

[Pages 1 to 20 are by Hilda Petrie.]  
[Page also numbered 1.]

Journal ii  
Confidential  
but may be read by anybody.

13 January. <1912>

First day at Kafr Ammâr, the new site, and it will turn out to be a fine one, by all that one can see.

We started early in the morning by train to Cairo, drove across, & reached the Upper Egyptian sta. soon after 9 AM. I picked up a parcel of blankets, we each had a bag, & we came on by the 9.30, passing the pyramids of Abusir, Gizeh, Saqqara, & Dahshur, then Mazghuneh (Mackay's pyramid site, where they were till last week) then Lisht pyramids where the Americans have worked. Lastly we stopped at Kafr Ammâr, & were met by cook-boy Muhammed & 2 other men to carry baggage. Two travelling dealers showed us many antiquities in a lonely little courtyard among palm-groves, and later we rejoined our men & tramped with them across 3 canals by bridges, & the cultivation, and crossed the muddy bottom of another canal & joined the dry desert. Here on the desert edge, Wainwright has some huts, and is

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Journal ii ①


8, WELL ROAD,


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2 digging XXII<sup>nd</sup> - XXV<sup>th</sup> dynasty cemetery, and getting painted wooden boxes, & bead nets etc. 5 mins. north, between sandy mounds of desert, our tents have just been pitched, & an inlet of cultivation close to us is planted with beans now tall & in flower. We have desert nomads all round us, clean sand & the hillocks covered with black flints, & before us all the green of Egypt, with mud villages & palm groves at intervals like islands rising in it. To far east, the long line of desert cliffs, Arabian side; these have a glorious pink light shed on them at sunset. To far west, Libyan desert, and on our horizon south stands up the Mejdum pyramid,  very purple in the afternoon. Arrived here, we settled into the tents, and were joined by Wainwright, and Engelbach, 2 of our 4 assistants. Here too is Lawrence, a very good man, arrived for Carchemish to put in some weeks' training with Fl. for workmen, tomb-work, bakhshish, system, & returning to Carchemish next month to dig. We prospected all over the site for digging & saw slightly hollowed spots on the tops of all the pebbly mounds. Then rigged our beds & after a few minutes 'unpacking', joined W-wright at his hut for tea. Left the young men to sup together, & returned to our more primitive establishment, where a couple of tins & spoons, a candle & a borrowed match graced our meal.

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17 February, five weeks later.

Now that Kafr Ammar, or our northern part of the site, is nearly worked out, it is time to send home a general impression of the place, and the work here. One can only give a rapid sketch of the chief features here, as the archaeological results will not appear, until all the tomb cards are carefully worked up at home. It will only then transpire which are the earlier & which the later types of pottery and of stone vases, of bedsteads, copper tools, woodwork, plans of grave, and arrangements of objects. We shall finally know what can be dated to Sequence dates 70 to 80, what goes with the Mena period, what belonged to the more primitive regins, what to II<sup>nd</sup>-III<sup>rd</sup> dynasties, and what comes down to the Pyramid age.

That is the group of periods that has been tackled here. Practically the chief part of this

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(H) site belongs to Dynasty Nought (0 dyn.) and it is by far the most northern site on which such early remains have been found, so this may have been the base from which the earliest dynastic people conquered the north, when they came down and founded Memphis.

The typical graves of Dynasty 0 here contain contracted burials, head to S, and face to W. Many of the graves are lined with matting which is in good preservation, and contain excellent large round baskets with lids. The graves are often roofed with long wooden poles and brushwood or matting on these. The larger ones have a group of tall ash jars placed at one end. The commonest pottery here is of three types, the tall pointed 1<sup>st</sup> dyn. jars, R. 73, sometimes with cord bands, the commonest globular tapering pot, L. 38 and the cylinder jar with many varieties of degraded wavy pattern in relief, or painted chequer-lines. <sup>I have drawn about 200 shapes of others.</sup> Many tombs contain beautiful alabaster vases. It has chiefly been my day's work, to sit on the desert drawing alabasters to scale 1:2 and I have now drawn 350 of them.

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[Page also numbered 2.]

(5)<sup>2</sup>  
 The commonest shapes are the tall cylinder with thick brim and corded band, the stumpy barrel-shaped vase, and the wide tall bowl with incurved rim. In the 11<sup>th</sup> dynasty a flattened shape, degrading to a bun shape, is frequent. Half a dozen drawings of each of these shapes suffice to give the chief varieties, with a list of tomb-numbers attached to each drawing, but the remaining 330 drawings are for the most part individual portraits of individual and unique specimens. One soon learns great differences of contour & proportion, and the copying of them is very fascinating. The rest of the draughtsman work is divided between pottery, copper tools, slate palettes, small ivories, jewellery, and rough wood work of the early dynasties. One interesting feature of the 0 dyn. tombs is the well-built bedsteads, <sup>with</sup> strong wooden frames mortised and tenoned, and the twisted rush work of some of them is interlaced in fours and lashed round the poles of the frame, while other poles

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 along them. They have bull's legs raising  
 them 4 to 8 inches from the ground, the  
 usual bull's leg of the Mena period, fore  
 and hind legs, delicately carved with outstanding  
 treatment of the muscles + raised on the  
 usual pedestal. Sometimes the person  
 lay on the bedstead, sometimes the bed  
 was laid in upside-down upon him.  
 Slate palettes and copper tools were found  
 in these early tombs, and a wealth of  
 alabasters in a few of them. An exquisitely  
 carved beetle in <sup>white</sup> limestone, <sup>an amulet case</sup> with part  
 opening as a lid, + the legs carved on the  
 front, belongs to this period; and the  
 other best piece, artistically, is an  
 ivory-spoon, carved in a square or  
 shovel shape, with rows of animals cut  
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a large grave, with several cylinder pots,  
 in Mr Wainwright's part of the site, and  
 it has taken me many hours to draw it  
 with a magnifier, done to double scale with  
 compasses. The tiers of animals are  
 chiefly gazelles, and dogs, & nondescript,  
 and the style of the work is that of  
 Hierakonpolis. Of 0 dynasty period  
 we have in addition wooden bows, arrows,  
 staves, forked sticks, shells <sup>containing</sup> of malachite,  
 trays, a low table, a ~~3-legged stool~~,  
 basketwork hampers used as coffins,  
 well preserved ropes, and grass mats,  
 horn bracelets, one or two flint knives,  
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 on pottery, iron bracelets, & draughtsmen,  
 & playing or divining pieces, <sup>hairpins</sup> and spoons,  
 all of ivory, amethyst & carnelian & glaze  
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8 2c  
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 roughly painted & inscribed, and much  
 beadwork. Just at present he is working  
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 XXII<sup>nd</sup> dynasty, and a fine mastaba of  
 1<sup>st</sup> dynasty, so far as can yet be seen,  
 with its long eastern corridor façade  
 panelled all the way with elaborate  
 false-dooring. What lies behind & below  
 we have still to discover.

One very pretty little <sup>rock tomb</sup> ~~mastaba~~, like a  
 Saqqara one, was found by digging  
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 dyn. A rock cut tomb had the façade plastered  
 white, & a narrow doorway led one into  
 a little outer chamber about 12-15 ft  
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 gangway. Two mud offering-hoteps lay  
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[Page also numbered 3.]

(9)<sup>3</sup>

The chief things of historical importance which serve to date this cemetery more closely are two finds, on the northern part of the site. One was a shallow small grave, poorly equipped, containing merely some rough cylinder jars, but those jars have, ink-scribbled on them in the same rough writing as similar pots in "Abydos I", plate iii, the same inscription, namely HA, HEMTEN KA, Ha, the wife of the Horus-King Ka. We have other cylinder pots which bear names unknown hitherto, possibly two new kings. This grave dates this part of the cemetery to the reign of King Ka, one of the ten (?) Kings of Dynasty 0. The second find, & of greater importance, was that of a large grave, evidently of some high official, containing little beside rough pottery & rough lumps of clay sealings, but the immense jar with the name of Nar Mer on it, in panel, archaic hawk above, is a joy to us. Nar-mer has been known

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It is difficult to write with no feeling in one's fingers, in a tearing gale, more especially as we were suffering from too much sun heat last week, stuffiness in tents at 80° and headache outside. This morning on the contrary began bitterly cold, & rain showers made us stow away our drawings & bedding safely. A good day for letter-writing and other rough jobs, till sunshine in another hour or two makes one's fingers fit for the usual delicate work to  $\frac{1}{50}$  inch.

Gale for remainder of day accompanied by 3 hail-storms, the desert white with hail stones! All of us cheerful & lively however.

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[Page also numbered 3b.]

Young men in excellent spirits, F.P. is very well, <sup>(11) 3b</sup> and very active.  
 13 February.

At 4 this morning, when I went up a mound to guess the time, a slight stir began among the Arabs, and this betokened a removal of 6 men, with Engelbach, this morning at sunrise; now at sunrise they have all started across the cultivation to catch the early train at Kafr Ammar, travel thro' Cairo, and on to Matarieh.

The work at Heliopolis begins today!

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**19<sup>th</sup> February.**

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Please forward to 1) Mrs Hope-Pinker, 22 Avonmore Rd. Kensington  
2) Sir Robert Hensley, 309 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, SW

~~Please forward to~~

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3) Mrs Eustace, Arundel, Sussex.

4) Miss L. Eckenstein, 34 Greencroft Gardens, Hampstead NW.

5) Mrs Benest 32 Tierney Road, Streatham Hill, SW.

6) Mrs C. Nash, Dean Farm, Tovil, (and Mrs M. R. Peters, & then send on to Maidstone)

7) Miss C. Herford, The University, Manchester

8) Mrs Haworth, Woodside, Bowdon, Altrincham

9) Mrs E. T. Day, Rustington, Worthing

10) Amy.

Please forward same day as received, if possible.

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[Page also numbered i.]

III  
 [Private & confidential] Kafr Tarkhân. <sup>(13)</sup>  
 Kafr Ammâr  
 Upper Egypt.

23 February 1912.

Only one more day at this interesting place, one of the capitals of Dynasty 0 and Dyn. I, and then we move on to Heliopolis.

We have been delayed 24 hrs or more by the sudden finding of a very long hieratic inscription occupying the whole lid of a wooden coffin, period VI-XI dynasty, some mythological formulae or chapters, which went on and on and on, in 83 columns, 15 inches long, of very dashing cursive signs (see over). I have been on my knees & elbow, on the sand, making a facsimile copy, free-hand, for portions of 2 days. The surface of the wood is all powder, so that one dare not touch or even breathe near it! Done at last, and a short V<sup>th</sup> dynasty inscrip. comes in promptly on the top of it, but with a day to finish odd drawings, & go round the

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Antiquity Department; however they had <sup>(516)</sup> mistaken the limits of the Greco-Roman excavations, owing to irregularities in Johnson's permit; a second demand in his letter, for "round Antfih" had not been scheduled, but we left him the whole site, Mackay had two household removals within a week, and the tents were pitched near to Wainwrights' hut at Kafr Ammâr. Engelbach & Lawrence joined our camp, the day that we arrived here, & Mackay & Elverson joined us a fortnight later, so we have been a party of seven, until Lawrence returned to Carchemish.

I mentioned in my last journal the chief finds in this O-dynasty site, the bedsteads etc. and the things of historical importance, 4 new sealings of Nar-mer, the variant of his name, the seal of Fayum capital, & the palm groves of the king. Also his great jar, & the cylinder pots of Ha queen of Ka. We have other inscribed early pots with two new names, perhaps those of kings. Other objects of interest which I omitted to describe are the copper

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(16) tools, and the elaborate woodwork from<sup>ic</sup>  
the graves of Dynasty 0. There was a  
fine copper spear with midrib, 7 in. long  
set in a wooden handle with sheathing  
of copper, blade & sheathing 10 in. in all.

In Wainwrights' part of the cemetery a set of  
tools was found, a magnificent adze 12½ in.  
long, and 4¼ wide, an axe, and a chisel.

Of about XI<sup>th</sup> dynasty was a semi-circular  
axe of copper, with all the attachments  
complete, grooved wooden handle in which  
the back-ridge rested, 4 lash-holes with  
remains of ties in them, and a copper  
ferule, 2 in. long to hold tip of ridge in  
place. The wooden handle was 27½ in. long  
and 1 in. in diameter, and had the end  
beautifully spliced for 5½ in. up, like the  
handle of a cricket-bat, but strung  
equally vertically as horizontally with the  
neat knotted string.

The rude beams across the roofs of  
graves turn out to be of singular interest,  
as they are all secondhand in their  
present positions, and ~~seem~~<sup>appear</sup> to be from  
former house-building. They are full of  
mortise-holes, and lash-holes, and seem  
to have been parts of a rude panelling of

tools, and the elaborate woodwork from  
the graves of Dynasty 0. There was a  
fine copper spear with midrib, 7 in. long  
set in a wooden handle with sheathing  
of copper, blade and sheathing 10 in. in all.

In Wainwrights' part of the cemetery a set of  
tools was found, a magnificent adze 12½ in.  
long, and 4¼ wide, an axe, and a chisel.

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[Page also numbered ii.]

III

III (17)ii

false-door construction, or the house-front construction later copied on sides of box coffins, like a fine one which came in today, III<sup>rd</sup> dynasty probably. They bear out the theory given in last term's Egyptian architectural lectures, that this recessed construction does not have its origin in brickwork, but in wooden panelling, and where it occurs in brick recesses & false doors, it is borrowed from joiner's work.

The wooden trays, like knife-trays, have been examined in the photographing and turn out to be sandal-trays. The two divisions held the pairs of sandals, and the owner placed his foot upon the wide middle partition (which is shaped as a human foot & shows the divisions of the toes!) while the servant fastened his sandal.

There was a handled scoop or shovel of rough workmanship, also an elegant oblong tray of reddish wood, 24 x 9 ins, with bevelled rims. Two low tables were found, 19 in. long, and raised 2 in. from the ground.

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[Page also numbered iia.]

18 In groups with ivory and slate bracelets, several thin horn bracelets were found, 3 in. wide and translucent like tortoise shell. The pieces had many eyelet-holes pierced in the edges, and some were completely preserved, with very neat copper strip lashing, crossed with great regularity. Only where a hole had broken out, another was bored further in. Other bracelets were of flint, beautifully clipped and very thin, eight worn together on an arm, in one instance.

Many fragments were found, of a very splendid slate vase, with a boldly cut wavy pattern zigzagging round its shoulder. The pieces will build up fairly completely into about 8 in. height of rounded shape with heavy brim, but the bottom is entirely lost.

Two or three small copper bowls have been found, and several bowls of basalt.

An ivory spoon, with square bevelled bowl, and wavy handle representing a wriggling serpent, is a curious piece.

Potmarks have turned up, but not more than a couple of hundred, and nearly all

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[Page also numbered iib.]

19 iib  
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 cylinder jars had the fore-part or the  
 hind part of an animal finely sketched  
 on it. It resembles a horse, and some  
 one suggests zebra; 0 dynasty like  
 the rest. Lastly, there have come  
 in, a wooden spear, model for  
 burial, about 18 in. long, a high  
 wooden bowl, 9 or 10 in. across,  
 with slightly projecting handle, an  
 ivory spoon with round bowl, and  
 6 or 7 in. of handle with one wavy  
 bend in it, side view.

P.S. Written in the hurry of leaving  
 Egypt. I shall be back in London,  
 early in March, probably 5<sup>th</sup>.

Order of names altered here; please  
 forward to next on list.

Mrs J. Haworth. Woodside. Bowdon  
 Altrincham.  
 Miss C. Herford University Manchester  
 Miss Brooke 50 Wynnstay Gardens  
 Kensington  
 Mrs Hope Pinker 22 Avonmore Rd. "  
 Sir Robert Hensley 309 Upper Richmond Rd.  
 Putney. S.W.

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[Page also numbered iic.]

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 Mr. E. T. Day Rustington Worthing  
 Miss A. Umlin  
 Mrs C. Nash  
 Mrs M. R. Peters

Please return to H.P.  
Mrs B still.

Mrs Eustace. Arundel. Sussex  
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The spoilt negatives enclosed represent some goldwork found at Kafr Ammâr, or Kafr Takhân as the site will be more correctly called, in the publication.

Within a few yards of our tents, the cook-boy found a grave of late date, Ptolemaic, but containing some rather well-worked heavy gold beads, and a massive gold ring; the bezel shows a woman offering at an altar. The white stone bead or ornament has a silver hooping. 3 or 4 "alabastra" were stored alongside.

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LC(7)I G.I.

**Extracts from letters dated 1912. (not in chronological order)**  
**28 Feb. 1912.**

Left by 9.30, met Kyle in train going to Mackay. Out at Bedrashen went over stores, and found no ordinary stores left, so had to order at once this evening 6 more cases from London. Had lunch under palms, after sending off camel. Many dealers round, but nothing like our stuff, except a 1st dyn. tweezers and pricker. Bought them and other things including a large bronze Bes for 50 P.T. Back at Heliop. by sunset.

**29th.**

Boxes from Memphis opened. Began plan. Big walls 16 ft high. Finished drawings left over. Alphabet in evening. A modelled ~~he~~ pot head, like Memphite, with jars of 600 BC.


**1 March.**

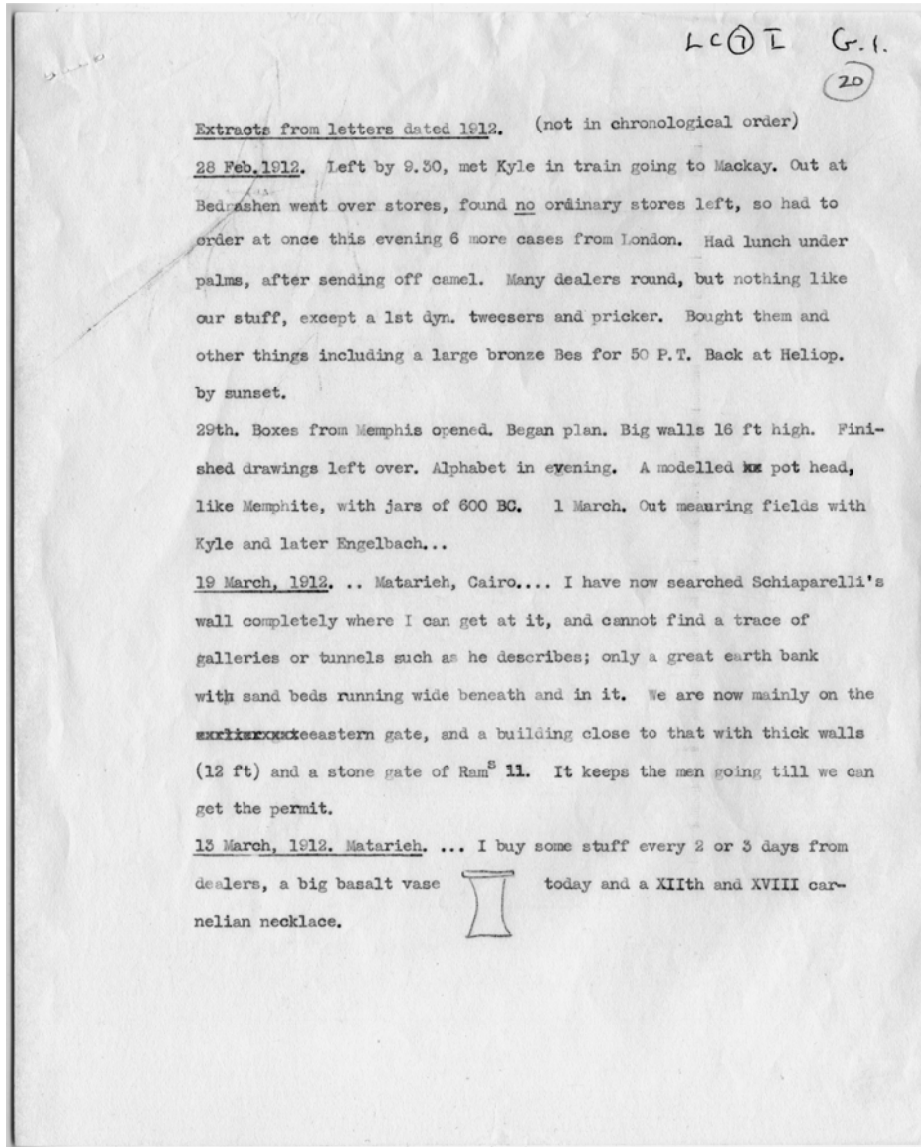
Out measuring fields with Kyle and later Engelbach...

**19 March, 1912.**

.. Matarieh, Cairo... I have now searched Schiaparelli's wall completely where I can get at it, and cannot find a trace of galleries or tunnels such as he describes; only a great earth bank with sand beds running wide beneath and in it. We are now mainly on the ~~earlier~~ gate eastern gate, and a building close to that with thick walls (12 ft) and a stone gate of Ram<sup>s</sup> II. It keeps the men going till we can get the permit.

**13 March, 1912. Matarieh.**

... I buy some stuff every 2 or 3 days from dealers, a big basalt vase [  ] today and a XIIth and XVIII carnelian necklace.



5 March 1912.

(21)

5 March 1912. ...A few bits are coming in from our work on the walls. A scrap of Rameses V who is very rare, another of SetyI, half a stele with an obelisk at spearhead &c.

Dealers come over often, and I got a stele with bulls head and shoulders front view, from Erment. Some pre pots and stone vases, a foundation block of Nebunnef from the temple we found at Qurneh. Iron tools, silver ball beads &c.

27 March 1912. Matarieh. ... Work is going on fairly. A large space of quartzite floor with building lines on it is coming to light; also bits of Ramesside red granite sculpture, including a slab with a figure. We are able to ?swim down to the base sand quite well under water, and can clear everything completely.

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