

Temple of the Sun. The masonry is all gone,
 but scraps remain behind. Much of it
 had a moulding of fine marbly limestone
 with inlaid patterns of black granite.

Three fragments of list of offerings have
 come; this was a quartzite tablet, & there
 is

Two jar sealings found here have, strange
 to say, the name of Amen not erased. The stamp
 reads "wine of Amenhotep IV"

Several flints are found of
 new type, deeply notched all around
 the edges

There is no wear to be seen on the edges, &
 one is inclined to think of fish spears.

Poor Chester has come down here in his
 boat, sadly ill. He has had a bad cold,
 bronchitis, asthma, &c, all reinforced by the
 influenza; & he hardly hoped to live through











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

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



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 it. At Assiut he got an excellent new American doctor who is fixed there, who helped him round, & now he is going down the river too ill to walk 100 yards ashore, & unable to see anything, with a severe cough. I have diversified his time here by going on his boat, & have drawn his fresh name-scarabs, among which are some fine ones. The most interesting one he gladly handed over to me, in exchange for an archaic Greek gem which I had got in Cairo. This is a small square plaque with  Khufu on one side, & on the other is Khufu seated before a table of offerings . There is no other such object of any king so far as I know, it was a trial in amulet which did not take with the public I suppose. And this is far the oldest disc & wings; we have not known any before Unas (Vth dyn) before now. This is of steatite with traces of blue glaze, & undoubtedly contemporary I should say. He has also a lot more of the archaic black cylinders, destined for Miss Edwards, & a green steatite cylinder of Sahura. Also two scarabs with a new title  ,  , "keepers of the house of the desert" sersa & Apa,  ,  .

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
XVI

14-20 Feb /92

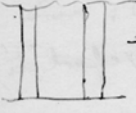
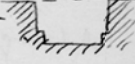
14-20 Feb /92 I went up on the desert again⁽¹⁰⁴⁾ exploring with Carter. We took the northern valleys, & it is most curious how the cliffs here are hollowed away behind by valleys parallel to the face, so that what looks like miles of solid table land is only a thin wall of rock facing the Nile two or three hundred feet across. I see that it is a general feature of the strata here to have subsided sharply in patches, & is probably due to the collapse of great caverns beneath, which had been dissolved out by water. This solution must have taken place when the water level of the country was much lower than at present, & with a great rain fall. On the top of the table land all the highest parts are masses of Iceland Spar, just too cloudy for optical use. These are left behind by denudation after the more soluble limestone is gone, & so form the highest points now. These crystalline beds, & the alabaster, appear to have been formed in hollows left in the limestone by faults & subsidences. The total.


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"takings" of my day were, ⁽¹⁰⁵⁾ (1) a long road
 on the desert top, of ancient date, with
 a curious little avenue of blocks turning
 off from it up a rise 
 & ending in a heap
 or cairn: (2) an alabaster quarry (known
 before) with tablets all weathered away,
 one had five figures, but only ¹⁰₁₀ was legible.
 (3) two unopened tombs; for these, &
 another unopened one that I know of,
 I shall try to get permission before I leave.
 (4) a quarry tunnelled in the rock (unknown
 before) with only the cartouche of Queen
 Thii in it, without any king. This suggests
 that she was regent in the earlier years
 of Khuenaten, in accord with his having
 no ~~daughter~~ child before his 6th year of reign.
 This, with a plan of some square miles of desert,
 is a tolerable return for a day's walk.
 In the work here I am puzzled by curious
 recesses. They are always in the main


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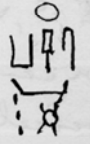
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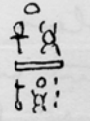
halls of the houses, ⁽¹⁰⁶⁾ a shallow access
 with wide border,
 plastered & painted red, without
 any design, marks, or figures. I have
 noticed six of these, in varying positions
 E, S, & W. These seem as if they must
 be ceremonial; but why vary in
 direction? & why have no trace of figure
 or emblem?
 Another matter that is puzzling is a
 large circular brick enclosure without
 any doorway, 100 ft across, & a smaller
 circle in it.
 Another matter we cannot make out
 are the deep pits near the houses. They
 are not filled with rubbish, but with
 mostly sand & charcoal chips. They are 12,
 15 feet, & more, in depth. One was cut
 nearly square with a ledge around it 
 They are usually north of the houses
 within the ~~gate~~ yard wall around.
 They cannot have been for water, for tanks,
 nor for rubbish pits.

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We have found a fair life size bas-relief
 of Khuenaten's head, rather bruised; and
 a beautiful figure of the queen, Nefertiti,
 offering, complete to the knees, on a
 piece of column as fresh as when first
 cut. A remarkable ring bezel, apparently
 of Horemheb, has a new variant of
 the name, "Ra, companion of of the ka,
 organises existences". 


Another remarkable bezel has
 "Saaka khepru beloved of Khuenaten"
 suggesting that they were coregents. 


These little rings promise to clear up more
 than the great inscriptions; I mentioned
 before the mould of Tutankh{aten {<amen> as a sign
 of the turning point here.

Another cuneiform tablet has been
 found, about 100 feet distant from
 the store room of the others.

A large space is covered with broken potsherds,
 & we find so many chips of Greek pottery &
 glass among them that I shall probably
 turn it all over. I am going off for three
 or four days tour, before it turns hot.
 Letters & papers received except Pub. op. I have
 written to 11 people today, mostly long letters.

Mrs. Petrie - Bromley - Kent.

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Mrs Petrie, Bromley.
 Kent.

XVII

21-27 Feb /92

21-27 Feb /92 ⁽¹⁰⁸⁾ Went off with Carter ^{XVII} to
look over the southern hills. I sketched in
valleys, & copied all I could be certain
about of the new tablet furthest south.
This I hope to send to F.L.G. by next mail.
As we returned we saw a steamer coming
down which stopped at our place, & I
found a letter from Milner the
Finance Secretary, asking us to dine. We
had a pleasant talk: he does not
read up antiquities much, but has a
good general interest & idea of the
history, &c. He agreed with me that
the Germans were most likely to get good
places to work, which would serve my
interest: he had not heard about the
new terms, but at once said they were
preposterous when I named them. Next
day I had to post pone my trip, to
shew him the pavement. He was
much interested, & examined it all over,
inquiring what could possibly be done
for its best security & preservation.
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& enquired what could possibly be done
for its best security & preservation.

Next day I started on my trip to the

other side, my work being in abeyance
 for the week, & later taking more
 men on his. Went over without
 any particular event to Nezlet Abu
 Samfeh (7 miles S W of Derut) where I
 pitched. Had Ali & Hussein, the best lad
 & boy, with me & hired a donkey of one of my
 workmen for the baggage. Next day I
 went ~~on~~ on to Mair & further, examining
 all the hills. The Mair tombs are
 disappointing, as there are few chambers &
 no inscriptions. No doubt something is to
 be done there, but I am not attracted. The
 hillsides toward them have been much dug
 about, but from the style of digging I suspect
 it is for quarrying alabaster or salt
 rather than for tombs. Then next day
 left Abu Samfeh & sent up the donkey
 north while I walked round the hills.
 The map names are very corrupt here.
 Dilgu should be Gildeh, Zerah is Zerbah,
 & Dinyeh is Dirwah. On my way I
 searched the hills, the cuttings on those at
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of Roman date than ⁽¹¹⁰⁾sanded up tombs.
In the ^{ancient} town at Bawit I saw nothing but
Roman; two rooms are frescoed, of one
but little is left, only legs of figures: the
other is almost perfect & should be
removed entire. I shall write about
it to Moncrieff.

Then going round the hills I saw a little
outcrop of rock, & going up found it
seemed to have been dressed. I began
scraping out the sand, & found a sign on
two, & after half an hour's scraping out
the sand with my hands I disclosed
6 complete lines & parts of 4 more of a stele
of Khuenaten, hitherto quite unknown.

I went on & slept at Deirwah that night,
much disturbed by the folks insisting on
worrying me about having guards, so
that I lost more than half my sleep.

Next day I spent over an hour hunting
over a large Roman town, the oldest
thing was a block of Ptolemy II; there
was much talk of images & fine things,
but they proved to be only a wretched late

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Roman sphinx & hideously poor glazed figures.
 At last went off to the desert, &
 there saw the two great steles of
 Khuenaten, which are very fine, &
 occupy the two best faces of rock
 there. It is a mistake to say they are
 on Gebel Tunch. Tunch is far north, &
 the Arabs do not call the stele region
 after it at all. The map is in error as to
 the desert at that part also. The steles are
 about 2½ miles apart, & the mid between them
 is 11 miles W of Mellawi. I will properly
 plot & draw off this by next mail.
 I suspect that Dirweh is Deir of the Wah
 or oasis: the road to the Wah runs off from
 there, & doubtless a Deir was there as there is
 a large Roman site. Deir is written both
 دير & دير in this region. I walked on
 north up to 4 miles beyond the north stele &
 saw two miles further, but there is nothing more.
 So my "takings" are a fine painted Roman
 chamber, a new stele of Khuenaten, rectification
 of the map, & two new tomb districts, indicated
 by roads on the desert. I cannot write more
 as on my return I was caught by Mr. Clayton to come &
 dine tonight. Letters & papers all come. Grebaut is out!!!! & a mining
 engineer put in who is absolutely unknown. M. de Morgan, French of course.

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No XVIII

28 Feb - 5 March 92

28 Feb - 5 March 92 (112) ^{No XVIII} A ring of the princess
Ankhnespaaten has turned up; no small things of her are known before. Why the name $\overline{\text{Ankhnespaaten}}$ is so often reversed in writing I cannot imagine. A second of hers has followed it.

At last we have got a prize historically, though it is not much to look at, merely a fragment of cartouche. But this is of Horemheb. The two views hitherto held have been thus

Khuenaten reigned with his son in law as coregent. here, the place was destroyed immediately after his death, & Horemheb had been long reigning at Thebes as the political & religious rival.

Khuenaten was succeeded by his son in law, & after their deaths ~~of the last - Ai -~~ then Horemheb began to reign & ~~transferred~~ cleared away all the buildings here.

We now see that if Horemheb not only reigned but actually built here, within the temple of the Aten, he cannot have been a religious & political rival, but must have patronised this place & worship early in his reign. This proves that Ai who preceded him ^{who reigned here} & who is buried at Thebes must have been a similar dual ruler. Tutankhamen

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Khuenaten was succeeded by his Son's in Law, & after their deaths ~~(or defeat)~~ of the last - Ai -> then Horemheb began to reign & transferred cleared away all the buildings here.

We now see that if Horemheb not only reigned but actually built here, within the temple of the Aten, he cannot have been a religious & political rival, but must have patronised this place & worship early in this reign. This proves that Ai who preceded him <whose rings are found here> & <who> is buried at Thebes must

have been a similar dual ruler. Tutankhamen

who preceded him again we know to have "sat on the fence", as I found a ring mould of his reading Tutankham^m/_{en} either for Amen or Aten. So there cannot have been any political rivalry between Thebes & Amarna, whatever their religious opposition; and it was not until sometime in the reign of Horemheb that Aten was finally rejected, & this place cleared out. <I got a scarab this year in Cairo recording Horemheb as "establishing the temple of Amen".>

I now perceive that in each great hall there was a stele of Khuⁿ & the queen adoring the Aten, as on the rock tablets here; & it is the fragments of these stelae which we find in the ruins. I have pieces of them in limestone, alabaster, red granite, & black granite. One fine piece of alabaster came in 15 x 18 from a stele with Khuⁿ adoring & the usual inscriptions & cartouches.

I have had a lot of company. ~~At Amarna~~
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton, dau^r, her bro. Mr. Ogle, Mr. & Mrs. Charlton in one boat. They went over

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I have had a lot of company. ~~An American~~
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton, dau^r, her bro. Mr. Ogle, Mr. & Mrs. Charlton in one boat. They went over

the pavement & tombs here, & we dined
with them two nights they were here. Then
came an American Mr. Dorr, wife & son,
Bostonians; they were so captivated with
the pavement that they spent
hours over it; & to them follows their
companion boat with Lord & Lady Waterford,
Mr. Dorr Gaskell & Canon MacColl (of Athenaeum)
who were also greatly taken with the
pavement. Every one agrees with me
that it is unlike any other work in
Egypt, & of a higher naturalistic style than
anything known until a century or two ago.
I see plainly that it is of the same school as
the Mykenaeen art, in the bull fresco of
Tiryns & the Vaphio cups. I do not
see that it can have come from Babylonia
as the art there is so bound with geometrical
forms, rosettes, stars, interlacing circles,
&c, whereas there is not a single trace
of geometric ornament in the whole
pavement. I am inclined to think
that this school arose in Egypt itself,
because the lotus groups, for which
there was a conventional treatment,



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are done in the ⁽¹¹⁵⁾ old stiff Egyptian style whereas the other plants are correct studies from nature: this shows the artist had the Egyptian tradition strongly in him. I am thinking of doing an article for one of the American magazines on "The ~~Radical Style~~ Philosophie Radical 1400 BC" with portrait of Khuenaten & examples of his drawings.

I was surprised at the general delight & interest taken in the pavement, and the gratitude for attentions & explanations that I could give.

Dr Anderson the zoologist has been staying here with me for a couple of days to overhaul the collections of reptiles that I have been making for him. He is working up the subject for the Brit. Mus.: a very pleasant & clever Scotchman with wide knowledge, having travelled much in the East, & head of Calcutta Museum for years. He, & all the dahabiyeh parties, with whom we dined different nights, have left me a shoal of invitations to look them up in London: if I have time, well & good.







I have now collected nearly 2 lbs of pieces

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116
 of variegated ("Phoenician") glass vases,
 no two of which are quite alike: many are
 of patterns which I have never seen before:
 light blue with large blue & white circles
 this size 
 white with light & dark blue
 stripes  blue with
 double this size  white lines
 & spots
 beside all the usual
 variegations in every variety.
 I think Mr. Franks will be well pleased to
 get such a great variety all dated to 1400-1350
 B.C.
 I have also bags full of glass rod &
 pieces of all colours from the factories &
 waste heaps. Of Greek pottery 4 or 5 lbs
 of fragments are collected, all of the early
 geometrical, nearly all of the globular
 form, made on vertical axis, painted
 on a horizontal. The most advanced
 decoration is on the band down the side
 between the circles, 
 we have spirals 
 and also what might be
 a cuttle fish pattern. 
 All this is very valuable for dating, &
 I shall probably divide this lot into sample
 sets for collections.

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 no two of which are quite alike: many are
 of patterns which I have never seen before:
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this size [R]

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 between the circles,
 we have spirals [R]
 and also what might be [R]
 a cuttlefish pattern.

All this is very valuable for dating, &
 I shall probably divide this lot into sample
 sets for collections.

Some one here having stolen my
two hammers (which are important
here for trimming stones to manageable
sizes) I proclaimed "no work", & went
off for a day in the desert with
Carter. I did a good bit of survey
of the desert vallies. On return found
the Rosses were down, & went to
dine with them. I have a bit of a
cold, which has gone to the Influenza
type as usual. I caught it by the
unwholesome practice of sitting on deck
after dinner at L^d Waterford's
boat. D^r Anderson got cold also thus.
Col. Ross has had a long bout of fever
on for 10 days or so, hardly able to
go out of his stamer.

Letters & papers duly received.

Flinders Petrie Esq^{re}.
8. Crescent Rd
Bromley Kent

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XIX

6-12 Mar 92

6-12 Mar 92 ¹¹⁸ There is little to describe XIX
 this week, for we have had a "lock out".
 Someone stole my two hammers which were
 lying by my hut, & so to emphasise the fact
 & perhaps get them back, I stopped all the
 work. Evidently none of my workmen
 were implicated, as I kept them out of
 work for three days (beside a Sunday between)
 without their being able to find the hammers.
 However the loss of work will make them
 all careful about things disappearing.

The ordinary supply of small things has come
 in, but nothing out of the way.

Mr. & Mrs. Gibson (Mr. Grant's parents) are
 staying here now, in the same style
 as the Dodgsons.

I went with Carter for another long
 desert walk, working up one valley &
 down another. These valleys are cut
 off out the whole depth of 300 ft or so
 at the mouths, & gradually shallow up
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(119)

toward the upper parts, until one comes out in a slight hollow in the top plateau of the desert. Once on the height one sees around for many miles, over a nearly level ground cut up by valleys, & with distant hills & points sticking up 5 to 10 miles distant. Probably no European has worked in & out of these valleys before, but I am planning them all, & shall have a fair outline of this region. The valleys are very hard walking, in the lower parts deep sand or rough stones, in the upper frequently masses of boulders. To pace over such ground seems at first hopeless for getting any distances. But I am surprised to find how close the results come out by different lines, checking one another. There does not seem to be more than 1% error in the positions, after long distances of many miles pacing & compass bearings, though one way is up a valley, & the other down.

Letters & papers so far received.

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XX

26 March 92

26 March 92⁽¹²⁰⁾ My friends will all ^{XX}
 know & understand the cause
 of my silence last week: what
 I have lost, & how much that
 loss is to me. As I have written
 to many individually I will not
 say more in this place, which is
 a record of work in Egypt.

The excavations are now mainly
 closed for Ramadan, though several
 of the men prefer to eat & work
 in spite of the customary fast.

The main interest of the last few
 weeks has been in the wide-spread
 patch of pottery & rubbish on the
 desert. This has provided a large
 quantity of fine Greek fragments, &
 I have over a 100 distinctive pieces
 of form or pattern, beside many times
 more of plain lined fragments. This

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(121)
 collection will be invaluable for future
 reference, & I have copied most of
 the good pieces in colour, to guard
 against loss or detention at Ghizeh.

I have cleared most of a large hall of
 pillars in the enclosure of the great
 temple, but nothing has been found
 there.

I am also clearing what seems to be a large
 public granary. But adjoining it were
 some detached human bones. A very
 strange thing is that amid the pottery
 rubbish of the town are also detached
 bones, leg, arm, vertebra & ribs, all widely
 apart, & apparently buried as bare bones.

I believe that these waste heaps contain
 the palace rubbish. There is so much of
 fine fresh pottery, glass vases, & many
 pieces with king's names, that it seems
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& furnace pots. ⁽¹²²⁾ Another great pottery waste is a puzzle. The amount of pottery is so large, it is all so rough, & mixed with ashes, & yet it is not near any populous part of the town.

Several good pieces of sculpture have come in from time to time.

My days are occupied largely with putting in the wooden gangways for visitors in the pavement house. The work cannot possibly be trusted to Arab carpenters, so I have to do it all myself. I have been five days, & expect to be as many more, at it.

I shall then have some weeks' work to do in copying before I can leave; & there is all the packing to do as well.

I have only one jar inscription in the 14th year of Khuenaten (?) the latest date yet found.

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8 Crescent Road, Bromley Kent

4th April /92

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XXI

28 March - 3rd Ap. 92

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Two good sickle saw-flints turned up, with cement on the sides of them; these prove that the flint sickles continued to be made for at least three centuries after bronze was introduced. This makes it the more likely that the composite sickle I found at Kahun was of the XVIIIth dyn. as I supposed.

The waste heaps which I am clearing, almost certainly were the rubbish ground of the palace. They contain so much brilliant stuff, Aegean pottery, & things with royal names. I have now about a hundred pieces of Aegean ware with distinctive patterns, beside mere circles, & many pounds weight of other pieces.

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(124)
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Greek pottery in various other places
in Greece, Palestine, & Italy, I have
made sketches of all the patterned pieces
so as to insure them against entire
loss. Then drawings can go to the Athens
school, when the originals are safe in
Brit. Mus.

I have also worked out the details of the
glass factories; the materials, furnaces,
mode of working, &c. And I send a
preliminary note on that to Griffith.

The Wilbours have been here. He was
greatly struck with the Khuenaten cast,
& with the extraordinary chances of
its making, its preservation, & its finding.
I dined with them, & talked over affairs.
He considers that I stand the best chance
for future work through Berlin; & he
knows all the affairs better than most
people.

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house in order. It ^{was} a long day's work getting in a piece of a stele, weighing about 12 cwt. Only one lad beside myself could work at it, as the place is too tender to let a gang of men drag things about; & had to lift it over obstacles & roll it along on rollers to get it into a spare place in the room. Have nearly finished the wooden gang ways round the rooms, & have next to plaster over the breaks & then to do my drawings.

Carter has been unwell the last few days with a bilious attack & persistent giddiness, which keeps him in bed. But he is better now, barring a bad cold. I am almost inclined to credit it all to this fearful Influenza.

I have been clearing a large building which must I think have been a public granary. It consists of two great circular walls, and a row of ~~at~~ cells out on one side of them, which were

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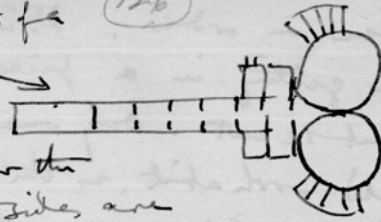
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probably the supports for
long slope or stair →
for men to walk
up to the top & pour the
grain in. At the sides are
some small radial chambers
probably made for buttressing the granaries
& holding some more. They open into the
granaries. Beneath the gangway the
space is divided into chambers. Each circle
would probably have held corn for 1000 men
for one year.

(126)



Letter (2 sheets) of 25th received; but no papers this
week, & no Pub. Op. last week.

Received on Monday 21st April

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XXII

3-9 April /92.

3-9 April /92. There ⁽¹²⁷⁾has been some work going on just to finish the palace. waste heaps, & to try a few houses at the south end of the town. More Aegean pottery is found, & chips of beautiful things. It is important to notice that there is nothing whatever of Tutankhamen in the palace rubbish, though plenty of Khuenaten, his parents, wife, & daughters. This pretty well proves that Tutankhamen was not co-regent with Khuenaten but entirely succeeded him. As Tutankh's moulds are as common as Khuenaten's in the town he was fully recognised here; but clearly he did not live here, nor was he co-regent.

In one house was the store of a sickle maker; no sickles unluckily, but a stock of flint flakes, saws, & 2 saws with the cement on them. In another house a large store of flint flakes was found, but very few are well struck.

A very curious find are some ^{pieces of} imitation horns made of leather stitched up,

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A very curious find are some <pieces of> imitation horns made of leather stitched up,

covered with cloth & stucco & gilt all over. I guess that they were for putting over the horns of prize oxen, for decorating them.

I have had Sayce here for four days, with the Spicers. He has read through the cuneiform fragments I found. The important matter is that there are pieces of large dictionaries & syllabaries here, which must be parts of very large works. The rest I guess to have been taken away by the scribes when they removed to Thebes. Sayce & I had constant argument over the matter. He has the idea of the sudden overthrow of this place very soon after Khuenaten's death; & he requires therefore that Tutankhamen should be coregent with K. which we see the palace heaps contradict. The name of Horemheb on the temple ruins is a stumbling block; & his only theory about it is that the stone

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was brought here in ballast in later times & carried up to the temple. ⁽¹²⁹⁾ Of course my view is that it was inscribed at the beginning of Horankhebi's reign, before he decided to sweep away this place. I imagine that the court moved to Thebes soon after K's death, & then this place continued a manufacturing town, without any positive ban against it, but in growing disfavour, during Tutankhamen and Ai.


I took three excellent plates of Khuenaten's head, 6 inches high, with Sayce's camera. These are for publishing illustrations. He is deeply interested in the head, & struck with the great amount of character in it, & the manner in which we seem to know the man personally now. Sayce agrees that the variegated glass here is richer & bolder than any we have yet

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seen.


We have had a trying week of south wind, over 90° each day & hot at night, which one feels for the first bout of the season. But it has now changed, & we had a west storm. Up to this the weather has been excellent, & I have hardly ever had a pith hat on till now.

I have finished the wooden gangways of the pavement house at last. There is 270 feet run of the staging  thus supported 9 inches from the floor, & with hand rail & posts on each side. It had to be all planned in to fit the room, & to avoid resting on the painting as far as possible. Of course it could never have been trusted to a native carpenter, so I was obliged to do it all myself. Now my lad has begun the stopping & plastering of the broken parts under supervision, & I shall do the copying meanwhile.

Pub. op. 2 Natures, & Academy received.

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XXIII
11-16 April /92

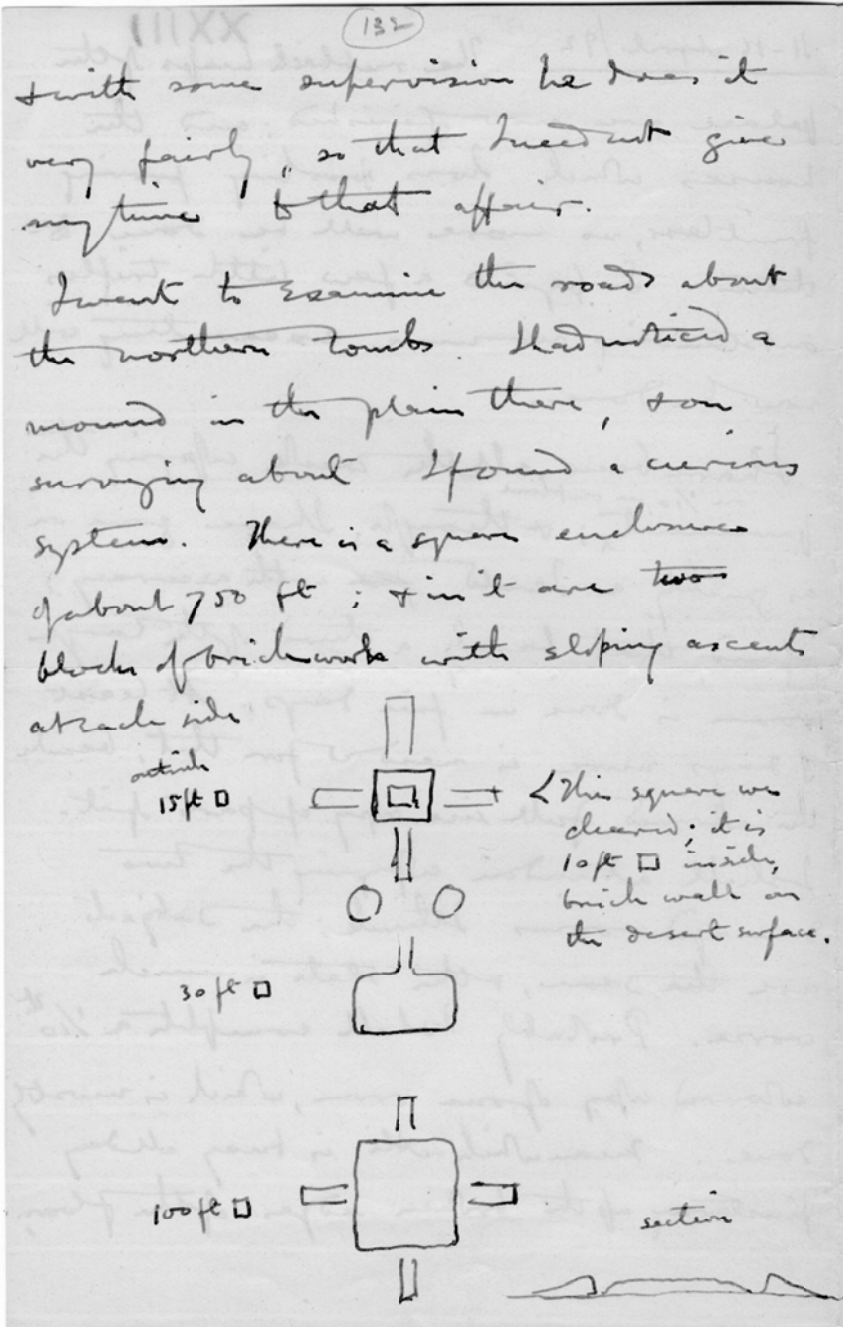
11-16 April /92 ⁽¹³⁷⁾ The rubbish heaps of the palace are now finished; and the houses which I was working proving fruitless, no more will be done to them. So beyond a few little trifles outstanding no more excavating will now be done.

I have been all the week copying the pavement ^{on 1/10 in outline}; & though I have gone on as quickly as I could ~~for~~ with accuracy, I find that barely a third of the large room is done in five days. At least 8 days more is needed for that, beside the coloured full size copy of parts of it. I shall abandon copying the two damaged rooms I think; the subjects are the same, & the state is much worse. Probably I shall complete a 1/10th coloured copy of one room, which is mostly done. Meanwhile Ali is busy all day plastering up the broken edges of the floor.

The rubbish heaps of the palace are now finished; and the houses which I was working proving fruitless, no more will be done to them. So beyond a few little trifles outstanding no more excavating will now be done.

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& with some supervision he does it very fairly, so that I need not give any time to that affair.

I went to examine the roads about the northern tombs. I had noticed a mound in the plain there, & on surveying about I found a curious system. There is a square enclosure of about 750 ft; & in it are two blocks of brickwork with sloping ascent at each side

outside [R]
15 ft [R]

< This square we cleared; it is 10 ft [R] inside, brick wall on the desert surface.

30 ft [R] [R]

100 ft [R] [R]

section
[R]

(133)

It seems that these are the basements of some ^{small} buildings, perhaps of stone, with sloping ascents on all sides. I do not know of anything like these. They were connected with the funeral ceremonies I think, as a road from the enclosure leads to all the tomb roads near.

Another point, which is very satisfactory to me, is that I found the traces of a stele by the north tombs. The inscription agrees, in the dozen signs which are all that remain, with that of the other steles: and as the [𓆎] "white tablet" is mentioned there is no possible question of the nature of this inscription. It is very curious that no one noticed these traces as ~~the~~ there are two roads across the desert converging on it, & a very stony road up the hill to it, flanked with rows of boulders. It is ~~close~~ ~~to~~ among the rows of north tombs.

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(134)
The fragments of numbers in it seem to indicate the same distances between the steles as in the Southern series; & this would just bring one on to the prominent corner of Shekh Said. Of course I must have a look further on the cliffs to see if I can find the rest of a series.

I have got dozens of bits of inscribed wine jars; but none go over the 17th year. The lowest is the 2nd year, & as Khuⁿ did not come here till the 6th it shews that wine was kept 4 years sometimes before use. Hence the 17th may indicate about 21 years of reign & as he came to the throne at about 19, he would be 31 at death. But nothing fills up to the 37 years of Manetho. If that were the total duration of the heresy, or of his reign & this place before Horemheb's destruction of it, we might space the history thus: - Khuenaten 19 years, Ra sa ka khepru contemporary regent (as his name is often joined with Khu's on rings) Tutankhamen 6 years, Ai 12 years, total 37 years. This is as good a guess as those that have gone before; and the cast of Khuenaten can hardly exceed 29, & is certainly not 46 years of age.

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XXIV
17-23 April. 92

17-23 April. 92⁽¹³⁵⁾ I went on another ~~XXIV~~
exploring walk. I searched all along the
high cliffs of Sheikh Said for more
steles; but failed to find any trace; and
as they cannot have weathered away (~~as~~
other cutting remains sharp) & there is no
quarrying in the likely parts, I conclude
that no steles existed there. This is
surprising as it is the best site of all
for them. However I found on the East
of the plain the "grandfather of steles". In
a bay of the cliffs is cut a tablet of
24 lines, 13 feet wide & 25 feet high,
about the frontage of a small house. I
have not yet read or copied it, as it is so
high as to need a telescope for parts. But
I see most of it is occupied with accounts
of the white tablet of the South, of the
north, of the East & of the West mountain.
A long road runs on the crest of the
hills; & as it ends abruptly at the valley,
it must have been for patrols or
guards, & not for communication.
About the cliffs east of the palace are

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guards, & not for communication.

About the cliffs east of the palace are

(136)
 long gallery-shaped caves, formed by the
 face of the rock slipping forward.
 These have been adapted for dwellings,
 terraces of stones built in front of them,
 walls put across the entrances to hide
 them from below, &c. All around are
 quantities of broken late Roman
 pottery; so these shelters were occupied
 then, & they may be older also.

Then I found two roads running
 up the East cliffs, & joining on the
 top into a road going due east into
 the desert. This looks much as if it
 led to Khuenaten's alabaster quarry,
 & I must examine it. Also a straight
 road which runs to the north cliff
 leads up a path there, across the top, &
 down another road to a limestone
 quarry.

Two days later Carter & I went off to
 track the roads. I soon saw that ~~they~~ ^{it}
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stones, as ^{it} ~~they~~ often runs over steep slants
 from side to side. (137) We went
 on tracking it, getting fainter &
 slighter until in place of regular lines
 of stones there were only two or three
 blocks far apart as marks. At last
 after crossing many valleys it failed
 altogether, & we returned having done
 27 miles in all. As there are several
 patrol roads here I think this must
 be one, to enable guards to go along the
 eastern desert & look into the various
 valleys without any fear of losing
 themselves. Within a mile of our
 furthest point I found marks of two
 persons in European boots returning,
 apparently a month or two old. Whether
 this was Alexandre & another, or Fraser
 & Blackden I cannot imagine. Neither
 are ~~at~~ at all likely, but no one else
 seems possible. Carter found a
 nest of the great vulture (which spreads

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138
(9 feet across) in a little thorn bush out
10 miles in the desert. The bird flew
up & C. secured an egg of monstrous
size.

W. M. F. Petrie Esq^{re}
8 Crescent Road
Bromley
Kent.

24 Ap-30 foot bad, packing.
1 May-20 packing 125 cases off
21-26 drawing & survey
29 up to Cairo offer of D C L
31 Jun 1 De Morgan
4 to Alex lecture
Left Ju 5 Home Ju 11.
Stomach bad
Ju 18 Oxford Butler
22 D C L
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