

depraved as it was. Then that is one lesson, I think, from these excavations, besides the main lesson that we may depend upon those who teach us about these things. Another lesson, of course, is to feel the continuity of history, and to feel that what is here brought to light illustrates so many things all over the world. I am, perhaps, a little disappointed to find that there is nothing to illustrate Stonehenge, which is so near my home in Wiltshire, and so far as I can understand—although I dare say I am wrong—there does not seem to have been any orientation about the stones such as there certainly is at Stonehenge. There we have, as you know, a stone over which the sun rises on the longest day, as it did yesterday, with great precision, and I am thankful to know there was a large number of people seeing that sun rise yesterday, and that they were able to do so after waiting six or seven years. I have not heard there is anything of the kind in Palestine, but perhaps we may yet find it. But we do see in all the different alternations of burial and the pottery and the cup marks, and many other details which were brought before our eyes so rapidly just now—we see that there is a general continuity and likeness, not absolute identity, between the work of man in a great many different parts of the world, one may almost say in all parts of the world. That, I think, is a very valuable lesson that these excavations bring out to us—that humanity even in its earliest stages is humanity, and is humanity of the same kind as that which we know living now. These very few remarks I have made rather from the wish to show my thanks to Sir Charles Wilson than to say anything which might be specially worthy of your notice. I have had the pleasure of knowing him for a number of years. His brother was a very loving and affectionate and helpful fellow-worker of mine at Salisbury, and it was always a pleasure to meet him and be with him in any good work. I do not know whether I may go on to add to what I have said a vote of thanks to the workers and local Secretaries. I dare say there will be others to speak to them, but I must confess that, living as I do a busy, fully-occupied life, unable to go into these things at first hand, I am exceedingly obliged to all those who give so much of their time and thought to these very difficult works which are done both at home and abroad; and I should like to be allowed, as Chairman, especially to thank the Secretary and others who have given us this great pleasure this afternoon by arranging this meeting. (Applause.)

Mr. WALTER MORRISON (Treasurer).—My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I have been asked to propose this resolution, which I am sure will meet with your cordial support:—

“That this meeting desires to express its thanks to Mr. R. A. Stewart Macalister for his zealous and diligent conduct of the excavations, and his care in noting and reporting the results; also to Mr. Hanauer, Dr. Masterman, and others resident in Palestine, or visitors, who have contributed the results of their local observations for publication by the Fund.

“The meeting also desires to thank the several local Hon. Secretaries for their assistance in making known the work of the Fund, and particularly Professor Theodore Wright, our able and zealous Hon. General Secretary for the United States, who has for so many years been an enthusiastic worker for the interests of the Palestine Exploration Fund.”

I am sure you will all agree with me that in Mr. Macalister we have the right man in the right place. He was trained under Dr. Bliss, an American citizen, by-the-bye, who worked for some years for us, who in his turn had been trained by Professor Petrie, who was one of the most remarkable excavators who ever lived in the world, and who seemed to have a sort of instinct, as it were, to scent ancient remains under surfaces which were sometimes very unpromising. When this Fund was first started, we at a very early period of our work undertook excavations at Jerusalem, and that work will always remain on record, and I do not suppose there is very much left to be found in Jerusalem itself. It is a very lucky thing that 35 years ago we began to excavate at Jerusalem. It would be a far more expensive and difficult task now, because during those 35 years Jerusalem has grown almost as rapidly as a city in the Western States of America. When we had pretty well finished our systematic excavations, we had to rely upon such an accident as someone building a new house, when some of our friends at Jerusalem would go and examine the foundations, and would find perhaps the vestige of a wall or something. Then we went further afield to excavate the mounds which are scattered largely over the country. Of course, it has been rather a lottery—you may find very interesting remains, and you may find very little indeed; and it certainly was a very fortunate decision on the part of our advisers and of the Committee that we should go and

excavate the site of Gezer. Perhaps I should mention that there is no doubt whatever about this being Gezer, because M. Clermont-Ganneau, when he was in our service, found some marks on a stone which meant "The limits of Gezer," which was one of the Cities of Refuge. We appeal to our fellow-countrymen to furnish us with the necessary means to carry on these excavations rapidly. Our firman expires in the middle of next year, but perhaps we can get it extended; and I can tell you, as the Treasurer of the Fund, that at this present moment we have only just money enough in hand to a little more than pay a certain bank overdraft, and it is eminently desirable that we should be able to go on with these exceedingly interesting discoveries. They are the most remarkable in many ways we have ever made in the Holy Land, and certainly they throw a lurid light upon the nature of the Canaanites and their religion, who were superseded by the irruption of the Israelites; and so we can read the denunciations of the Prophets with greater interest, and we are able to realise the reason of their indignation against these practices. Well, now I would point out that we are very much obliged to accidental visitors to Palestine if they will give us any information they may pick up. It is just as well to write to our office about what they see. It may, perhaps, have been discovered before, and may be recorded in our office, but it is just as well to let us know anything they see which appears to be of any value. It is a case of eyes and no eyes. Many Europeans had climbed to Mount Pisgah and saw no monument, but Lieutenant Conder went and saw some 300 or 400 of these rude stone monuments somewhat analogous to Stonehenge. People travelling in Palestine come across not only rude stone monuments, but other things, and should direct the attention of our Society or some other scientific society to any place or discovery which may be of value. I have very great pleasure in asking you to give a very cordial vote of thanks to Professor Theodore Wright, who has been our indefatigable Secretary in the United States; and we are very grateful indeed for the sympathy which has come to us across the Herring Pond in the form of very substantial dollars, and all the more so because, though the Americans are our kinsmen, it is not an American society. America is the land of the Bible as England is the land of the Bible, and so there is a real, genuine interest felt in our work; but, at the same time, you could conceive that there might be a certain amount of jealousy shown to a society

belonging to another country. I think it would be very unlikely that we should find the Germans, for instance, sending us any subscriptions, or that we should send any money to Germany for carrying on excavations in the Holy Land. Professor Wright has for many a long year been our Hon. Secretary, and to him we owe everything we have received from the United States of America. I would venture to appeal also to the people of this country to give us the necessary funds to carry on this work vigorously, and I would fain hope at an early date, because when the hot weather is over we shall be able to work with greater energy than we can do in the extreme heat of the Maritime Plain. England may not be as wealthy now as the United States, and you cannot expect very much, I am afraid, from the agricultural interest; but our towns are very wealthy, and it is to be hoped that we shall get better support from them. I only wish that all our local Secretaries were as energetic and devoted to our cause as Professor Wright is in the United States of America. The days are gone by when we used to receive cheques for £100 from noblemen and gentlemen who gave £100, or it may be more, to help the Society, and then they think they have done their duty, and do not send yearly subscriptions. We now have to depend, as you will see from the Report, much more upon the guinea and half-guinea subscriptions than we did in the early days of this movement. As you have already heard, we have only excavated as yet one-eighth of this mound, and there are hundreds of these mounds scattered about the country, any one of which when opened might turn out to be as fruitful in surprises as the excavations of Mr. Macalister.

Dr. GINSBURG.—My Lord, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I have very much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

A SUBSCRIBER.—In rising to support the resolution, I should like to ask my lord a question. I have heard within the last ten days that the Mohammedans have begun to enclose the hill above Jeremiah's Grotto, and also they have begun blasting the face of the rock. I should like to ask if there is any news from Jerusalem confirming that or not?

The CHAIRMAN.—Perhaps Sir Charles Wilson will answer that.

Sir CHARLES WILSON.—There has been a report that the Mohammedan cemetery has been enclosed by a high wall. I may perhaps be allowed to mention that we have only just heard that during some excavations at Jerusalem they have found jar burials

like those at Gezer, and a cave in which a number of men had been buried.

Sir WILLIAM CHARLEY, K.C.—I am very glad that Sir Charles Wilson in his able Papers in the *Quarterly Statement* has left the question open as to the identity of the Holy Sepulchre. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Dr. WRIGHT.—My Lord Bishop, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—Americans are modest (laughter), and they are feeling humble just now, because they have lately been buying ships over here and they are sorry they did. Therefore, Sir, we are eating our bread in silence. But, speaking more seriously, I may say that it has given me the very greatest pleasure to be of any service in this work, and that I have always met with the most kindly reception wherever I have gone in our country. Unfortunately, it is so large that it is impossible to reach many places, but I know very well that there is a rising appreciation of this work, and I consider it most fortunate that the Fund has not only always employed in the field men of the highest character, but that its utterances through the medium of the *Quarterly Statement* have always been of a cautious and wise character. That is why, perhaps, it has not excited the greatest enthusiasm, but while, of course, under the circumstances it could never make large promises to museums or to rich men in America, who are endowing museums as means of gaining private reputation, as well as doing public good, it has done its own work carefully and well. The question was raised about the hill above Jeremiah's Grotto. I met an Englishman who had just come from there, and he said it was being enclosed, and he had some difficulty in getting upon the hill. I mention this because he said they were doing it in order to prevent Americans from holding Christian services amongst those graves as they had been doing. If Americans had been less forward in the matter, probably the wall would not have been put up. As I said before, Sir, our work is of exceeding importance, and it is a great privilege as I deem it to have any part in carrying it on.

Mr. CRACE.—I have a very short and pleasant duty to perform. It is to propose "That the thanks of this meeting be conveyed to the Board of Managers of the Royal Institution for kindly granting the use of their Lecture Theatre for this occasion."

This is not the first occasion we have had the pleasure of meeting in this theatre, a theatre devoted to science, and science in so many many forms, and our requests, whenever it has been possible to answer them favourably, have always been received so courteously that I feel a vote of thanks of a very warm kind is due to the Committee of Management.

Major-General Sir FREDERICK GOLDSMITH.—Mr. Chairman,—I have been asked to second this resolution, and it is with great pleasure that I rise to do so, for it is one not only which I have great pleasure in with regard to the occasion and being asked to do so, but it is one that from old association I am aware is well merited.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Sir CHARLES WILSON.—It is now my pleasant duty to ask you to pass the following resolution unanimously :—"That this meeting tenders its hearty thanks to the Lord Bishop of Salisbury for presiding." I think we are all greatly indebted to the Bishop for having given up so much of his valuable time to the presidency of this meeting, and I am sure his presence in the chair to-day will be a great encouragement to our future work. The Bishop, as I know, visited Jerusalem, and whilst there took the greatest interest in the antiquities to be seen in the city, and I think he has also communicated a paper to our *Quarterly Statement* on the d'Aubigny tombstone.¹ I do not know whether his lordship is aware of it, but that stone was unfortunately broken during a quarrel some months ago between the Greek and the Latin monks as to whose right it was to clean the steps leading up to a little chapel from the courtyard of the Sepulchre. Some monks who had got on to the roof of the Church threw down stones on those who were fighting below, and, unfortunately, one of these stones fell on the tombstone of Philip d'Aubigny and broke it. I have not heard what became of the remains of the stone, but I hope good care was taken that they should not be lost. It is very kind of his lordship to come here and give his approval of the manner in which our work is being carried on. We have in Mr. Macalister a skilled explorer, and we desire to encourage and support him in every possible way, and, without agreeing fully with his tentative conclusions as to the results of his discoveries, I think we may absolutely

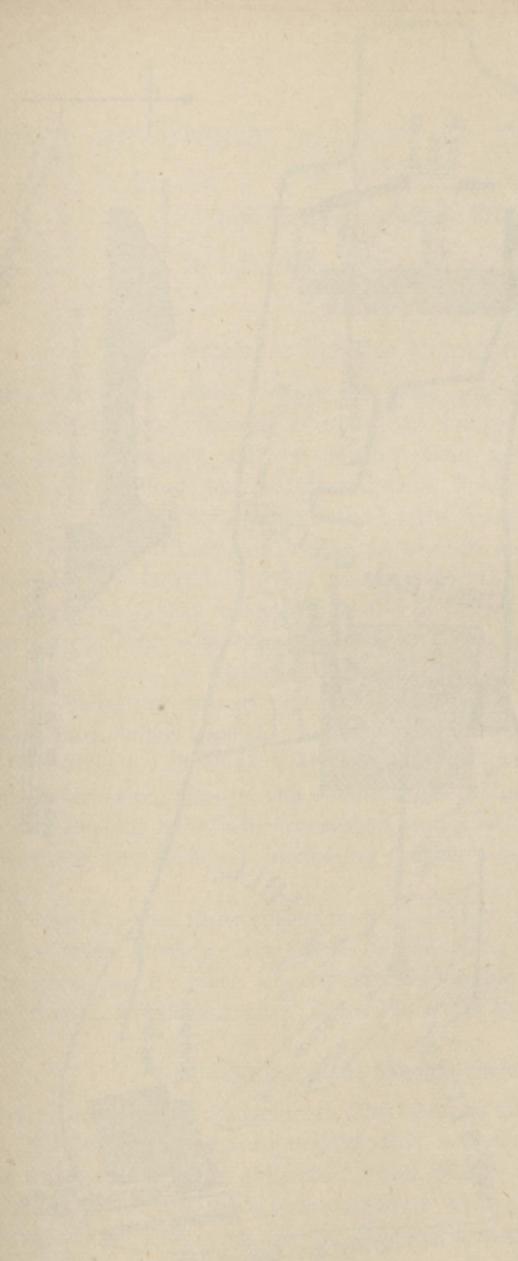
¹ *Quarterly Statement*, 1900, p. 162.

depend upon his judgment whenever he says that a particular object belongs to a Jewish or a Canaanite period. His drawings are exceedingly good, and I look forward with the greatest interest to his discoveries in the future. What we hope to find, and I think we may find, is a series of tablets completing the correspondence with the Pharaoh of Egypt. We have letters in the Tell Amarna series from the Governor of Gezer, and we hope to find replies from Egypt in some part of the mound. One tablet was found at Lachish, but at Gezer there is a wetter climate, and these clay tablets have an unfortunate habit of disintegrating in a rainy country. We hope, however, to make some finds, and that by this time next year we shall be able to give you as satisfactory an account of the excavations as we have been able to do for the past 12 months.

Colonel WATSON, R.E.—I have much pleasure, Sir, in rising to second the vote of thanks, and I am sure we are all very much indebted to his lordship for being so good as to come and preside over us on this occasion. I believe there is no one on the episcopal bench who takes more interest in our excavations than the Bishop of Salisbury.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN.—I am much obliged to you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness, and particularly to Sir Charles Wilson for the way in which he has spoken. It is a great happiness to me to know that the Society is closely connected with that college at Jerusalem which is the centre of Bishop Blyth's work where I had the honour to go and consecrate the church in the year 1898. I hope that that is evidence that the work of my dear brother, Bishop Blyth, is of a national character. This is a national Society, and it is very naturally and wisely connected with the work of the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem. We do not wish in the least to claim anything specially of a Church character for the work of the Society, but we are very thankful that it accepts our hospitality, as I believe many visitors to Jerusalem are inclined to do. I do hope that the college may be a real national centre utterly removed from anything to do with party where any Englishman or Englishwoman travelling in that part of the world may find a hearty welcome. (Applause.)

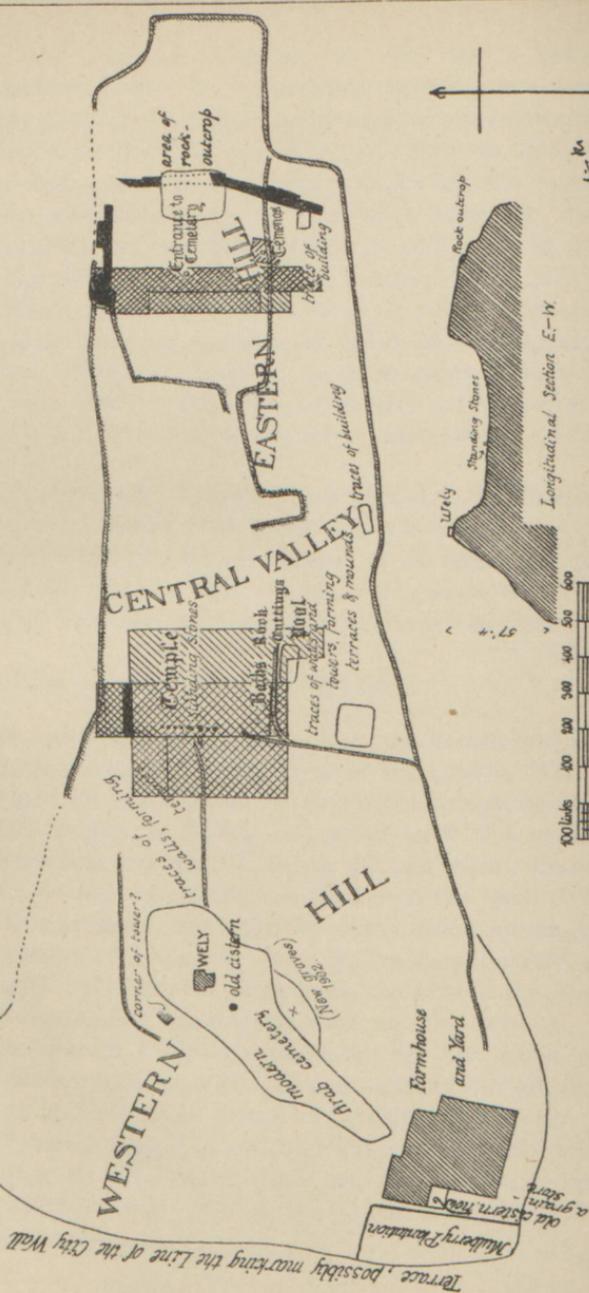


ROYAL PATENT OFFICE
EXCISE AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT
LONDON

EXCAVATION OF CEZER

PLAN OF THE SURFACE

 Excavated before Report II.
 " " since " "



FIFTH QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE EXCAVATION OF GEZER.

(16 May—15 August, 1903.)

By R. A. STEWART MACALISTER, M.A., F.S.A.

§ I.—SUMMARY OF THE QUARTER'S WORK.

THE discoveries made during the past quarter have been of considerable interest, though as none call for very lengthy description the present report will be shorter than usual. The work has advanced without serious interruption, five days only being lost, owing to a severe fever contracted by the foremen of the labourers.

The tell continues as prolific as ever in small objects of stone, metal, and pottery. Further material for the study of "lamp and bowl" deposits has been found, and evidence is now forthcoming connecting them with human sacrifice. The harvest of scarabs and other evidences of Egyptian influence is undiminished. Inscribed stones, including one of considerable interest, have come to light, holding out hopes that the tell may still contain written documents of importance. Several fresh caves have been opened and cleared with interesting results, the foundations of important buildings of various periods have been unearthed, and a cistern has been opened containing human bones furnishing further material for osteological study.

Probably the most important discovery, however, is a rock surface with cuttings and caves which there seems good reason to regard as a place of worship belonging to the aboriginal inhabitants, antedating the "High Place" of the Amorite cities.

§ II.—STONE AND METAL OBJECTS.

Alabaster.—Jugs and saucers (the latter of the type illustrated in Fig. 2 of the previous report) in this material are still frequent. The most remarkable alabaster vessel found during this quarter is a small squat jug, with extravagantly wide rim (Plate II, Fig. 1) discovered in fragments in the Seleucid stratum. This vessel is distinguished from the other alabaster jugs found on the tell by the

shape of the hollow of its interior, which is not merely a cylindrical hole bored through the middle of the vessel, but follows the curves of the exterior outline.

Several examples of a circular reel-like object in alabaster, with a convex top, flat bottom, and concave sides, perforated along the axis, have been discovered. They are about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and 1 inch high. These may be mace-heads of a different pattern from the normal form, or else may be intended for winding thread upon. They seem to be too heavy for spindlewheels (Plate II, Fig. 10).

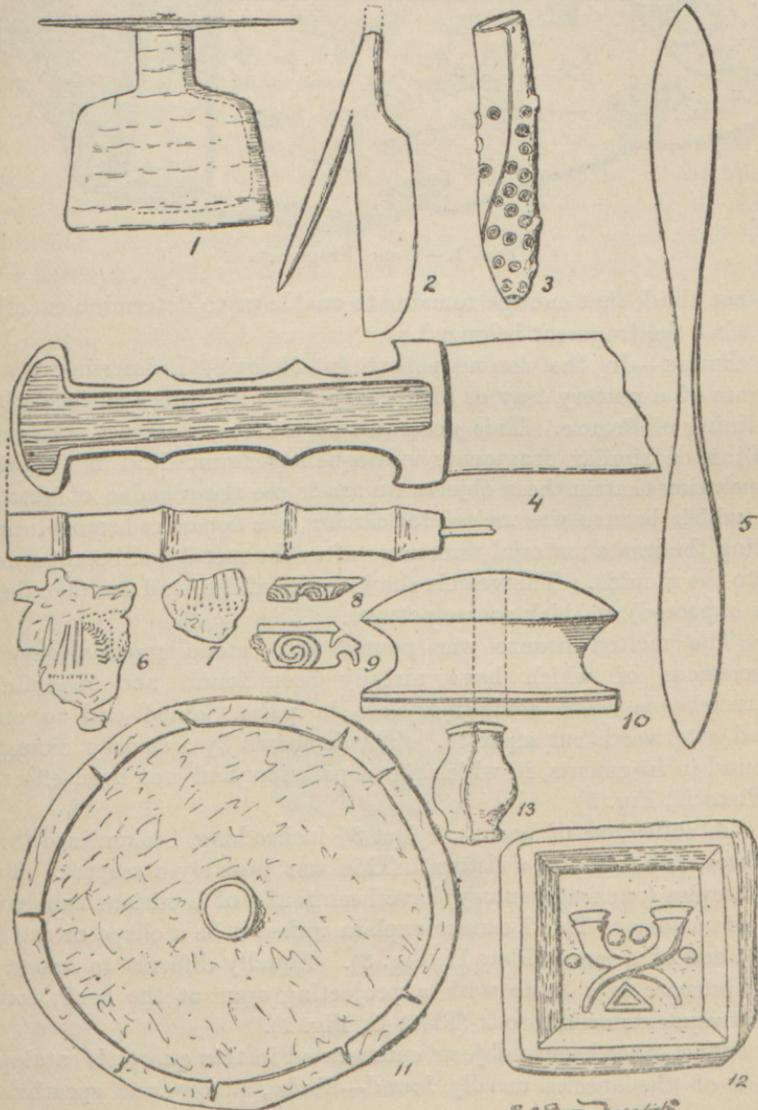
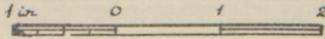
Draught-boards and Men.—I have noticed in previous reports that draught-boards were unaccountably missing from the antiquities on the tell. Some examples have at last been found, nearly all fragmentary, but enough to show that they were provided for playing a variety of games. One example, for instance, has but three rows of squares, while a perfect specimen from Tell Zakariya had no less than $12 \times 12 = 144$ squares. On this Gezer example certain squares are marked by a **X** laid over them; with this is to be contrasted a small fragment from Tell eš-Šafi having the **X** on the intersections of the lines marking out the squares. It is unfortunate that most of the chequer-boards that have come to light in Palestine have been fragmentary, but enough remain to show that there were a large number of possible arrangements of the squares.

A collection of 13 small water-worn pebbles, each about the size of an ordinary ivory card-counter and three times as thick, was found in the lower Jewish stratum. These had evidently been collected on the sea shore, and carried thence to the city, perhaps to serve as draughtmen, or as counters to assist calculation (like the pellets of an abacus).

Miscellaneous.—It is difficult, if not impossible, to tell of what the fragment figured on p. 302 formed a part. It is of heavy, close-grained brown slate, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. The sides converge upwards, the top being $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad, the bottom $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The fragment is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches deep. The top bears a longitudinal groove, semicircular in section, and another crossing it transversely and stopping it $\frac{3}{8}$ inch from the end. The sides display a number of holes and triangular and square depressions, from which it would appear that the fragment was broken from the object to which it belonged in ancient times, and that an attempt was made to secure

EXCAVATION OF CEZER

MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS



R. A. S. P. ...

it in position by fish-plates and dove-tail rivets. There are, however, one or two holes that cannot easily be thus accounted for, and I



FIG. 1.—Stone Fragment.

do not think that enough remains to enable us to determine exactly to what the fragment belonged.

Bronze.—In the second report (p. 39 *ante*) I described fragments of a pottery tray or dish, covered on its upper surface with a lining of bronze. This description I must now correct. Examination of similar fragments subsequently found lead me to the conclusion that in these objects we are to see the remains of vessels in which bronze was melted for casting, the apparent bronze lining being the waste material remaining after the metal had been poured into the moulds. The vessels show marks of fire, and are (as might be expected) of thick coarse pottery.

The melted bronze was poured into stone moulds, several specimens of which have already been found and described. Arrowheads were sometimes cast in pairs, joined end to end, and afterwards cut separate. This is shown by a curious example found in fragments, in which the separation had not been effected (Plate II, Fig. 5).

A solid rod of bronze, 1 foot $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, broken into three pieces, was found in a cistern. This was possibly a sceptre. Two examples (one fragmentary) have been found of a curious tube with perforations. This I cannot explain unless it be a chape or cap for the end of a lance (Plate II, Fig. 3). Equally difficult to assign to its purpose is a knife with a projecting spur at the back, found in fragments on the rock (Plate II, Fig. 2).

The other bronze objects enumerated in this quarter's catalogue are of the species usually found—fibulæ, arrow- and spearheads,

axes, rings, pins, needles, &c. These need not be individually mentioned. The only other bronze object calling for reference is a fine sword-handle, with part of the blade remaining, from the lower Jewish stratum. The sides of the hilt were hollow and inlaid with bone plates, fragments of which still remained when the object was discovered, though they rapidly disintegrated (Plate II, Fig. 4).

Iron.—A spearhead, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, and a large fibula are the only objects in iron that need be mentioned. The latter type of object is rare in this metal.

Lead.—In the Seleucid stratum was found a square weight of lead (Plate II, Fig. 12), resembling one already found in the upper town at Tell Sandahannah. The latter bore an inscription, in place of which the Gezer example is stamped with two cornucopias and the letter Δ , no doubt a numerical sign. The Sandahannah weight has two knobs at the side, apparently indicating that it was meant to weigh double the standard; the similar Gezer weight should weigh four times the standard, or double the Sandahannah weight. The actual weights are respectively 145 grammes and 263.60 grammes, which is a sufficiently close approximation to the required proportion. Vessels made of lead are rare, so that a small jug $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches high, made in two halves welded together, is worth mentioning (Plate II, Fig. 13), as is also a circular disc $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, with the edges turned back and a round hole in the centre (Plate II, Fig. 11).

Silver.—Within 3 feet of the rock was found a curious pendant or locket (Fig. 2). It is circular, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter. The object

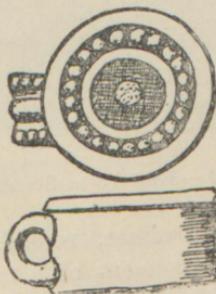


FIG. 2.—Silver Amulet.

resembles a pillbox with a loop attached for suspension to the sides. The centre of the ring is enamelled—deep blue with a white spot in the middle—and round the enamel runs a ring of

small knobs. The box when found was full of white earth, quite different from that in which the object was embedded.

Gold.—Several torn and crushed fragments of gold leaf were found in a hoard belonging to the late Canaanite or early Jewish period. These had probably been torn off a statue or some such object; several of them show delicate *repoussé* linear and spiral ornament (Plate II, Figs. 6-9).

§ III.—POTTERY.

Miscellaneous.—Three different objects, all from the Seleucid stratum, must here be referred to. The first is the neck of a



FIG. 3.—Terra-cotta Statuette.

vessel surmounted by a strainer, resembling a modern pepper-castor. The second is a fragment of a fine multiple lamp. The third is a charming figurine in terra-cotta, representing a mother suckling her infant son. The upper half of the statuette alone remains; it is 3 inches in height. The mother's figure is attired in chlamys and himation, the latter drawn back, revealing the hair confined by a band; the child's figure is undraped.

Painted Ware.—Two fragments are deserving of mention. The first is a sherd with a curious animal figure painted upon it in red

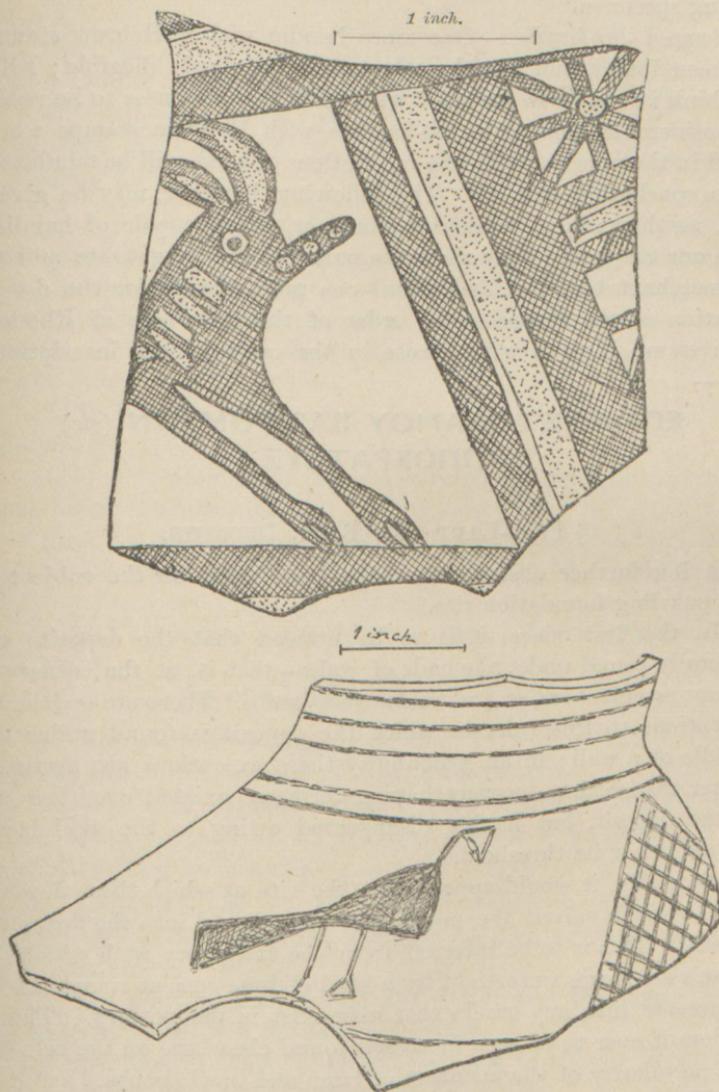


FIG. 4.—Two Fragments of Painted Ware.

and black. The second is part of a vase of brick-red ware, bearing figures of peacocks and frets in dark Indian-red lines upon it.

Animal Figures.—These continue to be common, mostly in fragments. A goat's head with long horns is the most novel and striking specimen.

Stamped Jar-handles.—One more handle with a Hebrew stamp has been found, but, like the others, it is hopelessly illegible; I do not think it was ever stamped with sufficient clearness to be read. A considerable number of jar-handles with Rhodian stamps were found in the upper strata; the inscriptions of these will be tabulated in the concluding memoir. The following, however, may be given here, as they are of especial importance, being a pair of handles from one amphora; they show the name of the magistrate and of the merchant together, and afford one more datum for the determination of the chronological order of the governors of Rhodes. Each stamp is oval, with a rose in the centre. The inscriptions are:—

ΕΠΙ ΑΡΙΣΤΟΔΑΜΟΥ ΒΑΤ[ΡΟΜ]ΙΩΝ (*sic*)
ΙΠΠΟΚΡΑΤΕΥΣ

§ IV.—LAMP AND BOWL DEPOSITS.

A few further observations have been made on the subject of this puzzling foundation rite.

In the first place, it is to be noticed that the deposits are generally found under the ends of walls—that is, at the corners of houses or chambers, or just under door-jambs. There are occasional exceptions to this rule, in which the deposit is found under the middle of a wall; in all probability these exceptions are apparent rather than real, a doorway having formerly existed over the site of the deposit, but having disappeared owing to the wall being ruined below its threshold.

Secondly, it would appear that the rite at which these deposits were made involved the pouring of some liquid into the deposited vessels. This is to be inferred from the frequency with which the vessels are made watertight by a kind of lime cement smeared over or pressed into any cracks that may exist in the pottery. This is seldom if ever to be seen in vessels found elsewhere on the tell, but is a peculiarity of the members of lamp and bowl groups.

This liquid most probably was either blood or grape-juice, which latter in toned-down sacrificial rites often takes the place of blood; for evidence is gradually accumulating that these foundation

deposits are primarily sacrificial, and that a human victim was immolated in the original form of the rite. In my last report I have referred to the discovery of infant bones buried under the corners of house walls. In the accompanying plate (III)¹ a very striking connecting link is illustrated, bridging the gap between the deposited infants' bones and the lamp and bowl groups.

The wall in which this deposit was found belonged to an early Canaanite stratum. The deposit consisted of the following nine members :—

(1) A pointed-bottomed jar, about 2 feet in length, lying on its side, exactly under and flush with the western face of the wall, and found, when opened, to contain the bodies of two infants (probably twins). This is the first time that two infants have been found in one jar. The mouth of the jar had been broken in order to permit of the insertion of the bodies.

(2, 3) Two shallow bowls with moulded rims, deposited above the jar, No. 1.

(4, 5) Two plain hemispherical saucers, one inside the other, and both inside the bowl, No. 2.

(6) A jug with a round mouth and one handle, standing upright behind the jar, No. 1, and consequently under the middle of the wall.

(7, 8) Two lamps, one inside the other, placed between No. 1 and No. 9.

(9) A small jug with one handle, placed beside No. 6.

On the plate are diagrams of the various members of the deposit, and of the method of their arrangement.

This elaborate deposit, which is quite the most important yet found, seems to indicate an evolution in the foundation-rite that may be outlined as follows :—

(*a*) A sacrifice in which an infant was built into the wall, probably (if analogy with the customs of other countries and races be reliable) alive.

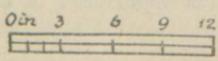
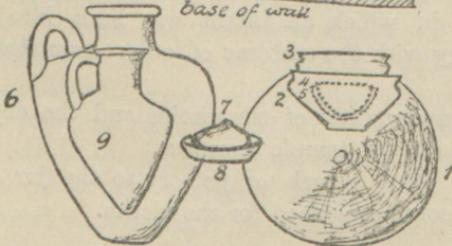
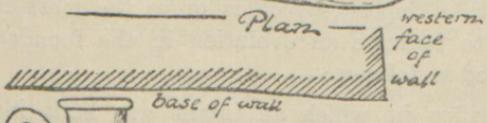
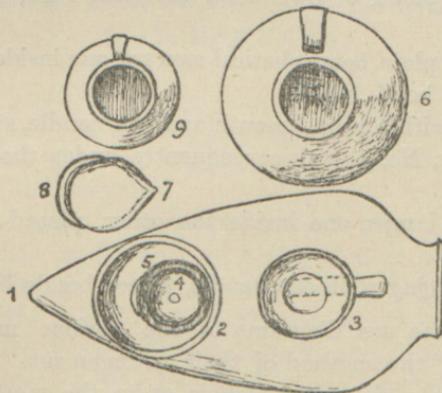
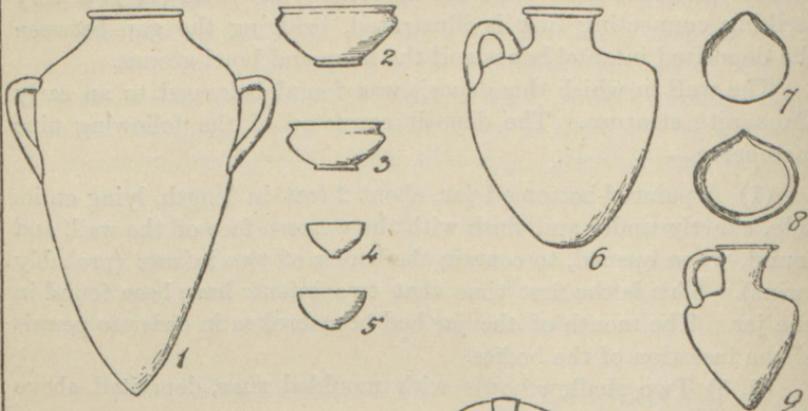
(*β*) The previous slaughter of the victim and the deposition of the body in a jar, as in the temple sacrifices.

(*γ*) Addition of other vessels of pottery to the jar containing the body, possibly containing food for the victim.

¹ [Photographic views of this pottery group will be reproduced in the concluding Memoir.]

EXCAVATION OF CEZER

GROUPED POTTERY DEPOSIT



Elevation facing S.

W.A.S. 1900

(*c*) Addition of a permanent symbolisation of the act of sacrifice, consisting of a lamp, typical of fire, and a bowl or bowls containing blood or some substitute for it.

(*e*) Omission of the human victim and retention of the symbols.

That the lamp and bowl deposits have a certain parallelism with the infant sacrifices is perhaps indicated by the fact that at Tell el-Hesi, where the infant jars were filled with fine sand, the lamp and bowl groups were also filled with sand or fine earth. At Gezer, on the other hand, where the infant jars are not so filled, the lamp and bowl groups with fine earth in them, differing from the earth with which they are surrounded, are distinctly exceptional, although within two hours' walk from the site of Gezer, on the ground where Ramleh stands now, an inexhaustible supply of sand could be obtained if it were considered indispensable for either purpose.

§ V.—EGYPTIAN OBJECTS.

The Egyptian objects found during the past quarter are of the same classes as those described in previous reports—fragments of saucers made of paste covered with green enamel and ornamented with brown lines, beads, figures of Bes and other divinities, Horus-eyes and other amulets, and scarabs.

Hardly a day passes in which some evidence of Egyptian occupation or influence is not forthcoming, whether the work happens to be in progress in the earlier or in the later strata. Until the discovery of historical inscriptions no very certain conclusions can be drawn from this, but judging from the distribution of objects from Egypt it seems certain that that country was dominant over Gezer throughout its history as no other foreign nation seems to have been. Of the hypothetical "Land of Muṣri" (which ought to be revealing some evidence of its existence through Solomon's marriage with its supposed princess) no trace has yet been found.

Scarabs apparently were imported to serve as seals, a possession for which there probably was as great a craze in the east in ancient as in modern times. This is possibly the reason why hardly any have been found with royal names. Their use as potters' stamps for jar-handles has already been described and illustrated; during this quarter I have found examples of weaver's weights bearing impressions of scarabs, which is a novelty, as well as a fragment of a jar-stopper with such an impression stamped upon it three times.

A considerable number of uninscribed specimens have, however, also been found, showing that scarabs were not only used for seals; they had probably the same value as amulets in Gezer as in Egypt.

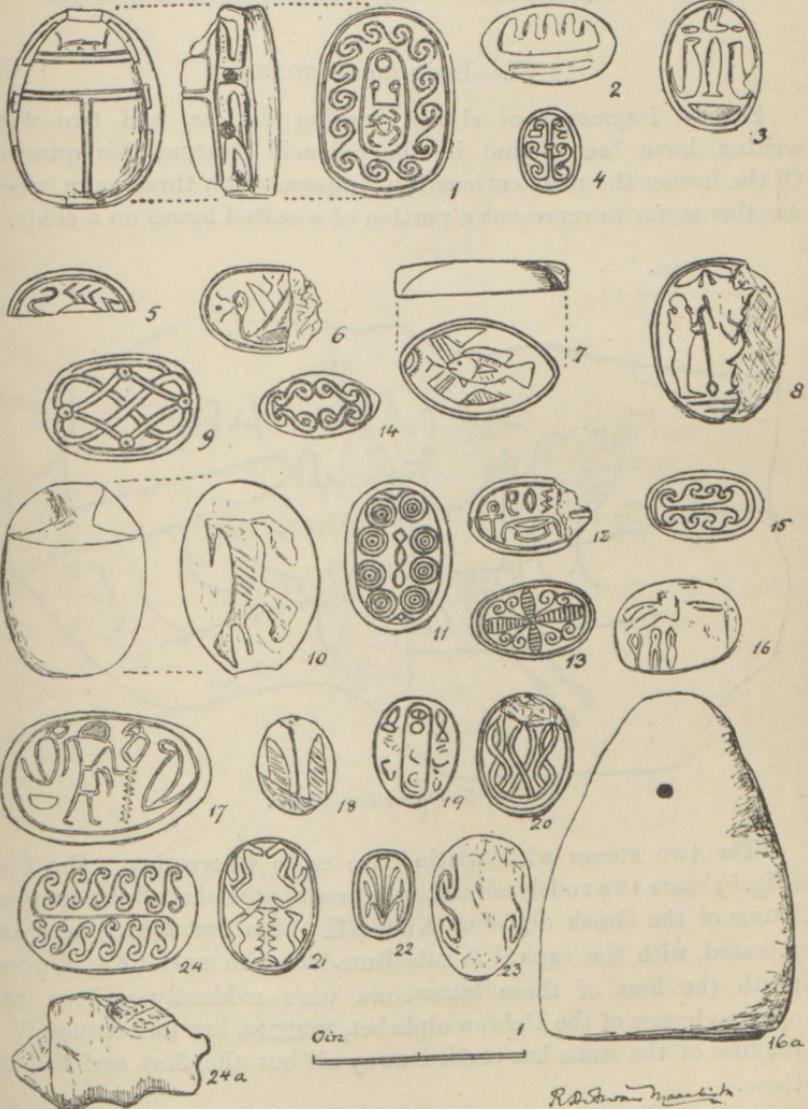
As in the previous report I can best display the scarabs discovered during the quarter in tabular form:—

No.	Fig. on Pl. IV.	Stratum.	Material.	Device, &c.
1	1	III	White steatite ..	K'ḥpr-r' in an oval (? Usertesen I).
2	2	III	Green enamelled paste.	<i>mn.</i>
3	3	III	Green enamelled paste.	<i>ḥn</i> between two uræi, <i>nḥ</i> below; above indistin- guishable (probably a flying scarabæus).
4	—	III	Green enamelled paste.	No device.
5	4	III	Steatite	Symmetrical ornament.
6	—	IV	Blue enamelled paste.	No device.
7	—	IV	Blue enamelled paste.	<i>imn</i> (Amen).
8	5	IV	Green enamelled paste.	A scorpion (half broken away).
9	6	IV	Green enamelled paste.	A bird.
10	7	V	Diorite	A fish.
11	10	VI	Limestone ..	A lioness.
12	—	From a cistern	Amethyst ..	No device.
13	8	From a cistern	Ivory	Divinity with worshipper.
14	—	From a cistern	Hæmatite ..	No device.
15	—	From a cistern	Hæmatite ..	No device.
16	—	From a cistern	Green serpentine	Simple pattern 
17	—	Depth not noted	Hæmatite ..	No device.
18	—	Depth not noted	Jade	No device.
19	—	Depth not noted	Amethyst ..	No device.
20	—	Depth not noted	Amethyst ..	No device (a gold mount remaining on this scarab).
21	9	Depth not noted	Stone	Ornamental pattern.
22	11	Depth not noted	Steatite	Ornamental pattern.
23	12	Depth not noted	Steatite	<i>nḥ</i> and other characters.

The scarab-seals on jar-handles are, as will be seen, of the usual kind—principally symmetrical interlacing ornaments characteristic of middle empire scarabs. The most remarkable of the series is Fig. 17 on the plate, found impressed, not on a jar-handle, but on the top of a weaver's weight. Fig. 16*a* represents a similar weight

EXCAVATION OF CEZER

SCARABS (1-12) & STAMPS (13-24)



(drawn to half the scale of the plate) with the seal on its crest. Fig. 24a is the fragment of a bottle-stopper (also drawn to half scale) which has already been mentioned; Fig. 24 is the seal itself.

A small green enamel paste figure of Isis and Nephthys and a curious little statuette in the same material of two cats are the only other Egyptian objects found this quarter requiring illustration.

§ VI.—INSCRIBED STONES.

Several fragments of clunch bearing devices, and two with writing, have been found in the Seleucid stratum this quarter. Of the former the most curious is a fragment with three palm trees. Another seems to represent a portion of a seated figure on a chair.



FIG. 5.—Inscribed Stone.

The two stones with writing are more interesting. The first (Fig. 5) bears two rudely scratched figures of animals and the opening letters of the Greek alphabet, $\Delta Β Γ Δ Ε$. The first four letters are repeated, with the capital A substituted for the uncial Δ . Underneath the first of these letter-rows were evidently written the opening letters of the Hebrew alphabet, אבגדה , but unfortunately a fracture of the stone has carried away all but the first and last of these.

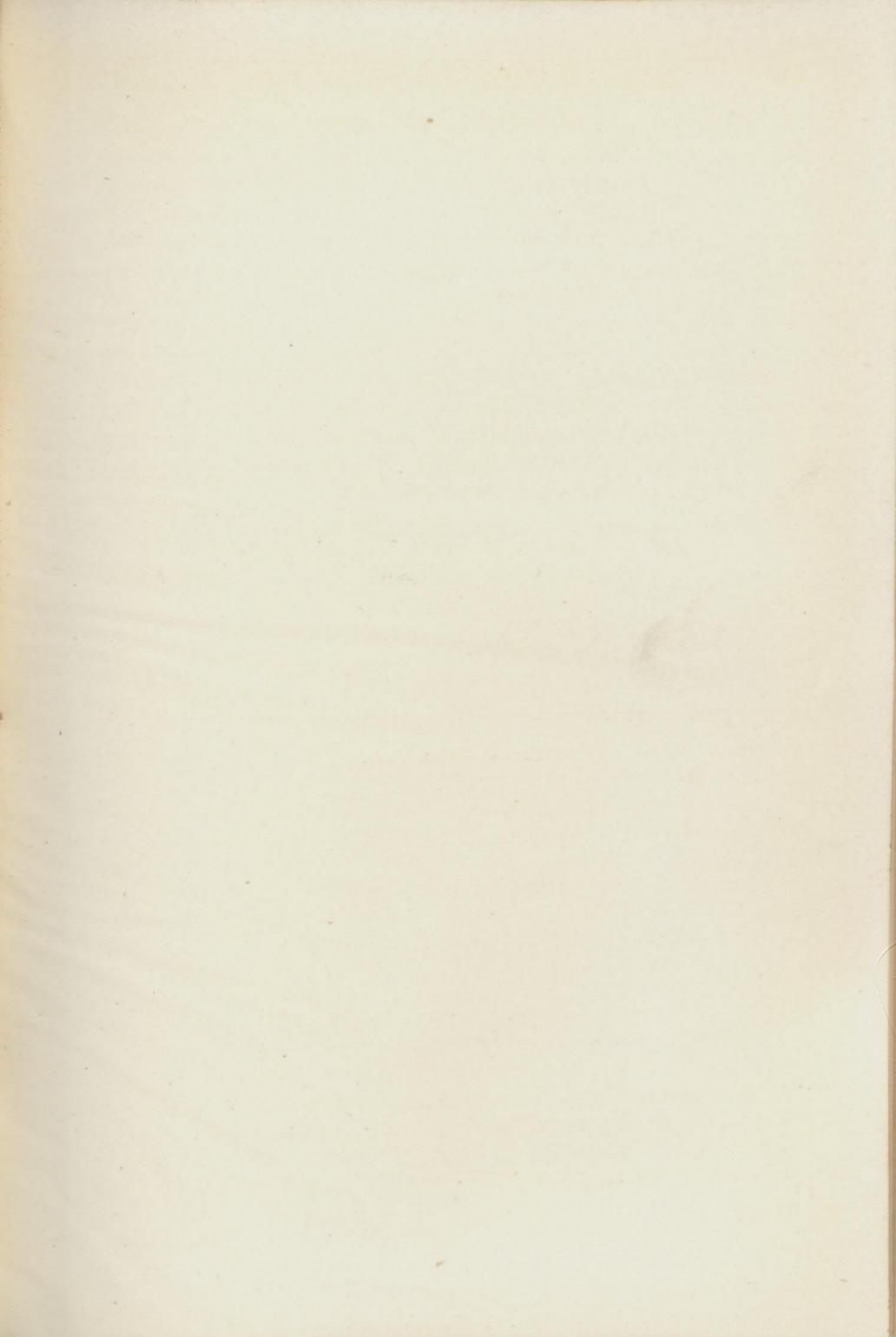




FIG. 6.—First Face.

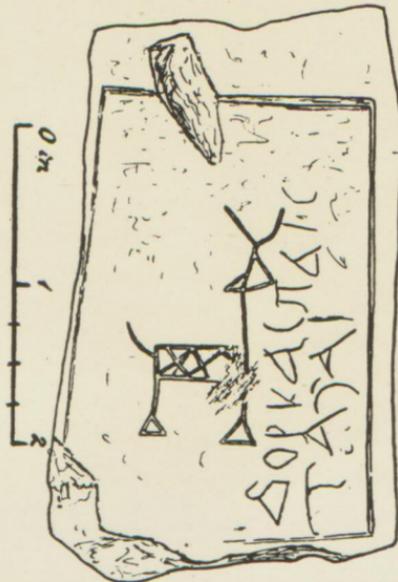


FIG. 7.—Fourth Face.

This is all probably merely a schoolboy's or idle person's scribbling. Much more curious is the second of the inscribed stones. It is a block of clunch, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches high, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. These are the *mean* measurements, for the object is irregularly formed and not one of its sides or ends is truly rectangular. It has all the appearance of being a small votive object in the form of an altar, and such I take it to be. All four faces are inscribed in Greek.

The first face (Fig. 6) is recessed within a much broken frame; a tongue projects upwards over the face of the panel from the lower border, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch long, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch across. The inscription is easily legible:

ΗΡΑΚΛΕΟΥΣ
ΝΕΙΚΗ
ΕΥΝΗΛΟΥ
ΠΟΗ[Σ]ΙΣ

But the interpretation is not so easy. *Νείκη*, "a quarrel, judicial dispute, battle," does not seem to make any intelligible sense: so far as I can see the second word must be meant for *νίκη*, "victory," and the whole must imply that the object is "the workmanship of Eunêlos" in acknowledgment of a "victory" of some kind which he has gained and ascribes to the favour of Hêracles. The fourth letter of *ποίησις* (for *ποίησις*) is the only damaged or doubtful character on this face; it has been lost by a fracture of the stone.

The second face is similar to the first, but broader; it also has a frame surrounding it with a projecting tongue below, in this case J-shaped. The writing on this and the two remaining faces reads vertically from bottom to top; that on the first face is in four horizontal lines. At the top is a device of random lines which I am totally unable to explain or describe; the drawing, which has been prepared with the aid of a camera lucida, shows its nature. The lower right-hand corner of this face is broken off, and some letters lost of the inscription, which runs as follows:—

ΕΥΝΗΛΟΥΙΩ
ΝΟC
ΙΔΩ
ΙΝΔCΙΟΥ
ΕΟΡΤΗ
* * * ΚΙΟΥ

In the first two lines we have again the name of Eunêlos, with that of, probably, his father Iôn. The fourth and fifth lines mean "the feast of Inasios," which is not very illuminating. In the middle is **IAΩ**, the Greek form of the Hebrew Divine name יהוה which is surely unexpected on an altar dedicated to Hêracles; it can only be explained as an illustration of the overlap of creeds, and of the influence of the religion of the Yahweh-worshippers on the Greek settlers in the town. The last line might be restored in many ways. It is tempting to think of 'Αλκίον, the name upon the boundary stones; but no restoration can be more than a doubtful guess.

The third face bears four lines of writing within a simple ornamental border. The writing is much worn, and no grammatical or, indeed, intelligible sequence of words seems to emerge from such of the letters as are still decipherable (asterisks denote letters which are broken from the stone):—

ΔΤΑΦ[ΗΧ?]ΕΙ
 ΤΟ * ΝΙΚΑ *
 ΟΝ[ΟΙΧ?] * ΧΕ[ΡΩ?]
 ΧΟ[ΡΤ?] * ΝΑC

The above unpromising result is the fruit of several hours spent over this part of the inscription under different conditions of illumination.

On the fourth face (Fig. 7) is a rude representation of a gazelle, and an inscription in two lines. The inscription gives the name:—

ΔΟΡΚΑCΠΑΙC
 ΤΑΤΑΙ

"Dorcas, child of Tatai," the latter name being so rudely scratched that its decipherment is doubtful. The gazelle is obviously a canting allusion to the name Dorcas. This side is apparently palimpsest, a faint Δ between the horns of the gazelle being a surviving letter of a previous inscription, of which there are not wanting other traces, though the face has been carefully smoothed to prepare it for the reception of the existing writing. Similar traces, but less definite, appear in the third face.

The stone would thus seem to have been a votive model of an altar, dedicated to Hêracles by Eunêlos, son of Iôn, which subse-

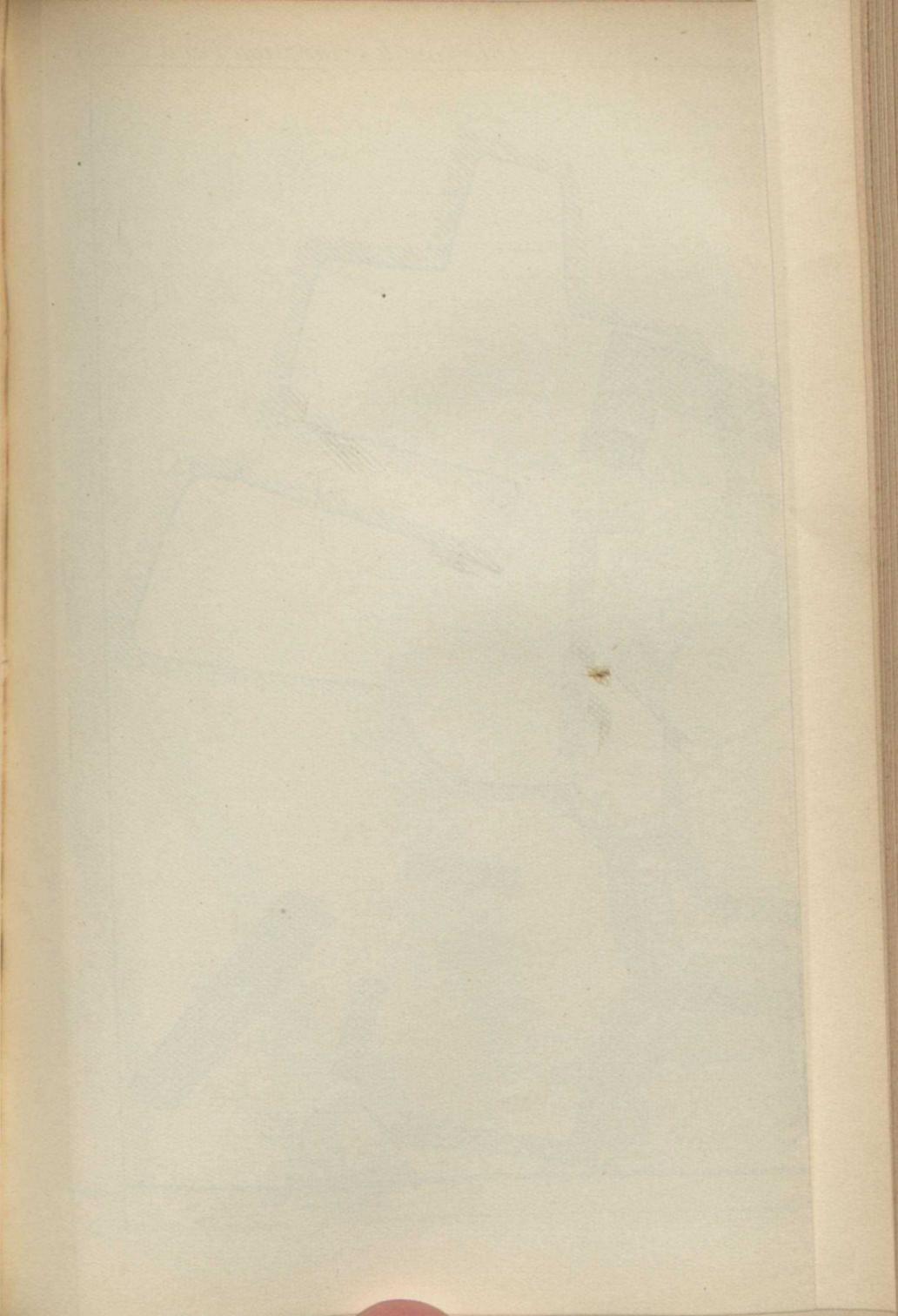
quently fell into profane hands, by whom the various incoherent scribbles about "the feast of Inasios" and "Dorcas, child of Tatai," were added. The inscription on the third face may possibly be magical.

§ VII.—CAVES AND CISTERNS.

The caves and cisterns continue to be found in undiminished numbers, and are usually so prolific in objects of one class or another that the discovery of an entrance to such an excavation is generally hailed with delight by the gang of workmen in whose section the cave happens to be. No new light has been thrown on the troglodyte inhabitants; two or three examples of troglodyte dwellings, with the characteristic staircase at the entrance, have been found, but in each case the cave had been subsequently deepened and turned into a cistern. The most remarkable cave-deposit found was one already alluded to in "Notes and News" of the last number of the *Quarterly Statement*. The cave was an excavation of the usual irregular, low-roofed type which we have now learned to associate with the troglodyte dwellers in Gezer, approached by a narrow staircase cut in the rock. The main chamber had in later times been cleared out, and contained nothing characteristic, potsherds only being found in the débris; but in a small chamber at the side was found a series of 15 vessels, nearly all perfect, some small jugs a few inches long, some fine jars 2 feet or more high, and one or two dishes. They were empty, and did not seem to have been deposited with any other purpose beyond mere storage. One of the dishes, a magnificent flat tray, in red ware, 1 foot 5 inches in diameter, had been broken before being deposited—a wedge-shaped fragment being knocked out of the rim—and repaired by riveting, the holes for the rivets being bored through the pottery on each side of the lines of fracture. This method of repairing the more valuable pieces of pottery was well known in Palestine, and several examples have been found—the most remarkable being a jug that had been broken into at least a dozen pieces, some of which were found heaped together, all displaying several rivet-holes round the edges. The rivets were probably bronze, but no example has yet been found *in situ*. I am inclined to suspect (if I do not misunderstand the published description) that the "hole-mouths" which have been enumerated as one of the characteristics of Amorite pottery are in reality rivet-holes.

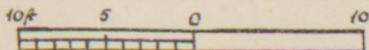
The most remarkable and important excavation—setting aside the caves found in connection with the new high place, to be described in a following section—has been a cistern, which, like the cistern already illustrated and named the “Second Burial Cave,” was used as a depository for human remains. In a separate paper (printed in this issue of the *Quarterly Statement*) is an osteological account of the remains themselves: here I need only describe the excavation. It is of the usual bell-shaped or rather cylindrical form with slightly domed roof, and a single circular shaft in the centre of the ceiling. The depth is 20 feet, the diameter 16 feet 6 inches. In the centre of the floor is the usual hollow for the collection of dregs and impurities. Silt had accumulated to a depth of 2 feet before the bodies were thrown in, and very little except a few potsherds, rather early, some nondescript fragments of bronze, and a scarab (Plate IV, Fig. 8) was found in this lower stratum. Above the silt was a stratum of bones, mingled with large stones, to a depth of 1 foot 11 inches. The bones were nearly all human, but the common domestic animals, and also the deer and gazelle, were represented. The state of the bones, which were all disarticulated, showed that the bodies had not been buried (as they unquestionably were, notwithstanding their haphazard arrangement in the Second Burial Cave), but thrown into water, where they had floated about and macerated before finally settling down. Above the bone stratum was another course of alluvial silt, 3 feet 4 inches deep. The most curious feature of the cistern is the series of cup-marks cut in the rock all round its mouth, which are too small to be of any use for watering cattle or any similar purpose. One other instance of a cistern-mouth surrounded by a group of small cup-marks has been found on the tell (in this case nothing extraordinary was found in clearing the cistern), and a third exists on an adjoining hillside. With one exception—the leg-bones of a small goat—none of the bones bear any mark of fire, otherwise I should have been tempted to consider this cistern as having been adopted by the temple authorities as a receptacle for refuse and the remains of human and other victims. More probably it was used as a plague-pit; among the many stories and rumours that gossip circulated during the cholera epidemic last year were tales of the disposal of the bodies of victims of the disease by casting them into cisterns.

While on the subject of deposits of human remains I may here refer to a curious discovery at the south end of the Temple trench

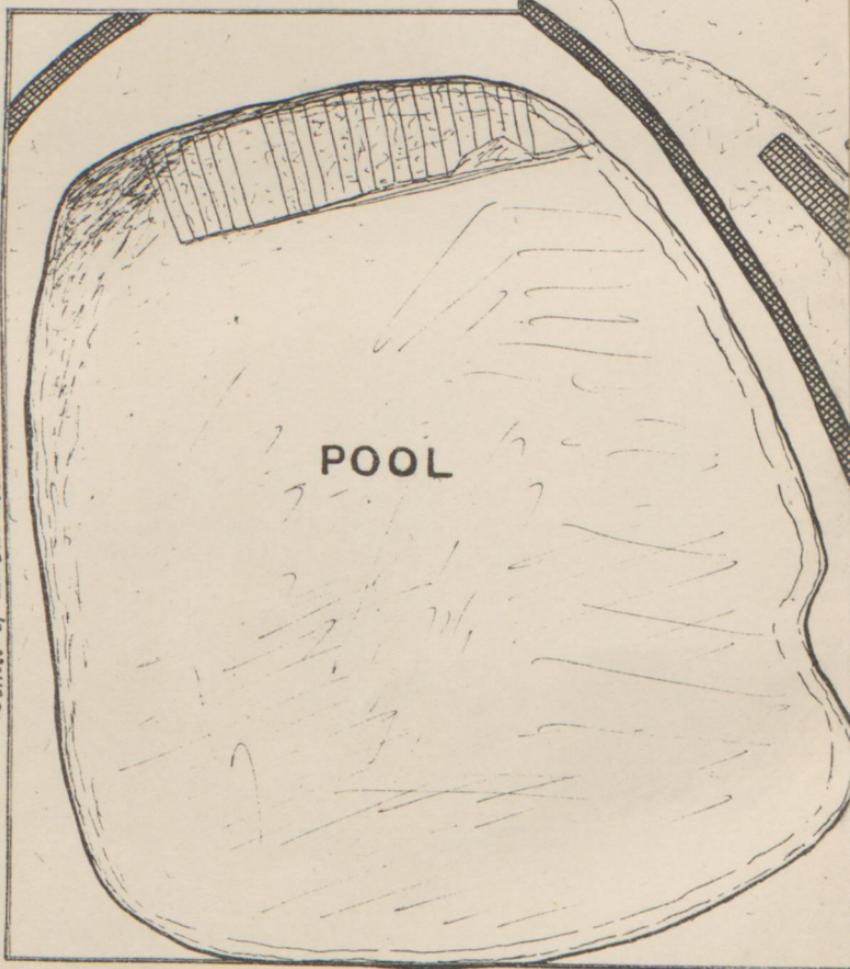


EXCAVATION OF CEZER

ROCK-SURFACE WITH CUPS & CAVES



Limit of Excavation



in the early Canaanite stratum. This was a bank of solid, compact earth about 7 feet long and 1 foot wide, containing within it a number of bones. These consisted of 11 human skulls, several long bones, and a quantity of cows' teeth; there were no other bones, and the heads had certainly been severed before being piled up. They were interspersed with stones and potsherds. Unfortunately the long bones were all splintered, and the earth in which the skulls were embedded was so hard that it was found a practical impossibility to recover them except in small fragments.

§ VIII.—THE SUPPOSED ROCK-CUT HIGH PLACE.

On Plate VI will be found a plan of the rock surface about 120 feet south of the alignment of pillar stones. It will be seen that over an area of about 90 feet north to south, 80 feet east to west, maximum dimensions, the whole surface is covered with cup-marks and hollows ranging from a few inches to 5 or 6 feet in diameter; and that underneath it is a series of three remarkable caves.

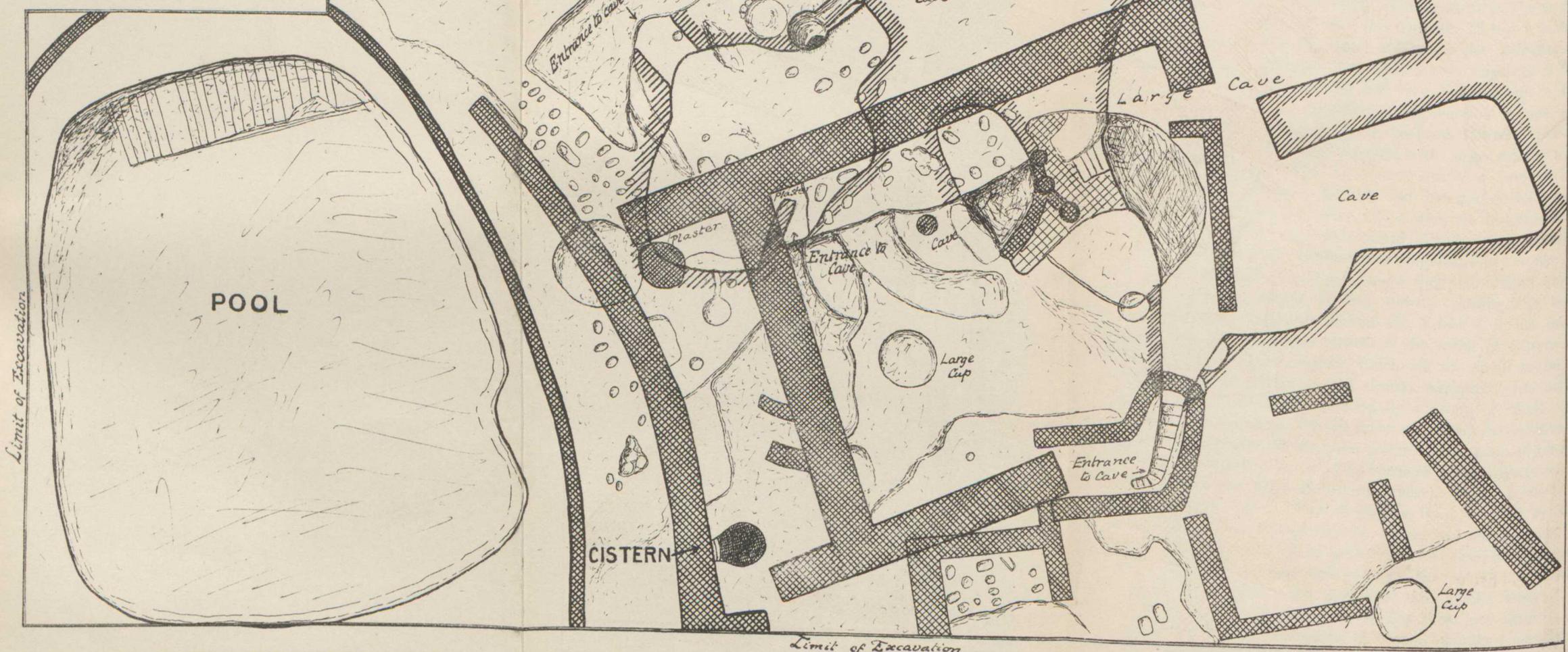
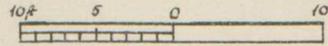
The plan, with the explanations here given, will make a detailed description unnecessary.¹ The outlines of the caves are indicated by hatched lines; walls immediately overlying the rock-surface are cross-hatched. These walls are with one possible exception all later than the period of the cup-marks; not only will several examples be noticed of cups being partly concealed by them, but in nearly all there has been time for an accumulation of earth of at least 1 foot deep, to cover the rock-surface before the walls were built. This earth contained sherds of the oldest types of pottery — that associated with the troglodyte dwellings, and a layer of burning covered its top in some places, as though vegetation had been burnt off its surface before the building commenced. Three strata of building overlay the walls shown in this plan; a good idea of the high antiquity of the rock surface will be obtained from these data.

The one exception which has been referred to in the preceding paragraph is a curved wall of very rude masonry, built with small stones set in mud, enclosing an L-shaped space around a rock-cut staircase leading to the largest of the three caves presently to be described. This wall appears contemporary with the staircase with which it is associated, and with the exception of one or two

¹ [Photographs of the supposed High Place are held over until the concluding Memoir.]

EXCAVATION OF CEZER

ROCK-SURFACE WITH CUPS & CAVES



P. A. Johnson

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