ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE (1908-1909).

THE twelve months since the writing of the last of these Reports have witnessed a continuation of most of the excavations then noticed, although it has been a year rather of promise than of many important discoveries. The prospect of a Middle Minoan III cemetery at Knossos, a period which has yielded some of the finest objects, and the discovery of Mycenaean remains by the British School near Sparta give good hope for the future, whilst the French excavation of Delos has made steady progress, and the German work at Tiryns and in the neighbourhood of Olympia has produced good results.

The Greek Archaeological Society has continued all through the year the work on the buildings of the Acropolis.¹ The Erechtheion is now finished, and the Propylaia has been begun. The fallen blocks from the architrave and elsewhere are now to be replaced *in situ*, and when this has been done a decision is to be taken as to how much further it is desirable to continue the work. On this important point Dr. Kavvadhias has expressed himself very clearly, in order to reassure any archaeologists who may fear that too much is being done in the way of restoration and renewal. He writes:—

‘It is understood that there is no question of rebuilding the monument with new material, that is to say, of restoration, a word which, taken in this sense, has caused Western scholars to protest against the Greek authorities in this matter of the re-erection of ancient monuments. This anxiety is baseless, because the Society adopt the following system. Fallen stones and architectural members are replaced in their original position, and any intervening pieces, which may be missing, are supplied, in order to render possible the replacing of existing stones. Thus, if a fair number of the drums of a column exist, those lacking are supplied in order that the former may be re-erected. Two points are thus gained: the column is restored, and the parts preserved, by being put back into their original position, are protected from any further damage. There is a prospect of this system being applied to the Parthenon.’² *

This careful definition of the limits to which the employment of any new material is to be confined should allay any uneasiness which the achievements of restorers nearer home have made only too natural, and show that the

¹ For these notes on the work of the Greek Archaeological Society I am indebted to an advance copy of *Πρακτικά τῆς ἐν Ἀθήναις Ἀρ-*

χαιολογικῆς Ἑταιρείας τοῦ ἔτους 1908, kindly given me by Dr. Kavvadhias.

² *Πρακτικά*, 1908, p. 56.

Greek authorities are fully aware of the extreme importance of the work and of their heavy responsibilities.

The policy of setting in order ancient monuments and buildings, improving local museums, and taking measures for the proper preservation of archaeological sites, notably the Kerameikos, has occupied a great part of the Society's resources, and even now much remains to be done. Dr. Kavvadhias writes that the work already done at the temple of Bassai suggests that the fallen remains of the temple of Nemea should also be replaced in the same way, whilst the improvement of the Hieron of Epidauros only emphasizes the condition of Olympia. The work on the Byzantine buildings at Daphni and Mistra should be extended to the famous church at Arta. There is also a prospect that a museum will be built at Athens for Christian antiquities.

Amongst the excavations of the Society the work at Athens comes first. The region in front of the Beulé Gate of the Acropolis has now been cleared, and the approach is to be improved and the tower of Kimon, upon which the Temple of Nike Apteros rests, is to be strengthened by the insertion of new blocks.

The excavations near the Theseum recorded last year have been continued, but without any results, except to show that the region was used as a burial ground at the time when the temple was a church. The earth has thus been very much disturbed since antiquity.

Dr. Stais' work at Sunion has been continued, and a very ancient temple found with the base of the cult-statue still *in situ*. The broken architrave-blocks of the Temple of Poseidon have been further supported by means of iron bands, and fallen pieces replaced on the same system as that employed for the buildings on the Acropolis.

At New Phaleron the finding of a relief similar to the Echelos relief now in the National Museum has led to an excavation, and Dr. Stais has found the sanctuary from which they both come; it was probably dedicated to the nymphs.

Excavation has been continued in Aitolia and Akarnania by Dr. Sotiriadhis. Mycenaean tombs with remains of bronze and terracotta ornaments are reported from Koronta in Southern Akarnania, gold ornaments from Hellenistic tombs in Kalydon, and inscriptions from the temple of Artemis Laphria and from near Phistyon. A museum has been built at Thermon to contain all the objects found in recent years which have not been brought to Athens, and the two oval buildings near the Temple of Apollo, which so closely recall the prehistoric apsidal structures which have now been found in the earlier stratum at Olympia, have been further examined.

The work of the Society includes also the discovery of more Cycladic tombs at Komiaki in Naxos, the examination of the building near Karystos identified with the Poseidion of Strabo, the excavation of a temple at Karystos and the continuation of the excavation of the temple of Apollo Daphnephoros at Eretria. A small temple has been found at Itonos in Thessaly, near the scene of Mr. Wace's prehistoric excavations noticed last year, and the

excavation of the Acropolis of Phthiotic Thebes has been continued. Here Dr. Arvanitopoulos has found prehistoric vases with Geometric incised patterns of straight lines without spirals, the incisions being filled with a white pigment.

A note on the restoration of the Temple at Bassai and the photograph here reproduced (Fig. 1) I owe to the kindness of Dr. Rhomaïos. The safety of the columns has been assured by renewing the broken stones of the stylobate and steps. Fortunately not very many blocks were in such a bad condition as to make this necessary, and the appearance of the building has not been materially altered. The cella wall has been rebuilt out of old blocks nearly to the height of the Ionic capitals of the interior. In the course of

FIG. 1.—THE TEMPLE OF BASSAE AFTER THE REPAIRS OF 1908.

the work some interesting finds have been made near the temple. About ten small fragments of frieze have been unearthed, a notable one bearing a headless figure of an Amazon. Fragments of Corinthian and Ionic columns and considerable remains of the terracotta decorations of an earlier temple have also been found. Amongst these latter are some fine fragments which resemble the *acroteria* of the Heraion at Olympia. To a later period belong some tiles inscribed *Δαμόσιος Φιαλέων* and *Δαμόσιος Ἀπόλλωνος*. With these may, of course, be compared the numerous stamped tiles found at Sparta, especially those marked by the words *Δαμόσιος τειχέων* as belonging to the public department concerned with the upkeep of the wall of the city.³

³ See report in *B.S.A.* xiii, p. 18 ff.

Finally, other blocks from the temple of Iktinos have been found, some of which, especially column-drums, it may be possible to replace, whilst others will lead to a further knowledge of the structure of the building. It is interesting to note that many of them show considerable remains of the original polychrome decoration.

Similar work has been done in strengthening the tomb of Klytaimnestra at Mycenae and in continuing the arrangement of the Hieron at Epidauros.

A late Mycenaean cemetery in Kephallenia has been excavated by Dr. Kavvadhias near the tombs at the village of Mazarakata, which he excavated in 1899. He has now cleared a row of some twelve rock-cut graves approached by *dromoi*. In each grave there were from one to as many as fifteen interments and the finds indicate the late Mycenaean period. It is very interesting to note that the bodies are not extended, but lie on the side with the knees drawn up in the contracted position common in the earliest Cycladic graves. A bee-hive tomb near by was in very bad condition. The existence of such a cemetery proves, not merely the importation of Mycenaean objects, but that there was here a Mycenaean population, and its position so far West in the Greek world makes the discovery of considerable importance.⁴

The American School of Archaeology continues its excavations at Corinth.^{4a} In clearing the buildings round the market-place the foundations of a small Roman temple have been found, one of the *ἱερὰ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀγορᾶς* of Pausanias. Outside the Agora a portion of the actual road to Sikyon has been recognized, and as the old temple is on the right of this road it is to be identified with certainty as the temple of Apollo, which Pausanias saw in this position as he left the Agora. He here saw also *ὀλίγον ἀποτέρω*, the fountain of Glauke, and beyond this (*ὑπὲρ ταύτην τὴν κρήνην*) the Odeum. Thus guided, the excavators discovered the Odeum in 1907, and have now shewn that it was about 65 metres in diameter with the lower seats mostly cut in the native rock. Of the stage-building only the foundations have been preserved.

The theatre and a paved court between it and the Odeum have been cleared, but the most interesting work has been a further examination of the fountain of Peirene, which has led to the discovery of the channels which brought water to the fountain, of the surrounding court, and of the early, very probably Periandrian, reservoirs and draw-basins.

The discovery of statues of the sixth century A.D. is of interest. A torso has now been found, which forms the fourth of a series, of which the best preserved was found in 1907. This represents a man wearing a dress identical in all details with that of the courtiers, who attend Justinian and Theodora in the mosaics of the church of S. Vitale at Ravenna. The latest period of Venetian power in Greece is reflected by a find of sixty-two seventeenth century silver coins, of which all but five or six are Venetian.

⁴ To be published in the forthcoming 'Ανασκαφαὶ ἐν Κεφαλληνίᾳ.

^{4a} These notes on the unpublished results of

1908 and 1909 I owe to the kindness of the Director, Mr. Hill.

The British School has now finished the excavation of the Sanctuary of Artemis Orthia at Sparta, which has been the centre of their work for four years. This year the outlying parts of the Sanctuary were cleared and considerable remains of the wall of the *temenos* at various periods were discovered. The removal of further portions of the foundation of the Roman Amphitheatre enabled more of these walls to be traced, but the comparatively small number of objects found proved that a limit to the deposit had been reached, and that nothing is to be gained by further digging. The centre of the arena was further examined by the removal of some part of the cobble pavement, and underneath it ashes and sherds of Geometric pottery were found, proving that the cult of Orthia on this spot was older than any of the existing structural remains, and the configuration of the site, a natural hollow by the river, was now made quite evident. A remarkable built drain was cleared, which ran right across the outer part of the sanctuary and finally passed below the town-wall and so debouched on the bank of the river. Its course is interrupted by the outer curve of the foundation of the Roman Amphitheatre, and various considerations point to a date in the fourth century B.C. It is at least ten feet deep, solidly built of stones, and when complete was covered with heavy slabs, a large number of which were removed in Roman times, to be used as building material for the Amphitheatre.

Although the archaic deposit of votive offerings was so nearly exhausted in previous years, a few objects of importance were found. Noteworthy amongst these are an ivory fibula-plaque showing the winged Artemis with a snake, and yet another stone relief of two crouching lions facing one another heraldically. This is very possibly a copy of the pediment of the sixth-century temple, from which a fragment of a coloured relief of a lion in poros-stone was recovered two years ago. A very fine vase of the Laconian II style, *i.e.* late seventh century, has been put together out of fragments, and will be published in the School Annual. The scattered condition of the whole archaic deposit is well shown by the fact that fragments of this vase were found in each of the four seasons of the excavation and in widely separated parts of the site. It was only by keeping all sherds that the reconstruction of this fine piece was made possible.

New ground has been opened up by the discovery of Mycenaean remains at and near the building known as the Menelaion on the east bank of the Eurotas a little below the site of Sparta itself, in a lofty position on the steep hills, which at this point rise directly from the river and command a splendid view of Sparta and the whole valley of Laconia. The building had been previously excavated, and our attention was only called to it again by the chance discovery by a shepherd of some objects found on the slopes below the building itself. This led to an excavation, and a quantity of pottery and bronze ornaments were found, mostly of the end of the seventh century, and thus by great good fortune belonging to the Laconian II period, which had been only scantily represented at the Orthia

Sanctuary. Below these were Geometric sherds. The building itself has now been fully cleared and has revealed itself as a raised platform approached by a ramp; on the platform were found the remains of a construction which may well have been a large altar. The core of the whole is formed by the natural rock and no trace of any tomb has as yet been found. At a low level in one corner some Mycenaean sherds were found, and in a field near by the remains of a Mycenaean house with painted walls. Mycenaean pottery was found on the surface at several places in the fields near by, and next year it is proposed to excavate further. It is most interesting to find these prehistoric remains, hitherto entirely lacking on the site of classical Sparta, at the very place where in Greek times was the shrine of the old hero Menelaos. It would seem that Mycenaean Sparta was here, and that the city was refounded on the classical site at the beginning of the iron age.⁵

The excavation at Rhitsóna, the ancient Mykalessos, in Boeotia has been continued by Professor Burrows and Mr. Ure. Twenty graves were dug this spring, a large number of which contained, undoubtedly, single interments, thus supporting the opinion previously expressed by the excavators. The number of finds was very great: 2400 sixth-century vases and figurines remain to be published. Of special interest is a stone sarcophagus containing a complete skeleton, proto-Corinthian vases, and iron fibulae; it has now been conveyed entire to the Museum at Thebes. With the assistance and support of the local Ephor, Mr. Keramopoulos all the vases are being exhibited in this museum grave by grave, and it is hoped that the numbers used in publication will also be used for the Museum labels. This exhibition of separate tomb-groups will make the Museum of Thebes one of the most scientifically arranged in Greece. The bones have been examined from the point of view of physical anthropology by Mr. C. H. Hawes.⁶

The other excavation which has been carried on in the name of the British School is that of Messrs. Wace, Thompson, and Peet in Northern Greece. Their work at the tumulus at Zerelia in Thessaly was recorded last year; this year they have excavated two more prehistoric mounds. The first of these is a tumulus called Paleómylos at Lianokládhi on the left bank of the Spercheios near Neopatras. Shafts sunk across a diameter of the tumulus revealed three successive strata. In the lowest a red-on-white ware was found, which degenerated towards the top of the stratum; in the second was the black-lustre ware which the German archaeologists have called 'Urfirniss.' This is common at Orchomenos, where also it occurs immediately above a red-on-white fabric, the so-called Chaeronea ware, and below the deposit of the grey 'Minyan' pottery. It has now been found marking the lowest stratum at Tiryns. In the uppermost stratum of the tumulus the pottery again changes, and a coarse red hand-made ware is found with Geometric patterns of black paint accompanied by 'Minyan' sherds. In this

⁵ Yearly reports of this excavation appear in the *Annual of the British School at Athens*.

⁶ The latest reports on Rhitsóna are in this volume and *B.S.A.* xiv. pp. 226 ff.

stratum a house was found with pithoi *in situ*. Above this again was a tomb containing a contracted skeleton. In the first two strata obsidian flakes were found; in the upper two a fine series of flint knives. The other excavation was at a tumulus called Tsáni Maghoúla near Kierion in Western Thessaly. The total depth of the deposit is reckoned at twelve metres, of which four are below the present level of the ground at the foot of the mound. Eight strata were observed, divided by layers of the burned debris of wattled huts. As at Lianokládhi the upper two or more layers were eneolithic and the rest neolithic. Nine kinds of pottery were found, forming a long sequence. These styles overlap one another, but as elsewhere the painted red-on-white ware was found early, and above it the black-lustre (*Urfinniss*). This latter was rare and probably imported. The general conclusions of the excavators are that in these two tumuli, as at Zerelia, we meet first the degeneration of a neolithic people, who made the red-on-white pottery. The tumuli which stop at the end of this period are numerous, whilst those containing later wares, like the tumuli at Tsani and Zerelia, are rarer. This would point to a decrease of population as well as a cultural degeneration. The black-lustre ware which succeeds seems at home at Orchomenos and Tiryns, and thus it would appear that the neolithic people of Thessaly, the Spercheios valley, Phocis, and Northern Boeotia, for in all of these regions the red-on-white ware is found, were encroached upon from the South by the makers of the black-lustre pottery, who reached as far as Mount Othrys. This black-lustre ware does not last long and at Orchomenos is succeeded by the grey 'Minyan' ware and at Lianokladhi by the painted geometric pottery, a fabric which does not appear in Thessaly. This brings us to the period when the Mycenaean civilization gets a footing in North Greece. For the remains found in these tumuli the excavators suggest as a date 1100 to 2500 B.C. The excavation of more of these sites is of great importance, as shedding much light on the archaeology of Northern Greece, whose development would seem to have been entirely independent of that of the Aegean area.⁷ In this connexion I may refer to Dr. Vassits' article in *B.S.A.* xiv. on the neolithic culture of Servia, as it supports a view of Aegean influence in Servia which is almost irreconcilable with this independence of the North Greek area.

In Crete there has been no discovery of the interest of those noticed last year. At Knossos Dr. Evans has been able to fix the site of what appears to be a cemetery of the Middle Minoan III period, that is to say the eighteenth century B.C. He was led to this by a find of stone vases near the Royal Tomb of Isopata. A stone chamber was discovered with a pavilion-shaped roof in the same style as the Royal Tomb; it had been plundered, but a few small objects were found, notably a gold-mounted intaglio showing a huge Molossian dog with two men, and a gold ring engraved with an

⁷ These notes were kindly given me by Mr. Wace. For reports on these excavations in North Greece see *B.S.A.* xiv. pp. 197 ff., and

Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology, Liverpool.

interesting design of four ladies dancing and above them a religious ceremonial. From the Little Palace to the west of the Great Palace comes the lower part of an Egyptian diorite vase probably not later than the thirteenth dynasty, with the remains of an Egyptian hieroglyphic inscription apparently referring to an official in charge of mining operations. The historical value of such an inscription is plain, especially if its place in the Minoan Series can be ascertained exactly, and the prospect of the excavation of a Middle Minoan III cemetery, perhaps the greatest period in Cretan art, is also extremely alluring.⁸

At Phaistos the discovery in 1908 of a terracotta disk bearing an inscription in Minoan hieroglyphics in a structure adjacent to the Palace has led the Italian mission this year to continue work in this region.

To the south of the great court on the west side of the palace a large cutting has been made, and house-walls were found, associated with Hellenistic pottery, older remains being rare. Below this Kamares (Middle Minoan) pottery was found, and at the level of the court of the palace a square cistern and a circular well of earlier date; the cistern measures 3.12 × 1.8 metres. It is lined with stones, and its floor is about one metre below the pavement of the court. From the sherds found in both well and cistern it appears that they belong to the period of the earlier palace and were not used when the second palace was built. It is now only necessary to clear the northern part, in order to restore the ancient theatral area to its original appearance.

Still more remunerative was the excavation on the N.E. side of the slope of the Palace Acropolis. Here the room, in which the inscribed disk was found, has been thoroughly examined. Above it was a Greek wall now removed. Below this were sherds ranging from Hellenistic to Middle Minoan, but nothing to contradict the idea that the room was disused at the end of the Middle Minoan period, a conclusion with which the pottery found in the rest of the structure agrees. A part of the building consisted of a portico, which in its position in relation to the palace and in its plan presents a remarkable analogy with the northern entrance of the Palace of Knossos. The number of square pilasters is less, but Dr. Pernier writes that the structure was more complex, more sumptuous, and more harmonious. It opens towards the north, and parallel to this entrance are two rows of three columns, in each of which a circular base stands between two square pilasters. Opposite this entrance a flight of eighteen stairs leads up to the eastern court of the Palace. Thus the portico is an annex adorning the northern entrance of the Palace and the edifices by it seem to be magazines and possibly an *archivio* (the room of the disk). The objects found in this portico agree perfectly with those of the last period of the primitive Palace, all being of the latest Middle Minoan style. To the east of this region a number of fine Middle Minoan vases are reported, and two clay *rhyta* in the form of bull's heads finely modelled and painted.

⁸ From a communication which appeared in *The Times* of June 29th, 1909.

Summarizing these discoveries Dr. Pernier says that these buildings, the portico, the house of the disk, and the building between them, were constructed in the first Middle Minoan period, and that the objects found in them belonged to Middle Minoan II and III. The house of the disk was no longer in use after the end of Middle Minoan III; an important conclusion, as it dates the disk itself to late in the Middle Minoan period. The other edifices continued into the period of the second palace.

A continuation of the work at Prinia, so important for the early Greek period, has been deferred, but Dr. Minto at Phaistos has examined the walls of the Greek fortress on the higher part of the Acropolis called Affendi Christos. The pottery ranges from Geometric to Hellenistic, but below the foundation walls of primitive houses have been found, and with them Minoan sherds.⁹

In May of this year (1909) a Minoan settlement was found at Tylissos four hours west of Knossos, and Dr. Chatzidhakis, the Senior Ephor of Antiquities in Crete, proposes to excavate it fully. A store of great *piithoi*, a bronze *hydria*, and a large bronze vessel have been found, all pointing to a date in Late Minoan I or Middle Minoan III, that is to say rather earlier than the Knossos Palace style, and the finds are being compared to those of the Palace of Haghia Triadha. Dr. Pernier informs me that inscribed tablets and seal-stones have also been found. Dr. Chatzidhakis has also discovered a prehistoric site some two hours north of Gortyn on the line connecting Knossos with the rich and populous Messará plain dominated by the Palace of Phaistos, and near Gortyn has begun the excavation of what seems likely to be an important sanctuary. The objects from this belong to the classical period, mainly to the third and second centuries B.C., none being earlier than the fifth or later than the second. Thousands of clay lamps are reported, some simple, some grouped together on a high stand, and some in the form of a ring with numerous wicks, and many terracottas, mostly of the fourth century. The commonest types of these are standing women and boys in short chitons holding a small pig in front of the breast. A sitting goddess has been found, probably the presiding deity of the shrine, to whom the pigs were offered, and some fine large terracotta figures, which seem to be copies of statues. All the objects are of native Cretan workmanship. Dr. Chatzidhakis has also set in order and cleared the important church of St. Titus near Gortyn, probably the finest Christian antiquity in Crete.¹⁰

At Delos the French School has now cleared the ancient quay and mole, a work attended with great difficulty owing to the level of the water. The great mole appears to be very ancient, being associated with Mycenaean and archaic Greek pottery, whilst the quays are partly archaic and partly Hellenistic. Mycenaean sherds have also been found in clearing the Agora of Theophrastos and the houses north of it. This Mycenaean

⁹ I have to thank Dr. Pernier for full notes of these latest results.

¹⁰ Drawings of this church have been pub-

lished by Mr. D. T. Fyfe in the *Architectural Review*.

occupation of Delos is now very clearly proved; it will be interesting to see if anything earlier of the Cycladic or Amorgine period will be found.

The course of the Inopos has been examined, and a large cistern has been found belonging to the end of the third century. It was supplied by the stream above and from the subsoil water below. Broad steps lead to the bottom of the basin, which is five metres deep, and from it an elaborate system of canals was fed. The water-supply of an island of so small an area and with such large demands as Delos must always have needed especial care, and now a fine public fountain has been uncovered at the N.E. corner of the Stoa of Antigonos. The building was constructed of wood overlaid with terracotta, and had on the north a façade of six Doric columns. The cistern was cut into the rock to a depth of seven metres and approached by steps. This interesting building dates from the beginning of the fifth, and was restored at the end of the second century. It is identified with the *Κρήνη Μινώη* often mentioned in inscriptions by the discovery of a relief of a group of three goddesses, a goat, and a bearded Herm, inscribed *Σπόριος Στερτίσιος Σπορίου Νύμφαις Μινόσιν*. A fifth century inscription of the authorities controlling the fountain has been found in the basin, and a fine bronze relief of Hekate of good Hellenistic work.

The excavation of the Temenos may now be regarded as definitely completed. The Artemision shows the old *poros* temple and the later Ionic amphiprostyle temple with four columns at either end; it dates from the third century, although the cella seems to be very much older. A number of sherds of Rheneian ware have been found and there is a prospect that some sixty vases may be put together. The Apollo temple dates from the fifth or fourth century; but it was not finished till the third. The fact that the columns were never fluted shows that there was a difficulty in getting the work finished. No earlier remains have been found under the foundation.¹¹

The work of the German Institute in Greece was limited to excavations at Olympia, in the neighbourhood of Kakóvatos (Pylos) and at Tiryns. Last year's Report (p. 332) noticed the excavation of the three bee-hive tombs at Kakóvatos, and the excavation of the temple of Artemis Limnatis was briefly mentioned. This latter is a small sanctuary of Artemis at a place now called Kombothekra on the hills to the N.E. of Pylos. The temple was Doric peripteral and dates from the fifth century. The foundation and some architectural members of *poros*-stone have been found, which will enable a reconstruction of the building to be drawn. The finds include small bronzes and terracottas, the greater number of which are of fifth and fourth century date.

On the little rock of Kleidhí between Samikon and the shore north of Kakóvatos a castle with fine Cyclopean walls and remains of houses were

¹¹ For these excavations see M. Holleaux, to whom my present thanks are due, *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Inscriptions*, 1909.

excavated in the summer of 1908. Although at Samikon nothing pre-classical has been found, at this place monochrome prehistoric pottery occurs and also some Mycenaean. Dr. Dörpfeld identifies the site with the Homeric Arene.

A further small excavation at Olympia was carried on in the spring of 1909, continuing the work of previous years already noticed in these Reports. The excavators are now in a position to affirm that the earliest remains at Olympia consist of a prehistoric settlement extending from the Metroön right underneath the terrace of the Treasuries, which proves to be an artificial construction. The buildings belonging to the settlement are the apsidal structures reported last year, and it even appears that what was supposed to be the altar of Zeus is in reality only a pair of such buildings. This settlement lasted for a very long period and has yielded numerous stone implements, mostly of flint and only rarely of obsidian, and incised pottery, but no metal. Two isolated metal objects were found, but in a region where the stratification was uncertain. This prehistoric village was covered by a simple layer of sand, and it may be inferred therefore that it was destroyed and buried by a flood. There is no evidence as to the length of the period between the destruction of this village and the beginnings of the later sanctuary. The finding of prehistoric sherds on a hill a kilometre east of Olympia was noted last year. Nothing Mycenaean was found, but a few Greek sherds occurred. The site has been identified with Pisa.

The work at Tiryns was resumed in the spring of 1909, and the main result was to settle the ground-plan of the southern part of the upper citadel. Remains of the pre-Mycenaean settlement with the characteristic black-lustre (*Urfrniss*) pottery have been found and six large *pithoi* of this early period from beneath the room marked XXX.¹² This oldest settlement had buildings with curved walls, which recall those at Olympia. Of anything older than this deposit of black-lustre ware, as for example at Orchomenos, no trace has as yet been found. The stucco floors of the two great *megara* have been carefully cleaned, with the result that they have been found to have been painted; in the great *megaron* and its fore-hall conventional patterns were found and also a design of octopus and dolphins swimming in blue water, an idea which calls to mind the popularity of such subjects in Roman floor-mosaics. All round the castle the existence of a lower town has been proved, the northern part dating from the late Mycenaean period, whilst in the south and immediately below the citadel an earlier stratum and some black-lustre pottery were also found. Many Geometric tombs occurred, although no corresponding buildings were found, the body being sometimes contracted in a stone cist and sometimes placed in a pithos. The numerous vases give for the first time a picture of the Geometric pottery of the Argolid.¹³ At this date such a method of burial apparently without cremation is very remarkable.

¹² In Schliemann, *Tiryns*, London, 1886, Pl. II.

¹³ These notes were given me by Dr. Karo, to

whom my especial thanks are due also for help in other parts of this report.

The Austrian excavations at Ephesus conducted by Dr. Heberdey, to whose kindness I owe these notes, were continued in the autumn of 1908 in the valley between the Bülbül Dagħ and the Panyir Dagħ. The Odeum excavated by Wood was fully cleared: it revealed itself as a typical Roman theatral building. Amongst other remains the so-called tomb of St. Luke was excavated, and found to be the lower part only of a circular building of unknown use, which served as a chapel in Christian times, and was lengthened by the addition of an apse at the east. This chapel formed the crypt of a church, which was built on a somewhat higher level.

My warm thanks are due to the archaeologists who have generously sent me the notes of their latest work, upon which this report is based.

R. M. DAWKINS.