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Archaeology in Greece, 1895–6

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ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE, 1895-6.

THE past year has not been productive of any momentous discovery, excepting only the bronze statue at Delphi, which will be described more fully in its own place; but a great amount of useful work has been done in various directions, and, indeed, the great variety of what has been achieved may be regarded as the characteristic feature of the year.

In Athens, the excavations in the neighbourhood of the Pnyx and the Areopagus have reached their third season. In the later months of 1894 the entire shrine which Dörpfeld identifies as that of Dionysos ἐν Λίμναις was laid bare, with its temple, altar, and wine-press. The archaic structure seems to have been in existence down to late Greek times, when its site was covered by a building which is identified by an inscription as the assembly house of the Iobacchi. From the different methods of construction which can be traced in the walls, it would seem that this building must have stood for a long period; the base of the altar, belonging to the earlier stage, is fairly well preserved; it consisted of a table supported on four slender columns, replaced later by four larger supports; at one side on the step are sinkings for two stelæ; Dörpfeld points out that according to Demosthenes (*Neæra*, 76) the oath which the Gerairai had to swear at the sacred marriage of the Basilinna in the Anthesteria was inscribed on a stelè set up ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ τοῦ Διονύσου παρὰ τὸν βῶμον ἐν Λίμναις, an expression which suits the proposed identification. The inscription of the Iobacchi (published by Wide in *Ath. Mitth.* xix, p. 266) mentions, l. 123, a conjunction of Dionysos and Korè, which points to the shrine of Dionysos ἐν Λίμναις; and Dörpfeld remarks that the name Iobacchi itself corresponds with the name of the festival (Iobakcheia) mentioned in the oath of the Gerairai on the stelè; the natural inference is that this local cult was a survival of the archaic national one.

Whether the building which has been found is the actual shrine of Dionysos in the marshes or not, it is certain that we have here the remains of a comparatively large and very ancient sacred precinct; its early date is fixed, not only by the character of the masonry, but also by the fact that a large quantity of fragments of pottery with geometric decoration have been found in connection with it. It

enclosed, not only the temple, but also the altar already mentioned (probably of the same date), and a wine-press of the fourth century, B.C., which covered the remains of one of much earlier date; this last recalls the passage in the Schol. to Ar. *Ach.* 201, which explains the name Lenaion διὰ τὸ πρῶτον ἐν τούτῳ τῷ τόπῳ ληνὸν τεθῆναι.

In *Ath. Mitth.* 1895, p. 183 foll., Dörpfeld examines the passages in ancient literature, which show that before the building of the Lycurgus theatre Dionysiac representations had been held elsewhere; and concludes that all these passages point to one locality, and that the Lenaion. There is, however, a distinction to be drawn between the term Lenaion and that of Dionysion ἐν Λίμναις; the old precinct is never called, by those writers who had seen it, τὸ Λήναιον, but either τὸ ἐν Λίμναις Διονύσιον or τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Δ. ἐν Λ., or something similar. On the other hand, in contemporary notices of those agones which refer to the older country Dionysia, the place named is Λήναιον, never τὸ ἱερὸν ἐν Λ.; ὁ ἐπὶ Λ. ἀγών is the usual name of the older skenic agon. Dörpfeld thinks (*ibid.* p. 205) that we must distinguish between the two terms. The Lenaion is the place of ληνοί (wine-presses), and the general wine-press place lay in the neighbourhood of the precinct, on or beside which the choruses from the earliest times danced and sang at the festival of the god. The later writers (who no longer knew the old precinct), explained the Lenaion wrongly as the hieron of Lenaïos, and identified it with the temenos ἐν Λίμναις.

The passage in Thucyd. ii., 15, which has been much discussed in this connection, is now explained as showing that the earliest town lay on the upper Acropolis, and on its south and west slope. In the old interpretation of the passage the Lenaion, as well as the other shrines mentioned by Thucydides, were placed in the precinct of Dionysos at the theatre, in the south-east of the Acropolis; but it is now generally accepted that the theatre precinct belonged to Dionysos Eleuthereus, and this interpretation falls to the ground.

The general scheme of excavations in this neighbourhood included the further exploration of the great water-system in which it is proposed to identify the Enneakrounos. As in former seasons, the existence of the modern roadway has again proved an obstacle, and it cannot yet be said that any decisive evidence has yet been obtained. The rock conduits have been further cleaned, and some of its deviations

followed; and several great reservoirs have been found in the rock connected with each other, and forming a system of waterworks, probably of the Pre-Peisistratid age, by which the water of the three hills was collected above the old fountain; when Peisistratos made his great rock watercourse, these cave reservoirs became superfluous, and dropped out of use. The most important evidence for the identification of the site is in the fact that the end of the aqueduct is now traceable, with the Greek and Roman water-basin, and also in the discovery of the commencement of two outlet channels, in the spot behind which the well-chamber is preserved which was used in ancient Greek, and even down to Roman times.

Near the supposed Enneakrounos and lying in the upper strata, were found upwards of forty marble statuettes of Aphrodite, which presumably had fallen from the west slope of the Acropolis; it is here that we must probably suppose to have existed the shrine of Aphrodite Pandemos, which Pausanias mentions on his way from the Dionysiac theatre to the Acropolis. It was hitherto believed to have lain at the south-west corner, near the Nike Temple, in consequence of some inscriptions found there some years back, built into a mediæval fortification. The Pelargikon, however, must have occupied most of the space on the south-west; and if we may assign the Aphrodite shrine a site before the Enneakrounos—probably the centre of the earliest market—we can better appreciate the statement of Apollodorus (Harpokr, s.v. Πάνδημος), that this shrine lay *περὶ τὴν ἀρχαίαν ἀγοράν*.^{*} It was hoped that one or more of the different temples which must have existed in this neighbourhood might be discovered; thus Pausanias mentions a temple of Demeter and Kore, and one of Triptolemos, as over the Enneakrounos. Unfortunately, excavation on the Pnyx only proved that the depth of earth there is so slight as to have preserved little or nothing; a series of rock cuttings and cisterns were the sole results. It was also hoped that an old Greek building east of the Dionysion *ἐν Λύμναις*, might prove to be the Prytaneion (*Ath. Mitth.*, 1894, p. 508); this has now been cleared, and only negative evidence has resulted, though the purpose of the building cannot be explained. The operations on the west slope of the Areopagus have been continued, disclosing more houses with stairways cut in the rock, but nothing of

^{*} Dörpfeld in *Ath. Mitth.*, 1895, p. 511.

special interest, unless we may except the house of a terra-cotta statuette maker, in which a large number of moulds belonging to his trade were found.

Perhaps the most important result of the German excavations of the year has been the discovery of what is claimed to be the Stoa Basileios. For various reasons it has been supposed that this building lay to the east and south-east of the so-called Theseion, or under the houses on the west side of the modern 'Οδὸς Ποσειδῶνος. In the spring of 1896, two of these houses were bought by the German Institute, and destroyed. Beneath their foundations portions of two public buildings came to light, each consisting of a hall with portico facing eastward. The northernmost building cannot be later than the beginning of the fifth century B.C., and this it is proposed to identify as the Stoa Basiliké. The other building is of later date, but is built on the remains of an earlier structure, which seems to have been a simple portico. It is very desirable that the question should be solved; unfortunately, the purchase and destruction of houses in a populous quarter of Athens is a costly affair; but it is pleasant to know that a third house is already doomed for the coming season.

In the *Ath. Mitth.*, 1895, p. 507, Dörpfeld gave reasons for supposing that the deme of Alopekè (between which deme and the town lay the gymnasium of Kynosarges) lay, not where Curtius and others have placed it, but across the Ilissos, in the south of the town towards Phaleron, approximately where the church marked on the map as H. Marina stands. Two personal friends having placed in my hands a sum of money for purposes of excavation, I was enabled, in the spring of 1896, to open ground in the spot which seemed the most likely site for this gymnasium. The excavation is still proceeding, but an *ad interim* statement of results is published in my report to the Managing Committee.* It is sufficient here to say that we have found the foundation walls of a large public building which appears to date from the sixth century B.C., and which seems to be, in plan, suitable to a gymnasium. It lay in the midst of a necropolis of tombs, which date from the seventh century B.C. downwards, and, subsequently to the third century B.C., it was used partly as the site of a Roman bath, partly as a graveyard. Adjoining it are the remains of a larger building which seems to have been a gymnasium of the time, perhaps, of Hadrian.

See above, pp. 23—25.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

With a view to the Olympic festival of 1896, the Stadion has been restored, for the most part in marble, at the cost of M. Averof, a Greek gentleman of Alexandria. The work preparatory to this undertaking resulted in some small discoveries, the most important of which is that the long sides, hitherto supposed to be straight, have a slight bend outwards in the centre; the practical utility of this, as enabling each spectator to obtain a wider view of the course, was clearly shown during the games on such days as the stadium was crowded with spectators. In the course of the excavations, sufficient details were found to admit of the accurate restoration of every architectural feature of the ancient structure; and two of the double herms found here have been set up *in situ*.

Turning now from actual excavation, we find that a good deal of important work has been done in connection with the antiquities already existing in Athens, chiefly in connection with the Acropolis. The lengthy task of publishing the vase fragments is not yet completed, and the fragments are not yet exhibited; but, *en revanche*, the most interesting pieces of work have been effected with the architectural remains. One of these is the study which H. Schrader has completed of the composition of the archaic marble pediment sculptures representing a Gigantomachia; the other is the discovery of T. Wiegand, that sufficient architectural remains are preserved, not only to confirm the existence of an earlier shrine in the place of the Peisistratid Athena temple, but even to give us an approximate idea of its dimensions and ornament. His article has not yet been published, but he has most kindly given me the following summary of its results:—"The temple, of limestone, was a double temple *in antis*, 100 feet long and 40 feet wide, with six metopes in front and eighteen metopes at each long side. Its pediments were decorated with the two well-known poros groups of Zeus fighting with the triple-bodied Typhon, and Herakles wrestling with Antaeus. Several of the architrave beams of this temple were discovered in the Kimonian south wall of the Acropolis, built in above the theatre of Dionysos. The height of these beams is 1.50 m., that of the triglyphs 1.40 m. A special peculiarity of the horizontal geisa lies in the fact that their mutules are of different size, varying between six and four guttæ in front. The metopes and sima consisted of marble, and were gaily painted; the ornamentation and colouring of

the springing pediment-geisa is particularly interesting; these are decorated on the underside partly with gigantic lotos flowers, partly with eagles and great water birds, which are so arranged as if they wished to fly out into the free air. In its general forms, as, for instance, the wide-bulging echinus of the capital, the temple recalls the temples of Magna Græcia, and thus its attribution to the time of Solon may be suggested as perhaps the most probable date.

Besides the remains of this pre-Peisistratid Athena temple, there is further evidence to determine the existence of no less than five smaller pre-Persian buildings in poros stone, of which some are specially interesting on account of their polychrome decorations, and one on account of its plan. Thus one, for instance, had an apse similar to the Bouleuterion at Olympia.

Of all these buildings I have, in co-operation with my colleague, architect Herr Wilberg, put together and built up fragments, so that when this work is completed the Acropolis will possess a small museum of architecture of the pre-Persian buildings, which I hope the Ephor-general will also make accessible to the general public."

One of the few remaining problems connected with the Parthenon was happily solved last winter by the energy of Mr. E. Andrews, a student of the American school. It has long been known that the marks on the east architrave of the temple are the traces of nails which served to attach the letters of an inscription; but as to the date and purport of the inscription itself nothing had hitherto been known. Mr. Andrews, at considerable personal risk, succeeded in getting paper squeezes of these marks, and after some study arrived at a complete decipherment of the inscription, which runs thus:—

Ἡ ἐξ Ἀρείου πάγου βουλὴ καὶ ἡ βουλὴ τῶν Χιλίων καὶ ὁ δῆμος ὁ Ἀθηναίων αὐτοκράτορα μέγιστον Νέρωνα Καίσαρα Κλαύδιον Σεβαστὸν Γερμανικὸν Θεοῦ Υἱὸν στρατηγούντος ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀπλίτας τὸ ὄγδοον τοῦ καὶ ἐπιμελητοῦ καὶ νομοθετοῦ Τι. Κλαυδίου Νουΐου τοῦ Φιλίνου ἐπὶ ἱερείας τῆς . . . θυγατρὸς.

The reference to the eighth term of the generalship of Novius fixes the date at A.D. 61, and the whole inscription probably commemorates the erection of a statue of Nero, perhaps in front of the Parthenon. In this connection it should be recorded that the committee appointed to examine the condition of the structure finished their report in the

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

spring of 1896, and the work of repair was commenced during the summer; it is hoped that the present work may place the Parthenon as far as possible beyond danger from catastrophes similar to that of 1895.

A small excavation begun at Peiræus under the direction of Mr. I. Dragatsis has resulted in the identification of the Serangeion mentioned by Isæus, Alciphron, and the lexicons. A cave on the east side of the Munychia hill was cleared out, and proved to be an extensive structure decorated with mosaics, and serving for a bath; this corresponds well with the description in the ancient writers of the place as τόπος τοῦ Πειραιῶς in which was a bath ἐν ᾧ οἱ κακουργοὶ ἐκρύπτοντο. It is possible that further researches in this district would be productive of good results; a small excavation made last year at Cape Kolias by Th. Wiegand brought to light the interesting remains of a Greek villa, and furnished a welcome addition to our scanty knowledge of this feature of ancient Greek life.

The excavations at Eleusis in 1895, continued under the direction of Mr. Skias, resulted in no special addition to our knowledge of the topography, but were productive of some interesting paintings on terracotta; among others may be noted a large pinax with two rows of figures, and an amphora, both of the fourth century B.C.; each of these has a scene appropriate to the locality and an inscription recording its dedication, proving that here, as at Naukratis, Epidauros, and elsewhere, a local fabric of vase-painting was devoted to the supply of offerings specially intended for the cult of the place. Some interesting tombs of the Géometric period were also found, characterised by their unusual size and the wealth of their contents; one such tomb, in which a woman was interred in a seated position, contained no less than sixty-eight vases, besides ornaments in gold, silver, bronze, iron and amber, as well as a series of objects in Egyptian porcelain.

In the spring of 1896 the American School commenced operations on the site of old Corinth. The difficulties of this task may be appreciated from the fact that, in some parts, at least, as the excavation proved, not less than four metres of soil cover the remains of the Roman city, and most of the site is occupied by the modern village, of which the proprietors have to be bought out. Under these circumstances, Professor

Richardson is to be congratulated on the good beginning which has been made. The description of Pausanias is so full that the identification of a single public building must prove a valuable clue; and this clue is afforded by the discovery of the theatre, of which the lines of ascending steps, deeply worn by footsteps, have been found in three distinct places. The upper part of the cavea must have been near the site of a temple, as in this portion a large number of terra-cotta statuettes have been discovered; some of these appear to represent a type of Aphrodite; but at present, it seems impossible to decide which of the shrines, mentioned by Pausanias as existing near the theatre, it is likely to prove. East of the existing temple, the excavation was carried down to a great depth; at the lowest level the remains of a building were found which the excavators explain as a Greek stoa or passage, which may possibly throw light on the position of the Agora. It will thus be seen that the undertaking has already reached an interesting stage, but the completion of the work must necessarily be a very slow and laborious task.

At Mycenæ the Greek Archæological Society has continued its excavations under the direction of M. Tsundas, both within and without the Acropolis. The principal result from the interior excavation is the fragment of a very archaic metope in poros, in good preservation, with a female head. Outside the Acropolis were found a large series of rock tombs, with rich remains of various kinds. Most important of all is the discovery of a large cupola tomb, resembling the so-called Treasury of Atreus, which appears to be quite undisturbed; if so, we may expect a great deal of fresh information as to the method of burial in this class of tombs, as all such graves hitherto found (with the exception of the one at Menidi) proved to have been plundered in antiquity or otherwise destroyed. A notable addition to our knowledge of Mycenæan art has been made in the publication by M. Tsundas (*Ἐφ. Ἀρχ.* 1896, pll. 1—2) of a painted stelè, found in the excavations of 1893—5, but only recently cleaned. This stelè served to close the mouth of a small shell-formed tomb, which led from a larger tomb chamber. Judging from the objects enclosed within the smaller tomb, it must belong to the later Mycenæan period; the stelè, however, had originally been sculptured with a decoration in relief of the primitive Mycenæan epoch. This decoration was at a later period covered with a

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

coat of stucco, on which was painted a design, which has its nearest parallel in the "Warrior vase" of Mycenæ (Löschcke and Furtwängler, *Myk. Vasen*, p. 68, pll. xlii—xliii); it affords timely evidence for the early dating of that vase which has recently (Pottier, in *Rev. Arch.* 1896, p. 23 and others) been questioned.

The Mycenæan question has received a further accession of material from a comparatively new quarter; the excavations conducted in Cyprus by Messrs. Williamson and Christian on behalf of the British Museum reached their third season in the spring of 1896, under the direction of Mr. A. S. Murray. In March a Mycenæan necropolis was found at Encomi, near the ancient Salamis, with a series of undisturbed tombs, which yielded a number of vases and objects in gold, ivory, and porcelain. Among the ivories is an object which seems to be the support of a mirror, carved with two subjects in relief, representing the combat of a man with a Gryphon of the Mycenæan type, and a lion attacking a bull, the style of which recalls the ivories discovered by Layard at Nineveh. A curious cup in white and blue porcelain, supported by a female head, recalls in form the rhyton of the sixth century, and reminds us once more that most of the known forms of classical Greek pottery have their prototype in the Mycenæan civilisation. Similarly, in a series of gold pins from the same site, we have what may be the prototype of the fibula. These pins are either pierced transversely about midway or have a ring bound with wire at the corresponding place, which must have served for a fastening to keep the pin in position. One of the gold finger-rings has a dedication in Egyptian hieroglyphics to the goddess Mut, and is consequently assigned by Egyptologists to about 700 B.C. But even assuming this date to be correct, it would be rash to argue, on these grounds, for a later date for the Mycenæan civilisation of the Greek mainland. We know, for instance, how little the Geometric period of the mainland is represented in Cyprus; and it may well be that the Mycenæan tradition lingered in this island long after it had practically disappeared from the rest of Greece. If a final solution is ever to be obtained of the Mycenæan question, the most promising field seems to be in Crete; that, at least, has been once more shown by the interesting and suggestive researches of Mr. Arthur Evans, set forth in the *Journal of Hellenic Studies* and in his work on *Cretan Pictographs*. His most recent

journeys in the island (see below, p. 169) show that exploration here, when once political affairs admit of it, should have important results.

The southern islands of the Aegæan have been receiving a large share of attention; besides Crete and Cyprus, Melos and Thera have been the subject of organized undertakings. The campaign of the British School at Melos is more fully described in the following paper. It is sufficient here to state that the topography of the classical town has been carefully studied, with some interesting results; that a fine mosaic has been discovered; and that the remains of Phylakopi, on the north-east side of the island, have been partly investigated. In this last site are the remains of a Mycenæan settlement, represented by a complex of heavy fortifications, a large necropolis, and a large quantity of Mycenæan pottery. Below the Mycenæan stratum are the remains of a more primitive race corresponding with those of the lower strata at Hissarlik, and characterized by rude pottery and implements in obsidian. These researches, it is hoped, will be continued in the coming spring.

At Thera, Dr. Hiller von Gärtringen has had a highly successful season; his excavations were mainly directed to the site named Mesa-Bouno, which was formerly thought to represent the ancient Oia, but is now known to cover the site of the town of Thera. Of the ancient town so large a portion has been cleared that it may now be said to be visible almost in its entirety; and of several important public buildings the plans have been recovered and identified; among these are the Stoa Basilikè, beside the Agora; a Palæstra of simple form, intended for the use of the garrison of Ptolemy Euergetes; the garrison building itself; the archaic temple of Apollo Karneios, of which the cella is partly constructed in the rock, with two adjoining chambers in the rock; shrines of Apollo Pythios, of the Egyptian deities, and of Demeter and Kore. Besides these important topographical results, the excavation has been rich in actual remains; in the Stoa was found a series of six marble heads of good workmanship, including a good replica of the Doryphoros; and a large collection of tombs, mostly of the archaic period, has yielded an important series of vases and terra cottas. In the epigraphical material which he is collecting for the forthcoming volume of the island inscriptions, Dr. Hiller von Gärtringen has been no less successful. The number of Theræan inscriptions now known

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

amounts to as many as 650, of which a large proportion are archaic, and affords us a clear perspective of the interesting Theræan alphabet in its successive stages.

The interesting additions thus afforded at Thera to our hitherto scanty knowledge of Hellenistic antiquity is likely to be supplemented on the one hand by the excavations at Philæ, conducted on behalf of the Egyptian Government by Captain Lyons (see *Phil. Woch.*, 1896, pp. 1151—2); and on the other at Priene, where Drs. Wiegand and Schrader have been excavating on behalf of the German Institute. Since the work on the Temple conducted by Mr. Pullan on behalf of the Dilettanti Society, Priene has been very little noticed by archaeologists. Now the site of another fine Ionic temple has been found, probably to be identified as that of *Zeùs Aĩθpios*, the remains of the Agora, with numerous votive bases, porticoes, &c.; the theatre; and a large number of interesting private houses.

At Ephesus, again, an English undertaking has been further continued, in this case by the Austrians; but their results, though said to be highly productive, have not yet been published; the same may be said of Samos, where Dr. Boehlau opened a large series of tombs, the contents of which are, I understand, likely to throw considerable light on the problems connected with the history of Greek vase painting in the sixth century.

The systematic exploration of Phrygia which has been proceeding for two years under the direction of Herr Körte, is now terminated. One of the most recent discoveries resulted from the opening up of a hill near Bos-eyuk,* which proved to be an early Phrygian entombment; it contained, beside objects in stone, bone, and metal, numerous remains of pottery which both in form and technique bear the closest resemblance to those of Hissarlik. Herr Körte claims to have found similar tumuli in the most different parts of Phrygia, and one such is said to exist near Salonica; if so, it would appear that the primitive civilisation, represented in the lower strata at Hissarlik and in the Greek islands, must have had a far wider range than was hitherto thought to be the case.

The excavations at Delphi have as usual been productive of a large store of bronzes and inscriptions of more or less interest, among which

* *Phil. Woch.*, 1896, p. 382.

may be noted especially a bronze cow of archaic style 40 cm. in length, of admirable workmanship, found near the great altar of the Chians; an interesting inscription relating to a bankrupt and the administration of his affairs; another concerning the régime prescribed for runners: they were not allowed new wine, and if any transgressed the rule he was compelled to pour libations of that wine to the god, and to pay a fine, half of which went to the god and half to the informer. The event of the year is of course the discovery of the life-size bronze statue. It represents a young man attired as charioteer in a long chiton, holding in his hand the reins of the horses, of which some fragments are also preserved. Beside this was also found part of a youthful female figure, also in bronze, which M. Homolle thinks may have been a figure of Nikè. The figure is executed in a style which can only have preceded the best period of Greek sculpture by a short period, and corresponds perhaps most nearly to the sculptures of the pediments of Ægina. The discoverer, M. Homolle, was at first inclined to associate the chariot group, to which this figure obviously belonged, with an inscribed base, and to identify it, by analogy with one at Olympia (Paus. vi. 12, 1), with a portrait group of Hieron; until the statue has been published, however, speculation on this subject would be useless and out of place. The chief work of the past season has been the clearing of the Stadion, which is admirably preserved, and contains among other things the seats set apart for the representatives of the different Greek States.

At Olbia, on the Black Sea, the Russian Government has during the past summer undertaken some excavations. By the kindness of Dr. Pharmakovsky, to whose direction they were intrusted, I am enabled to give here a short account of them, pending their ultimate publication in a Russian journal.

In June and July of this year I was charged by the Imperial Russian Archæological Commission to carry out excavations on the island of Berezan and the site of Olbia, with the following results:—

The island of Berezan lies in Liman, at the point where the Dnieper and Bug emerge into the Black Sea, not far from Otschakoff. Here Prendel and Widhalm had already (in 1886) identified remains of Greek civilisation; and their excavations left no doubt that the island could not be *Λεύκη*, as some authorities had previously believed. We may now follow Latyscheff (*Gesch. der Stadt Olbia*) in his view that the modern Berezan represents the *Βορυσθεΐς* of the ancients. My excavations on

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

Berezan were only provisional, with the object of deciding to what period these remains are to be assigned, and on what point it would be desirable to excavate on a larger scale. I found that the entire north side of the island is occupied with the remains of a large ancient necropolis. The tombs which I discovered date, according to their contents (pottery and bronzes), from the Roman period, but the cemetery was already in existence at a much earlier time. The shores of Berezan are very steep and are perpetually falling away into the sea, leaving the ancient tombs showing. Here I found numerous fragments of vases of various fabrics. It is important to note that in Berezan we have fragments of old Rhodian, Corinthian, and the so-called Fikellura ware, the most frequent being Corinthian.

OLBIA (from *Trans. of Odessa Arch. Soc.* viii. 3, 1872, Pl. ix.).

I also found some very interesting fragments in the Naukratis style, which are identified in character with those in the British Museum.

In Otschakoff I examined some private collections of antiquities; in one of these, belonging to the priest Lewitzky, there are various antiquities from Berezan, consisting of beautiful Fikellura vases and very fine Corinthian fragments, as well as fragments of Naukratis ware and the usual Attic styles, with black and red figures (of these last, however, the provenance is not certain). It is clear that the Berezan necropolis covers a large period of time. The Archæological Commission intends shortly to explore this island more fully. [For a plan of Berezan, see *Arbeiten der VI. Archäol. Versamml. zu Odessa*, 1886.]

At Olbia I found a necropolis dating from the fourth century B.C. to the second century A.D. The town of Olbia lies on the shore of Bugliman, of which a sketch plan is here given. A, B, C are the upper town, D the lower; a part of the lower town lies submerged, as the shore is falling away. E are outlying parts of Olbia, where great quantities of potsherds of later fabrics are lying, as in Athens at the Areopagus, or on the Pnyx. On the plan I have indicated the results so far obtained from excavation on this site; these were carried out in 1873 by Zalielin and Baron von Tiesenhausen: the tombs were found by Graf von Uvaroff, von Suratschan, and von Tastrebow.

The topography of Olbia is, as yet, very little ascertained.* My excavations have contributed one result to our knowledge of it, viz., that the town did not extend to F, for I dug at this point and found no trace of foundations. Here lay the necropolis of Olbia, which extended further to the west, to the point G, where the village of Parutino now lies. It is not older than the fourth century B.C. At the point F I found forty-eight tombs, all pit graves, but of varying depth and form. The deepest extend 22 feet (English) below the surface, and are all chamber tombs, sometimes of remarkable size. The dead were either laid simply on the floor, or on the specially constructed benches; the head was usually (though not always) to the east. These chamber tombs always contained several corpses; only in one case was I able to prove incineration; here, the ashes were deposited in an urn of this form laid on a bench, around it stood various vases (also on the bench).

But in the same tomb was another corpse, which was not burned, but inhumed. The bodies were very frequently borne into the tomb on biers, and so laid in the ground or benches; these biers were of wood and leather, of this form and had four leaden handles (a, a, a, a) of very elegant form. The wood and the handles were gilt, and very often decorated. On the ground were placed several vases and various other utensils. Of their general appearance I have given a detailed account in my Report to the Archäologische Commission, with plans and sections. All without exception were very rich, and were, therefore, already plundered in antiquity. I found only a few remains of gold and silver objects, which the plunderers had lost in the process, or had overlooked; but the fine vases were left behind. These vases are of various forms; beautiful large amphoræ (in form approaching the Apulian), with decoration in gilding and colour, wonderfully beautiful pelikæ, with rich gilt ornament and brilliant glaze [for the technique of these cf. *Berlin Cat.*, 2854-6], one of which had paintings in red figures, fine kylikes (plain black, but of brilliant technique), one of which is inscribed *Διονύσου*, and a jug with the inscription *Υγείας*; a similar vase in Berlin has the inscription *Ἀθηνᾶς* [cf. *Berlin Cat.*, 1764, 1769, 1771, 1775, 1776, 1801 (all of which have *Φιλίας*); and 2872 (*Υγείας*). [Cf. Jahn, *Munich Cat. Einl.*, p. cxi.] There are further fine lamps, alabastra, &c.

* See the works of Graf von Uvaroff, *Recherches Archéologiques dans la Russie Méridionale*, with atlas; and esp. Latyscheff's *Gesch. der Stadt Olbia*, which gives all the literature of the subject. The best plan of Olbia is that by Köppen, published in the *Denkschr. von Kaiserl. Gesellschaft der Gesch. und Alterthümer zu Odessa*.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE.

From their style and technique the vases found by me should belong to the fourth—second centuries B.C. There are also vases of late Greek and Roman times, similar to those vases from Olbia, described by Loeschke in *Arch. Anz.* 1891, p. 17.

The chamber graves of Olbia, however, belong to a different period: the coins found with the vases will, perhaps, give fuller data, which will also be of importance to the chronology of vases as well. The sketch subjoined represents two sections and a plan of a chamber grave in Olbia.

1, Entrance; 2, Benches; 3, Grave; 4, A Niche (where the lamp was usually placed). Entrance usually 30°—25°.

The chamber tombs are all dug out of the earth. Besides the chamber tombs numerous tombs giving this section in depth.

Lastly, there are at Olbia also tombs later date; these are not deep (not more

The objects found in the two last gold work, silver work, beads, astragali, a late Egyptian bronze statuette, used as an amulet), coins, &c.; they usually have a wooden flooring, and have invariably been plundered.

In F to G lies also the later necropolis of Olbia (not earlier than the fourth century B.C.). The earlier necropolis must lie in H, from which site the earliest Olbian tomb-inscription comes (Latyscheff, *Inscr.*, No. 4), and where the Kurgan lies, which was explored by Count Uvaroff [for the contents, see the Atlas to the *Recherches*].

The tombs explored by me are only a small proportion of the very extensive necropolis; the excavations here will be prosecuted by the Archæological Commission in the coming year.

All the objects which I found are now in the Arch. Commission in Petersburg, from which place they will go to the Hermitage; the duplicates and unimportant things pass into the Russian provincial museums.

The sites A, B, C, E, and H unfortunately cannot as yet be explored, as they belong to a lady who permits no excavation. They must, however, conceal many treasures from science, for they include numerous large Kurganen (similar to Kul-Oba, &c., at Kertch), which are, as yet, wholly undisturbed. The excavations,

dug out of the I also found going to 15 feet

with this section, usually of than 7 feet).

classes of tombs are vases, bronzes (amongst others, a

moreover, in the town itself were not satisfactory; here, too, there is much still to be found. How important the finds there will be, is shown amongst other things by the inscribed base found in Olbia of a statue by Praxiteles: Πραξιτέλης ἐποίησεν (Latyscheff, *Inscr.* vol. i. No. 145).

London, October 12th, 1896.

B. PHARMAKOVSKY.

In the world of Byzantine antiquities, the most important progress has been the completion of the French mission to Mistra, which occupied the summer of 1894 and 1895. According to the report of M. Millet (*Bull. de Corr. Hell.*, 1895, p. 268), the entire site has been thoroughly studied, and a plan drawn up; the eight churches have been examined and the details prepared for publication; the principal paintings have been copied by M. Eustache, and the architectural details drawn by M. Brailowski, on behalf of the Academy of St. Petersburg. M. Millet was further enabled to make some excavations which have thrown interesting light on the Byzantine methods of sepulture; and finally, a museum has been formed consisting of fragments of architecture and inscriptions.

Among the losses which the archæological world has suffered during the past year, the great names of Ernst Curtius and Johannes Overbeck stand prominent. The one name is associated more pre-eminently with practical work, whereof his bust at Olympia is witness; the other, with the theoretical side of archæology, as represented by his monumental work on Greek sculpture. With these are two others; Humann, the discoverer and initiator, whose fame Pergamon has made European; and Dümmler, one of the most brilliant of the younger school, whose researches into early Greek antiquity combined in a remarkable degree the qualities of daring and laborious thoroughness.

C. S.