

give  
To Miss Herford

Kafr Ammar  
12 June 1913




8<sup>00</sup> To Miss Herford Kafr Ammar ①  
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The work here has been in the main valley between the cemeteries examined last year. This valley had a long straggling line of tombs up it with various patches branching off. We have searched about 1000 feet length, & the cemetery continues still at ~~the~~ <sup>the upper</sup> end, & at the lower end it goes into water, & extends at least 500 feet further as we found a tomb while digging a well far from our work. Probably before the levels rose - about 20 or 25 feet - the cemetery extended  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile further to the cultivation of that time. In what we have examined there are about 800 tombs, so probably there were at least 2000 in this valley along beside all the hills. This shews what a very important site this was; doubtless the pre-Menite capital was about Kafr Ammar, & this culture preceded Memphis, & died down as that arose.

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(2)

Nearly the whole of the things found are shortly before Mena. The greater part are of sequence date 77, & the rest run into 78 but scarcely anything later than Mena.

We have found a large jar with the name of King Narmer - who is probably Mena. It is a very important variant as only the Nar fish is the Ka name, & the mer is put below: further, it is not the chisel mer, but the hoe or plough [  ] mer. This finally disposes of any other proposed reading for the name. There is also another cylinder jar of probably King Ka & G, the name scarcely legible, but the signs by it like his [  ] [  ]

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register will be the largest & most complete of any cemetery yet worked. The plan is posted up every evening, the place of each tomb being measured as we go. All the skulls & long bones are measured by Mr Thompson; & this has to be done where found, as they are too ~~rotted~~ fragile to be moved in general.

The skulls in possible condition are brought away in a ball of earth, & slowly dried. After gently brushing the sand away, hot paraffin wax is dribbled over them, & the bones thus consolidated. In this way we have now about 50 preserved so that they can be handled like new bones. Most of them have also the jaws in place. We shall get a fine series for defining the type at this critical period, when the dynastic people were settling in on the older

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 population. I am photographing all the  
 skulls with four views of each.  
 The valley burials are not so rich as  
 those on the hills, but are less plundered  
 anciently, so we have a large  
 quantity of beads of garnet & carnelian;  
 also about 200 slate palettes, & as  
 many alabaster vases, mostly of small  
 size. Some good sets of amulets  
 were found, scorpions of sand, claws of  
 glaze, a ~~bro~~ copper figure of the baboon  
 - the oldest ~~cop~~ metal amulet known -  
 some green glazed vases, & a small  
 limestone figure, like the large figure of  
 Hierakonpolis kneeling on one knee. The  
 damp has destroyed all the clothing &  
 wood work, so that it is difficult to  
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 are.  
 One <sup>market</sup> day after paying accounts a man  
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 bones are in fine condition, & will be  
 measured, & perhaps packed; but the  
 wrappings are merely black dust.  
 The work here is greatly helped by Mr.  
 Campion, who has by now relieved me  
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 Beside this Mr. Engelbach is now at

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⑥ Gerzeh clearing several sites.  
 The cemetery of the XI-XII has yielded  
 a large coffin covered with inscriptions,  
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 Antef; he has even altered the name  
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 copying as it is too frail to travel.  
~~Other cemeteries~~ Two good statuettes &  
 other small things also come from this  
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 Three immense pits on the hills are  
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 This seems to me like a II<sup>nd</sup> or  
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