". This we pretty well did, as well as a trip to Dibgu. I had been to Dibgu twice before, & thought it a very hopeless place then, as I still do: it is covered all over with red brick, therefore Roman on top; & not only red brick, but bad red brick, which is as horrid as Johnson's term a "bad prig": for it means Byzantine & even Arab. The inscription we went over to see, was not to be found, if indeed it ever existed, which I am not certain about. So failing anything else, I went off with Muh^d right across country to another mound, which I had never visited, Senhur, or Tell Deqiq. The land had dried, but a high wind had blown over a quantity of water from a canal on the E., & flooded it all again, some inches deep; so it was all mud wading to go about. The tell proved

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to be a smooth mound of dust & pottery, without any digging in it, to shew what may be beneath.

At Nebesheh we have developed still further the site of the old temple of Ramessu in the middle of the temenos; finding the retaining wall of the foundation along the S. side, and on the E., as well as having a fair idea of where to go on the W. & N. I think Griffith ought to be able to get at the corner deposits (if they still remain) in a day or two more. Unluckily, he has got a bad place on his foot; & so, instead of cutting a hole in one of the many pairs of damaged & rat-eaten boots he possesses, he went barefoot for a long time: standing on damp ground at sunset has given him a sore throat. Hence I was loth to leave him, & go to Defenneh; however he had Mursi & Midani, & promised if he was any worse, to go up to Cairo; and as a number of men had dropped work, & were waiting to start

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(106)

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(107)

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2 -

P108

the Tahpanhes of Jeremiah, and probably the earliest Greek settlement in Egypt; this is a lowish broad mound of dust & stones, without any features. Second, a mound about ½ mile E, only about 200 ft. across, but entirely of the ruins of high buildings, which have been burnt, & stand each as a reddened heap, the bricks shewing distinctly all over them, and by their great size, being certainly as early as the XXVI. & probably ^{perhaps} the XXII. dynasty. I have never seen a more promising spot, I have put all my day-men on it at once. It is early, it is well defined & in good state, it is burnt & therefore things ^{would be} left behind, it has quantities of stone chips about it, it has never been dug into yet, & it has a most delicious name, Kasr el bint el Yahudi, "the castle of the Jew's daughter". Here is something for our Anglo Israelite friends, (and indeed for more reasonable beings also), to find at Tahpanhes to which Johanan the son of Kareah took the king's

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(110)

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A delightful find is, out of a chamber in the Kasr comes a chip of VIIth cent. ^{B.C.} Greek pottery, [R] goose's head & patterns; the first bit from here deserves to be commemorated.



I can see the forms of many chambers in the Kasr now, by their being full of stone chips; and in our digging we find large blocks of limestone, & white plaster lining to chambers. One of the good features of this place is the amount of stone left here, in spite of all the deportations of ancient times.

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Mrs Petrie, 8. Crescent, Bromley, Kent

(111)

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Posted, Mar. 27/86.

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Ap. 6.
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 tent, there is the prattle & babble of the Arabs
 settled under the bushes around me. Some
 have dug out the earth of the hillocks, & stacked
 branches of tamarisk all around, so as to
 make regular huts; & I hear continually
 "La ya okhti; Kūm ya shekh; ya Fatmeh! ya Fatmeh!
 Kull ya Bukadād; Taaleh ya Tulbeh; ya heyt
 en Nebi! el mayeh helweh dilwakht, gawi;
 wa en Nebi! Tishrob melk; T'ib, hāt, Khud,
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 Oh Fatmeh! Eat oh Bukadadi; come here,
 oh Tulbeh; By the life of the Prophet the water
 is very sweet now; By the Prophet, you're
 drinking salt; very well, take give it here; Take
 it, & drink from it) - For working in any
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 well worth while to begin by work in a settled
 place near it & then move on, as I have
 done. If I had come here direct from
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(115)

of the old canal on one hand, & the dim
mounds of Tahpanhes, on the other, seen in
dark starlight, with the glimpse of a fire
here & there, under the bushes. And not
another soul within 10 miles of us, nothing
but sand & tamarisks, & marsh, & water,
& desolation. But I like it all better
than the more civilized places; one lives with
the people more; and the ever-fresh desert
air and living in a tent, doubles one's contentment
& peace of mind at one. Neither Gardner nor
Griffith would appreciate it, I fear, they neither of
them like having to do with the people, & would
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do their work. To me all their bye play, & jokes,
songs, and wills, & ways, give a colour & an
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2/ (116)
 Our colony progresses, and in less than a week we
 number 85 workers, and I have turned back
 about 30, & so dissuaded probably many more
 from coming over; It is now a case of every bush
 has its bird, pretty nearly; some have made an
 approach to huts, with walls of earth left between
 their holes, & branches over the tops, others have
 made a sort of tent, of branches, & some have
 only a sort of scooped-out lair, much such as a
 dog will scrape out to lie in.



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 dog will scrape out to lie in.

We have cleared a good bit of Kasr, & I
 can begin to see its plan in parts: it certainly
 looks to me like a small palace, for stopping in
 on expeditions; if so, it is "Pharaoh's house" in
 Tahpanhes. There is a finely built thick wall
 forming the outside, & against that, rooms have
 been added on, opening outwards. Two of these
 rooms are all the burnt parts that we have
 cleared out yet, & several weights, & seal, &
 some other good things result from them. There are
 large burnt rooms in the palace, which I look to

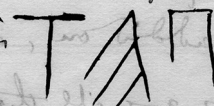
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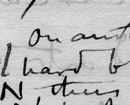
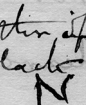
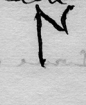

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



hopefully. Several weights have also been found about in the town; the biggest I found, & left till a convenient season, it is about 2 cwt. Some Bedawi women, whom I had seen prowling about all over the plain, looking for scraps left by the wash of rain, came, & brought me 21 small bronze weights, & were delighted at my prices; I hear of many more in store, which were kept up for a certain Yusuf, who seems to be in the habit of clearing off this district.

We are getting some interesting pottery; proto-greek. Bowls of fine hard red pottery of the type so common at Naukratis in black & buff, but not so specialized.  instead of  Vases with only plain black stripes, & the ware scarcely Greek-buff yet; the form like the big Polemarches of Naukratis.



on one such is  incised in big

sprawling letters,  on another of  ware is a Phoenician (?) N, thus  And all over the place are the big loop handles  of great thick drab amphorae,

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exactly like those of Naukratis, where they died out by 550. B.C. or so. Thick drab bowls & dishes also are found; and I see that they are derived from the fine thin hard drab Egyptian ware of XXXIth dynasty. If I can only get a good variety of this transition pottery, in which known Greek types are in process of formation, from Egyptian models, I shall do well.

In the main mound, nearly all the pits I have sunk have cut into nothing but burnt earth & broken pottery, apparently a waste heap; in one such pit two brass pots were found, & I got them out whole, about 4 ins across & high: with them was a brass dish, which the men broke up, & a quantity of little amulet figures, which seemed to have been wrapped in cloth. One pit has come on a large wall which we are now following.

Out in the plain, I found a large sandstone stele, which had evidently been dug around,

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(119)

by some one, to examine it; but whether it is known yet, generally, I do not know. It has more or less of 17 lines of inscription left, but the king's name is gone, & the top is all much smashed. I am turning over all the chips & scraps near it, to see if any more inscription is there. / But nothing has been found, & it really seems as if they must have carried off all the inscribed chips, in the dark ages, as amulets.

Weights continue to flow in; they are found all over the rain-washed area of the town; here after 4 days, I have 112, nearly all tiny bronze of 20 or 30 grs each. Of course the spur for getting them is the astounding price of $\frac{1}{2}$ franc each for all in good condition; & a number of Bedawin spend their time in hunting all the ground, & nearly all day a few figures are to be seen slowly stalking over the plain, staring on the ground for weights. They have also brought me in several small gold ornaments, so I have quite tapped their confidence.

Maurice Amos has come over here for a day or two, & will go on to Nebesheh for a day on his way back.

To my great delight, in an outside chamber

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To my great delight, in an outside chamber

3/120
 attached to the palace wall, a ~~man~~ turned
 up half a dozen plaster stoppings of jar mouths,
 each stamped with the cartouche of Psamtik;
 this is most valuable, at this stage of work, it
 proves that the outer & subsequent chambers
 are not later than the earlier part of the XXVI
 dynasty, & that jars of oil or wine for, or
 from, the royal stores were thrown away here: thus
 confirming exactly my belief that this was a
 royal residence of the XXVI. dynasty. In others
 of the outer chambers quantities of fine pottery
 are found, & good weights of basalt. A most
 splendid weight of polished syenite was brought in
 today, perfect in form, polish, & condition; &
 with a curious little deep cut accidentally round it,
 near the base, shewing it to have been lathe
turned. Also the most perfect little polished syenite
 (weight I have seen.)
 Royle has sent my two boxes of stores over
 to Kantara, & I got them by camel here; he
 writes most pleasantly, offering to do anything
 he can for me, lend me tents, &c; & asking
 me to come & stay with him for a day

attached to the palace wall, a man turned
 up half a dozen plaster stoppings of jar mouths,
 each stamped with the cartouche of Psamtik;
 this is most valuable, at this stage of work, it
 proves that the outer & subsequent chambers
 are not later than the earlier part of the XXVI
 dynasty, & that jars of oil or wine for, or
 from, the royal stores were thrown away here; thus
 confirming exactly my belief that this was a
 royal residence of the XXVI. dynasty. In others
 of the outer chambers quantities of fine pottery
 are found, & 6 or 8 weights of basalt. A most
 splendid weight of polished syenite was brought in
 to day, perfect in form, polish, & condition; &
 with a curious little deep cut accidentally round it,
 near the base, shewing it to have been lathe
turned. Also the most perfect little polished syenite <weight I have
 seen.>

Royle has sent my two boxes of stores over
 to Kantara, & I got them by camel here; he
 writes most pleasantly, offering to do anything
 he can for me, lend me tents, &c; & asking
 me to come & stay with him for a day

(121)

~~if~~ if I can do so. He tried to pass
 the boxes free of customs duty, an unheard of
 thing; & he succeeded in getting the Post
 Boat to bring them to Kantara free,
 so that there is nothing to pay but the
 customs & a camel, from leaving the P. & O.
 steamer to reaching here. This is kindness
 on a agent's part. He says that he shall be
 glad to hear how I go on, as he is much
 interested in such work. Posted 4 April

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Posted 4 April

XIX
 Kant^a
 Ap. 13.

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

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

XIX
 Kant^a
 Apr. 13.

April 5-

Mr Poole should see this.

The matter of weights is really becoming serious; to day I have bought 70 more, small bronze, & a few larger, stone. There are twenty Bedawin, mainly old women, who hunt all the neighbourhood, & bring up stores daily. I began by giving $\frac{1}{2}$ franc, as at Nebireh, but I have now taken to pointing out defects in most of them, so that few come up to the regulation price, and to day's lot are about 16^s/-; but that is rather alarming for one day. However, if the Committee like to refuse to take 500 off my hands, I shall be only too delighted. At first, the Arabs used to rub the weights, to see if they were silver or no, but I have quite stopped that destructive practise by only giving $\frac{1}{2}$ price for any weight that has been rubbed. In the last of a row of chambers opening one from the other, outside the main wall of the palace, we came on a quantity of pottery; much had been found in these chambers already, but here in the last, was to my great joy a perfect amphora with the big loop handles <which are so very commonly found broken off>, a thing

XX.
Kant^a
Ap. 20.

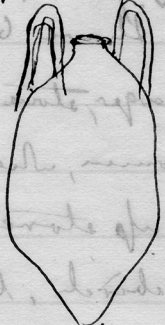
M^{rs} Petrie,
8. Crescent R^d
Bromley, Kent-

Mr. Poole should see this. | Mrs Petrie. 8. Crescent R^d
Bromley. Kent. (122)


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XX.
Kant^a
Ap. 20.

123
 I had never seen any approach to before; & it explains the use of such handles; rising high above the neck, a pole could be placed through them, & thus the heavy filled jar could be carried between two men, with the pole on their shoulders.



There was another, complete, but broken up, & two archaic amphorae with red painted lines, complete but broken; these & some other vases we removed all the pieces of, so as to mend them up. A draught board of pottery, broken up, was also here, 3 x 10 squares. My tent is choked with pots, in spite of a row outside; so now we must make a zareba with some branches, &c, & establish a store outside.



I have got hold of these Bedawin enough for them to be quite satisfied at any broking a debt, if I have not got change about me; they press me to do so, in fact, rather than take the things back until I can pay. I hear them now about 1/2 mile off, making a grand fantasia, clapping & singing, delighted with their gains. It is excellent to get a thorough scouring of the

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124

surface done in this way, which I saw here, & the weights are so minute, ^{e.g. 10} that everything must be seen by the hunter. Several scraps of gold jewellery & a fine sacred eye in gold, have been brought up, & bought by weight. This also establishes good relations with the neighbourhood; "a little something coming in", as they say in England, is an excellent thing for keeping people quiet & polite.

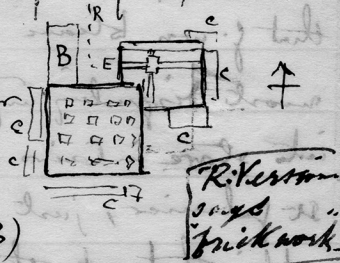
Mahajub & Said came from Cairo to Nebesheh, & there Said staid with Griffith, (as G. prefers him to any one else) & Mahajub came on here. He brought a letter of Gardner's ^{from Cairo} 10 days old, delayed in post, & news that G. was to leave Alex^a about the 6th. Also the most disgusting information, that Gardner has sent into store in Cairo for next season, a whole case of St Galmier, just as I have ordered a case & Cook replies that only there is not so much to be had in Cairo, & I have to pay over price for it; beside which, it has stuck at Ismailiyeh & not come on to Kantara. When I shall get it, I know not. Also G. has stored boxes of biscuits, while I am getting on with sour Arab bread. These stores will eat their heads off before they are wanted, & the biscuits, I am afraid, will be eaten by something else.

surface done in this way, while I am here, & the weights are so minute <e.g. [☉]>, that everything must be seen by the hunters. Several scraps of gold jewellery & a fine sacred eye in gold, have been brought up, & bought by weight. This also establishes good relations with the neighbourhood; "a little something coming in", as they say in England, is an excellent thing for keeping people quiet & polite. Mahajub & Said came from Cairo to Nebesheh, & there Said staid with Griffith, (as G. prefers him to any one else) & Mahajub came on here. He brought a letter of Gardner's <from Cairo,> 10 days old, delayed in post, & news that G. was to leave Alex^a about the 6th. Also the most disgusting information, that Gardner has sent into store in Cairo for next season, a whole case of St Galmier, just as I have ordered a case & Cook replies that only there is not so much to be had in Cairo, & I have to pay over price for it; beside which, it has stuck at Ismailiyeh & not come on to Kantara. When I shall get it, I know not. Also G. has stored boxes of biscuits, while I am getting on with sour Arab bread. These stores will eat their heads off before they are wanted, & the biscuits, I am afraid, will be eaten by something else.

(125)

At the same time I cannot send for them because I have already ordered water, & I cannot undertake, out here, to receive & deal with all the boxes that may have been sent into store. If I had only known of his surplus, I should have been very glad of it. Makajub also tells me of some good finds at Nebireh; a great bronze candlestick, (as he calls it) & a quantity of other things, found by natives, & bought up by Gardner; and also that Maspero took very little. I long to know if he has taken the green glazed head; it is the most splendid thing for early G^k art ^{in glazes,} & for condition, that I have seen. I also hear that there were two boxes of weights, some big ones.

Outside of the buildings of the Kasr
I find by repeated trenching, an area of continuous brickwork (B) resting on sand, about 60 x 120 ft. The entrance to the later buildings was at E; & the roadway R thus ran up into a recess between the buildings & this platform. ^{CCC external chambers added on.} The platform has no cells or chambers in it, & therefore seems not to be intended for a substructure of a building, but rather to have been an open air clean space, for outdoor purposes, such as loading goods, arranging things, &c.



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Outside of the buildings of the Kasr [R]

R: Version says "brickwork".

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2/20

(126)

just such a space as is always needed for business, & such as even poor villagers will make, outside their houses, a ~~hard~~^{smooth} hard bed of mud kept swift ~~as such~~ clean. Such is also a common sitting place, & audience place in villages, now. It is curious how exactly this is "the paved area" (Jer. 43.9 - translated "brick kiln" in A.V.; I have a note, I know not where from, that this means a paved area, & the sense of the passage requires it.) "the paved area which is at the entry of Pharaoh's house in Tahpanhes" show exactly this would be the place for Nebuchadnezzar to "spread his royal pavilion". I may as well say at once, that it is no use to look for Jeremiah's stones, as (even if they could be identified) they are probably gone long ago; the rains have washed away this area, which though ~~two or three feet~~ thick by the palace, is reduced to a few inches in the greater part, & gone altogether at the N.W. corner. Weights are not quite so overwhelming as yesterday, as I have 54 today; arrow heads are the next commonest thing here, about half as many as the weights being brought in. Three gold earrings & several scraps were also brought in, & bought for weight.

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(127)

Weights yet again, 54 today large & small, as yesterday, & two more gold earrings. Just outside the palace ~~chamber~~ was found a jar with three lines of demotic; I see ⲉ in it, in large figures, so I suppose it held a sort of XXX stuff for Psamtik's consumption. With it were fragments of the greater part of a splendid Greek vase, about 18 ins high when perfect; black with a panel on each side below the neck, in each panel, a triton? winged ^{grasping} serpents, in black & purple, with incised outlines, but with ball & rosette & diagonal geometrical pattern, so about 580 or 600 ^{BC} I suppose. If we can only find it all, it will be a prize. It is thickly crusted over with salt now, & I have put it in soak. Another brass pot ⲉ like the two previous ones, was found in the town mound today. I have pretty well done trying in the town mound now; it is seldom we even hit on a wall, & ~~the~~ when we do they are only of Ptolemaic period. I have pitted it all over now, with metre pits.

Weights down to 25 next day. Nothing fresh except on a piece of the fine Greek vase, is a demotic



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Weights down to 25 next day. Nothing fresh except on a piece of the fine Greek vase, is a demotic

(129)

Greek vase having turned up also. The place where the Psamtik jar stoppings are found (on the opposite side of the building) was evidently the chamber for opening wine jars; there are any number of lids & of sealings, but not a single jar; something like a butler's pantry, with nothing but corks & sealing was in it.

Another piece of resin found in a chamber to day; before, we found a small pot full; this is transparent fragrant resin, so unaltered (except a surface film), that it yields to pressure between the fingers. If microscope slides will retain this balsam so fresh, they will last many thousands of years. Weights about 30 or 40, & more gold scraps; I have now bought up 11 earrings, 2 sacred eyes, & a lot of scraps. What with weights & gold, these Arabs clear me out of nearly £1 a day; the more the better, for all the things are worth more to us. Nothing new from our work; we are going on clearing chambers. I can see signs of two or three alterations in the buildings, & at least three periods of building, though they might be all within a few years. I have nearly planned the main block of building. The cells or chambers of that part seem to have been domed over at the top, with perhaps a circular opening left, to enter from the chamber above, & a deep bed of sand & scraps filling the lower part of the cell.

Posted, 11 Ap. 86-

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Posted, 11 Ap. 86-

April 19 <17->th/86.April ~~17~~¹⁹th/86.

(130)

Past bed time, Saturday night & no journal written. So I must be short.

On Sunday ^{8th} it was hot, & I went to Kantara, but found neither water nor cash for me, 24 miles ^{walk} in vain.

Monday was a regular hot Khamsin, almost intolerable. Tuesday the same, & in the middle of it came poor Sayce, almost done for, riding 12 miles from Kantara; still worse, he had a bilious attack on, independantly. Wednesday was as bad, but improved in afternoon. Thursday broke with such a gale all night & morning that we could not work for the sand.

The afternoon settled down quietly, & in came Griffith, sooner than I expected so we had to squeeze three in the tent - Friday ^{Sayce & Griffith left for Kantara &} morning. Walked over to Salkieh, as no money was forwarded to Kantara, & I was quite out. I had written to Cook to send £50 to Salkieh, or if post would not send there, to send it by a messenger.

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(131)

Accordingly I found a dragoman from
 Cook's with the £50; but the road, or rather
 track, was such heavy sand, across the
 desert, that I did not do the 12 miles
 under 4 hours, (to Kantara, 12, I did in 2 ½
 hrs or 3 ¼ very easy) - consequently the
 man could not return by the one train
 (bi-weekly) by which he came. So he would
 have to journey to Fakhra & get back next
 day. Having the cash, I at once set off
 back; poor Muh^d was more beaten
 than I was, & asked if we should rest twice,
 but I was thirsty & hungry, & so pushed
 on; I never did such a tiring day; the
 24 ^{miles} mostly in deep sand, burning hot,
 all through a cloudless day. Next day,
 the calves of my legs ached. I left M. about
 a mile from the tent, ^{as I had} to give orders at the work,
 & he, so close home as that, actually stopped
 under a bush nearly half an hour, before he
 finished up: whenever I stopped to put boots
 on or off, on the road, he sheltered in the shadow
 of a telegraph pole. So you may think it was

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132

hot, for a Gizeh Arab to do that. When I got in, there was no fresh water, so I punched two holes in a gallon tin of apples, & putting my mouth to one, I drank off all the juice. That afternoon my 4 doz: of St. Galmier came, from Kantara, at last; having been misdelivered to a Greek there; Griffith found it, by means of accidentally finding a very long telegram at Kantara, which Cook had addressed to me 10 days before. The money does not seem to have reached Kantara yet.

The work here has been going on steadily, clearing the Kasr. A quantity of chips of fine hieroglyphs were found there, & the upper part of a small figure of a captive, of very good work. Also a great amount of broken Greek vases of 550-600 B.C., & several pieces of iron scale armour with them.

Also, out on the plain, an iron factory; one slag, tools, &c, & dozens of iron arrow heads.

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Also, out on the plain, an iron factory: ore, slag, tools, &c, & dozens of iron arrow heads.

(133)

I have now 700 weights in all: &
 they still flow in, 30-40 a day -
 Now I must turn into my blankets.
 Good night. April 17 -

the work has been going on
 steadily, cleaning the tank. A quantity
 of chips of fine kind has been found there,
 & the upper part of small pieces of cast-iron,
 of very good work. Also a great amount
 of broken pieces of iron of 250-600 B.C., &
 several pieces of iron scale
 with them.

Also, under the floor in iron
 one slag, tub, & other things.

Miss P. Petrie
 8, Crescent Road,
 Bromley, Kent.

XXI
 Apr: 23

I have now 700 weights in all: &
they still flow in, 30 - 40 a day-

Now I must turn into my blankets.
Good night.

April 17-

XXI
Ap: 27.

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

From 19. Ap: 86.

1)

M^r Poole should see this.


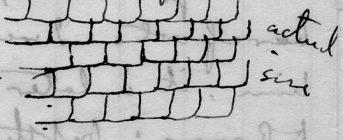

✓ ^{Mr Poole should see this.} From 19. Ap: 86. (134)

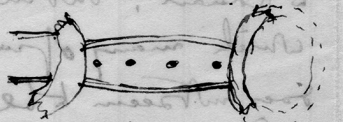
I have generally been writing in a hurry & have not done justice to the weather we have had. For the first fortnight, it was hot, & sudden ~~stir~~ gales arose; one day I had to proclaim half a day's work, for the wind was such no one would work: all around was a brown air of sand, & nothing visible beyond a hundred yards. The tent shook horribly & I hung on to the tent pole in the gusts. Just before Sayce came, the warmth worked up to an ugly hot wind, which made one reckon how soon one could escape from the country; Sayce came in the middle of it; but after three days, it cleared off in a north gale, & a night of buffeting, & a morning too sandy to work. Now it is pleasant again; of course hot in the mid-day, but not oppressive, & the nights cool & no very high wind. Long may it last so! Sayce was much interested in the place; rambled about speculating on Carians; & we went wading canals, & trotting all over the place barefoot. I went across to the N. mound with him; it is later than this side on the surface, going to Roman; but there are some tombs rifled, from which many of my gold earrings have come. There does not seem to be anything accessible of the Early Greek time, so I shall not try to work there.

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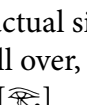
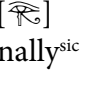
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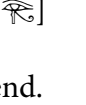
The canal is a great resource in hot days. It is just deep enough, all over, to sit on the bottom with one's nose out, & a quarter of an hour spent rolling & splashing about makes the hot winds seem bearable afterwards.

The work at the Kasr does not produce anything much, except in outlying chambers. In one room of the Kasr are an immense quantity of chips off the face of a beautifully inscribed stone; I am recovering such scraps of the hieroglyphs as I can, they are so finely worked that I shall set them in a slab of plaster. In another room, was the upper part of a figure of a captive, of excellent work. But in some chambers out on the E. are quantities of broken Greek vases of 550-600 B.C., along with jar stoppers stamped by Amasis. As Amasis removed the Greeks from here, we can fix this lot to the early years of his reign, say 565, B.C. With these are pieces of iron scale armour,  actual size of a scale, thin scales, & 8 deep all over,  so that the outside looks thus  size 4 laps vertically, & 2 horizontally on each scale.

Beside that, parts of an iron sword handle, this form, with a wide curved guard, & a large ring at the end. 


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Beside that, parts of an iron sword  handle, this form, with a wide curved guard, & a large ring at the end.

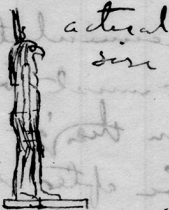
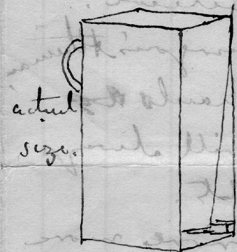
136

Some way, say ~~300~~ ¼ mile, south of the palace is the iron factory; slag & ore lying about, & quantities of wrought iron objects. Arrow heads I reject by the dozen or hundred, but keep as many as I reject; pieces of iron grating occurs, & links of a great iron chain each 4 or 5 ins long, forged one eye in the other.



All these may be dated before 560 BC.

One man picked up a charming little thing, a little silver amulet box for suspension, with the ^{sliding} lid partly pushed in; and at the bottom of the lid shewed the toes of a gold amulet. I tried to clean the box with some hopes of withdrawing the lid & taking the amulet out; but the silver was too brittle (being very thin) & the lid too firmly corroded in; so I decided the safest thing was to break off one side of the box as neatly as could be, & then the pieces can be replaced with a little cement, in no case damaging it for exhibition on the other side. This I did & took out a statuette of Horus, of the finest work of the XXVI. dynasty, highly burnished, of solid gold. It is a gem, & doubly valuable as having its case (which I do not remember ever seeing with an amulet before), & being absolutely above suspicion, having come from such a case. Forgeries



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137

have been made of this class of small gold figures, so that some warranty for an example is important. I weighed this, & gave the lucky finder 15/8, rather over its metal value, because he brought it up without trying to get the gold out of the case.

The supply of earrings, &c, keeps up pretty well, but weights seem to be falling off at last, down to about 20 or 30 a day. Next day showed some recovery, rising to 39. But a single day here will supply more of these small bronze weights than all the museums of Europe, I believe. What with Layard's Assyrian weights, Burgon's Athenian, & now two such wholly unprecedented hauls as Naukratis & Defenneh, the Brit. Mus will always stand as the supreme collection of weights.


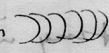
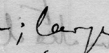
The chambers with Greek pottery prove more & more prolific. There seems to have been a bed some inches thick of rubbish thrown away in these chambers, mostly painted Greek vases. This find is I think very important because of its limited age; it must have been accumulated within a few years, or other rubbish would have accumulated with it, & made a thicker stratum. It must be after the accession 570 B.C. as Aahmes is on the jar lid found with it; & yet it is unlikely to be after Aahmes had removed the Greeks from here, & knocked up their trade. Hence this large & varied deposit may be dated within about 5 years of 565 B.C. The types are many of them unlike those





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of Naukratis, one of the commonest here is scarcely
 known at N. it is the thinnish black faced ware (138)
 with immense rising-sun palmetto pattern 
 alternately left black & coloured purple, incised
 outlines. There is also some of the regular
 Egyptian drab, hard, thin, fine; with Greek
 designs incised in bold sketchy style, a pegasus,
 a monster with lion's head & body, & goat's head
 growing out of the back. This seems important; it is
 an Egyptian ware & is done in Egypt; it is apparently
 therefore a type of monster drawn from the Beni
 Hasan tombs, which seem so fertile in Greek prototypes;
 & yet it seems too plainly to be the Cytherae (or Klazomenae?)
 type, for us to regard that as an independent
 invention of Asia Minor. This pot in fact links
 together the Asia Minor type & the Beni Hasan monsters
 by an Egyptian vase decorated by a Greek artist. I should
 much like to go & search the Beni Hasan neighbourhood
 for an archaic Greek settlement; I cannot
 help suspecting more & more, from the close
 parallel of so many features there & in Greek art,
 that one of the earliest camps of Greek mercenaries
 must have been there, & there they imbibed
 what afterwards became stock for Greek art.
 There are light drab vases with cross cut patterns 
 & friezes of animals, guilloche patterns ; large
 vases with dancing figures, chariots, processions
 of damsels, all these with white outlines, flesh, &
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(139)

was said to be Gr^k island pottery. Many more scraps of the iron scale armour have also turned up. All the vase fragments are broken small; 4 x 4 ins. is a large piece, about 2 x 2 is an average size, but I see that whenever there is a conspicuous pattern, I can generally find half a dozen pieces at once of the same vase, & from their having been all thrown into a chamber, I have good hopes of joining them up considerably. They are much scaled by salt, perhaps $\frac{1}{3}$ of the pieces being pitted, & some have lost nearly all the surface, but more than half are uninjured. I am soaking them all in three waters, to get the salt out, & my two basins are always full now; yesterday alone, there was about $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt of fragments brought in. The two men whom I have on that part got working close together attracted by a rich spot which was between them, & to prevent either hurrying in order to get an advantage, I had to lot out the ground, & mark their shares of soil. The luckiest got $4\frac{1}{2}$ bakshish for his day's finds; this, & my injunctions to work slowly, & get all there is, make it pretty safe for getting all the pieces. The soil is a loose surface dust, all the pottery being within 6 inches of the surface, & the soil to that

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(140)

depth being completely disintegrated by salt crystallization. This, though it has scaled the pottery, yet enables the men to get the pieces without any fresh breakage.

Yesterday more Greek pottery, about half as much as yesterday or rather more, still all painted more or less. Also three weights together from a palace chamber, weights up to 50 again today, but no gold. Agate beads are increasing, took in 50 today, but I have to pay high for them, as the Arabs value them; for small ones I give 8^d a dozen, & up to 6^d each, for big ones. Along with the Greek pottery are jar lids of P/Ahmes again, in both forms $\begin{matrix} \circ \\ \text{K} \\ \text{H} \\ \text{H} \\ \text{H} \end{matrix}$ and $\begin{matrix} \circ \\ \text{H} \\ \text{H} \\ \text{H} \end{matrix}$. In another chamber near there, but low down was a jar-sealing marked of Psamtik. It is remarkable, not only how many jar-sealings there are, but also what a great number of lids, of all kinds, are found here; there seem to be more lids than pots in every part. This I attribute to this being so much in the desert; everything had to be brought here, wine, oil, honey, milk, were none produced here probably, & hence every pot needed fastening up, to prevent spilling on the way.

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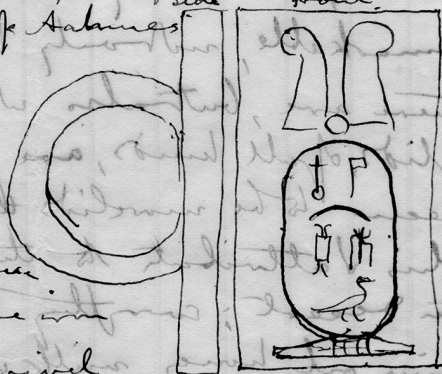
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141

The bezel of a silver ring brought in today is inscribed, "Priest of Amun, Psamtik si Neit." I do not see that any Psamtik was called son of Neith, so which king this man was called after is not clear; I incline to it being Psamtik III, as Aahmes, just before him, was si Neit. This is the second silver ring here of a priest of Amun, so it would seem that there was a temple of Amun here. The stele is dedicated to Khem.

In another chamber, very low down, a jar plastering was found, which I puzzled at; only just the beginning of the 4 cartouches were left, & all indistinct, but at last I made out an N, & then there may be a bulls back, so it must be Neko. Two jar plasterings stamped by Aahmes, have been found entire, neck, handles, stopper, plaster, & all, the whole top having broken off the jar, of old. A massive bronze seal or stamp of Aahmes was found in another of the outside chambers of the Kasr. It is these outlying offices & kitchens (?) that produce everything there. There are chisels, & a large swivel ring were found here also. A curious thing which had often puzzled me




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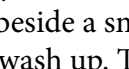
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 was finding a quantity of broken pottery, often inside a large broken jar, all together & placed in a hole in the ground going below the foundation of the walls, generally into the sand, some four or five feet deep in all. Further these deposits were generally close to a wall, & often cut into it partly. Now I think I have a clue; these were the sinks for rinsing & washing things. The reason for having a big jar, generally with the bottom knocked out, was to hold back the earth, & it was filled with shards ^{on edge} so that things could be set on it, to wash them; the reason for sinking it down to the sand was to get a clear soakage for the water; the reason for putting it close to, or into, a wall as possible, was to have it out of the way in the room. Further, it is usual to find the shards in it covered with apparent remains of organic matter, & I have found fish bones.

Three draught boards have been found; one of pottery made on purpose, one scratched in a big dish, & one scratched on stone.

A sink we cleared today had a little long chamber to itself B, beside a small chamber A,  for standing in to wash up. The person stood in A, & had the sink in B at a sort of raised bench, with recesses ^{a foot wide} at each end to stand the things in; the pots below extended under the wall on either side some way.

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many more pieces of scale armour have been found, & one in better state shows the scales to be of this form, with six stitching holes in each. The pieces are much improved by a long soaking & brushing, & that will take the salt out. The two finest ^{Egyptian} jars had were very salt, so I tied a rope to their handles, & sunk them in the canal for 24 hours, putting them over on the other side, out of the way. The fine Greek pottery is nearly at an end now. Altogether I expect to have the ~~greater part~~ ^{greater part} of larger halves of a dozen or twenty first class vases, of 550 B.C., & fragments of perhaps 50 more. Some may make up nearly perfect, perhaps. On cutting up the floors of the chamber where they were found, we come on a quantity of earlier pottery (perhaps 600 B.C.), of very good quality, Egyptian. In another chamber, we got a perfect cup, & large lid of a jar of the very fine greenish drab Egyptian ware; this is very scarce to get whole.

Weights have come in well today, 59 from Bedawin, & one from the washing-up chamber by the sink. Three were found yesterday in the next chamber to that.

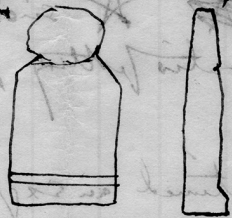
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Next day was however the best for weights, so far, taking in 79; the rest of the days buyings are a good average, viz: 31 arrow heads bronze, 2 of iron, 2 bronze rings, 3 small bronze figures, iron knife, 2 chisels, 30 good beads, ^{bronze sacred eye, gold earring,} stone or glass. All this is beside my men's finds of pottery, iron, bronze, &c, from the work; in fact the trade in antikas worked up here by continuous residence & - to the Bedawin - good prices.

Out in the buildings, or rather foundations remaining, some way E. of the Kasr, we have traced out many chambers but never got anything hardly, except pottery - broken, & just the same, but coarser than that of the Kasr & elsewhere here. The only exception is a terracotta figure, archaic style, (head lost), draped to ankles, & left arm across below breasts; and an excessively rough stone figure [R]; this latter is valuable as shewing how such things



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B.C.; & therefore they belong to the archaistic or decadence age as we had thought might be the case at Nauk^s.

I can see in the finds of successive age in the Kasr, that the green-drab pottery of the XXVI. dyn: was scarce, but very fine, thin, & hard at first ^{say 650-600}; & then later on (600-550) it was ^{B.C.} commoner, made in large sizes, more porous,

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M^{rs} Petrie, 8. Crescent R^d Bromley,
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& thick. I do not think it was even known before, that this belonged to XXVI. dyn. We shall get here a complete collection of pottery of that age, all certainly dated & without any chance of later stuff with it. Such a result is invaluable for the history of pottery. Another very fine Greek amphorae was found to day, [drawing] with red scrawly lines over it; one such has the sealing up of Aahmes still on the neck, shewing that the Greek ware was used at the royal vine or olive yards for the produce. This is valuable as pointing to its being made in Egypt & not an imported rarity. It has also a star scratched on it [drawing] [drawing] such as I found on a piece of Naukratis pottery, & some people said was Arab!

I have not mentioned an exquisite lapis lazuli amulet I bought; a cobra serpent, with lion's head, very small, but perfectly worked, lion's ears eyes & mouth in detail.

Weights 42 to day, 896 in all. I have hit on a new way of ascertaining the amount of change in the bronze weights, by using specific gravity, which will I hope, reduce the amount of work to be done on them. In any case I shall have some weeks' work on them.

Posted 25. Ap.

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Kent^a
May 3.

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Tell Defenneh up to May 1./86

Miss Edwards to see this.

I have now been to the most out of the way corner of the Delta, I think; Defenneh is tolerably "out of humanity's reach", as I have found in getting money, &c, from Cairo, but 9 miles due N. of Defenneh lies Tell esh Sherig, or Tell Belin/ <m> as it is known here, (for the benefit of those who have the 4 sheet war office map - pirated by Stanford - I may say the coast lies further out, & Tell Sherig by bearings is really as far out as [R])

I first crossed on camel, & then sundry more <wide> stretches of water on that way; on the whole I had better have left my trousers behind, when I started, as I had to carry them in general. But the wading was the pleasantest part of it, the other ground being (1) dust so hot, that one could not stand still on it, but had to scrape a hole to the cool ground, if stopping for a couple of seconds; or (2) ground strewn with crystals of sulphate of lime, which threatened to cut one's feet, & which did stick in through the skin occasionally in spite of all care - (N.B. It is impossible to wear boots when one's feet are continually crusted with mud two or three inches deep); or (3) hot black mud, which could not be crossed for more than a few yards, any length of it would necessarily have stopped me altogether, or (4) best of all, mud & water two or three inches deep, with a crust of <white> salt on the top, which kept it fairly cool. At last, I reached Tell


Tell Defenneh up to May 1./86 (146)

Petrie MSS 1.5


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(147) 381
 ish Sherig, a low mound about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile long, & half as wide, & 20 or 30 ^{ft} high; a mass of dust, with pottery & brick scattered over its surface, so far as one could see it. Around, either water or salt flats, almost as far as one could see, with scattered desert bushes on the landward horizon. I think it beats any place I have seen for desolation; the immense stretch of water on the N. & E. is so bare of islets that I could just see the white gleam of the Port Said buildings 20 miles off, across it. The mound is all late Roman & Cufic, on the surface, & I picked up coloured glass, Cufic coins, & part of a little Cufic seal of lapis lazuli. This is interesting, as shewing how late this district was inhabited, & therefore cultivated.

Work at the Kasr, next day, produced more pottery from the outlying chambers, & a pair of corn rubbers of this type ; as they are not very heavy & can be dated to Aahmes for certain I think they will be a good sample pair for Brit. Mus. Also two more good basalt weights. The weights from the Kasr will at least shew us how much variation existed in one standard at one time & place, a point yet quite unknown. A good example of the chancy nature of work occurred this evening. Just before sunset, I went over

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(148)

to a man, at a little distance, who was put to clear, along the side of an enclosure where iron & copper workers remains are; he had wandered away from the wall, & I took up his hoe to cut down some earth to retake the wall. I hacked down some, never thinking of finding anything when I saw I had broken a green bowl ^(pieces will fit clean & indistinguishable). I picked it out, & thought it was very thin & then saw a little chunk of metal in the earth I had cut down, which I saw to be silver by the way it was cut, & picking it up, I saw a gleam of white where I had hit it. So I calmly put it one side & grabbed for more; soon I had 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs of crucibles, lots of silver, ^{much of it} sufficiently alloyed with copper happily, to be fairly green outside, & then I saw my bowl was silver. The greenness made the man suppose it copper, so I just picked it all up, for fear he should look too closely at it, & as it was just sunset, whistled the men off. As my rule of giving metal value for every object of gold or silver - known to be such - cannot safely be infringed, I shall keep this quiet here. Happily, I have saved £15 or 20 thus. If the man had followed the wall he would have found it all before I got there. I must set a big batch of new work elsewhere, tomorrow, & draw him off on it, & then quietly clear the rest of the ground,

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(149)
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Weights have fallen off, 62 for two days together; agate beads, however, abound; a second Roman stamped yellow glass pendant came in - cupid & a goat; a besil^{sic} {bezel} of a silver ring with a scarab engraved on it; a silver ring with a scarab solid, as the besil^{sic}; and a heavy gold ring (1 ¼ sov.) which most disgustingly is quite plain. I have never been in a place where so much jewellery was found; partly found owing to the soil having been so denuded by rains, but the hundreds of small weights shew that this was a jewellery centre; How much early Greek jewellery comes from Defenneh? Particularly all those things with Egyptian designs, scarabs, &c, made by Phoenicians or Greeks.

I have today another bronze fly, beside two or three before; these are not pendants or ornaments as they are not pierced, & they are not elaborately worked. I incline to think they may be weights, just as there are certainly lion-, bull-, duck-, & frog-shaped weights. These may be Phoenician, dedicated to Baal zebub. Two rather good little gems - Roman - were brought in to day; a minute garnet with helmeted female seated on cippus, helmeted, looking back, holding bird (?) in outstretched hand, a shield & spear behind, the whole fairly detailed, though only 3/10 inch across. The

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2/ other is not so delicate but still fairly good provincial work of the 1st cent. AD, I think, by the thinness of the neck; a carnelian with beardless filleted male head, & caduceus behind it. Strange to say, the people do not value these much; a couple of good onyx beads an inch long, seem to be more important in their eyes, as I got these at 1^s each. Generally, one cannot buy engraved stones at all, in Egypt, they are so much prized. I am gradually getting through the soaking of the Greek vases, doing two large basins full every day, in three waters; & so the heap of cleaned inside in tent, grows, while the heap of unwashed outside is shrinking. I have to keep watch somewhat on the quantity of pottery, &c, lying outside; & this, & a general sense of being one's own policeman in this country, & this place particularly, produces an excellent watchman-condition, so that the slightest noise wakes me a-brance. Hence the last few nights have been much marred by some mice that have appeared out here; every time one rattles a scrap of pottery or rustles a paper, I wake up, much to my disgust; & the frame of mind, with regard to mice in particular is not conducive to sleeping again. I tried to scare them by all means, including shooting (I can't do much of that safely, what with tinned stores & pottery in here) - but in vain - so now I have had to put down arsenic in hopes of getting some peace. For three days when we first

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