X.—*On the discovery of Sepulchral Remains at Veii and Præneste, by Padre RAFFAELE GARRUCCI; communicated and translated by W. M. WYLIE, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., in a Letter to A. W. Franks, Esq., Director.*

Read May 31st, 1866.

MY DEAR MR. FRANKS,

LAST winter, while at Rome, some sketches in the album of Padre Garrucci, of the Collegio Romano, made me acquainted with the discovery of certain archaic tombs at Palestrina, the ancient Præneste, which appeared to me to be of a very remarkable class.

On afterwards seeing the numerous reliques from these tombs, preserved in the rich collections of Signor Castellani and Prince Barberini, and ascertaining that these discoveries were for the most part, if not wholly, inedited, I felt it behoved me to attempt some record of them for the Society of Antiquaries. However I soon discovered the extreme difficulty of obtaining the precise information necessary for such a record, and that Dr. Mommsen, on attempting a notice of a former discovery at Palestrina, had fallen into error from the want of sufficient data.^a It then occurred to me that if I could prevail on that learned and accomplished antiquary Padre Garrucci to give us such a memoir from his own pen, it would be a valuable and acceptable acquisition. I am happy to say that Padre Garrucci most kindly undertook the task. I have now the pleasure of laying his paper on the table and, with it, the translation which I have executed to the best of my power. It commences with an account of the Padre's later researches in the Prænestine necropolis, on which occasion however he only found a number of stone tombs of a far later period than those which had attracted my notice, and probably those of the Latin or Sabine Æqui, among which only a single example of cremation occurs. These tombs are attributed to about the third century, B.C., and contain very little of interest. He then proceeds to give a very exact account of the ancient graves of Veii and Præneste.

Prince Barberini and Signor A. Castellani, into whose possession the reliques

^a Dissertazioni Archeologiche, di R. Garrucci, p. 154. Roma, 1864.

found in the tombs have come, liberally allowed me free access to their collections, and to have such drawings made as were required for illustration. For this purpose I selected objects of a rare and archaic character, and such as seemed the most likely to furnish some clue to the sources whence the earlier inhabitants of Latium derived their taste. Much remains that would have illustrated our subject still further, but from what we have before us will be observed that strongly pronounced combination of the Assyrian, Egyptian, and Greek styles, now generally imputed to a Phœnician source. The few Veii drawings are from reliques in Padre Garrucci's own possession.

The following paper then mainly treats of researches at Veii and Præneste. Incidental mention, by way of illustration, is also made of Cære, or Cervetri. Of the early Pelasgic occupation of Præneste and Agylla, converted afterwards into the Etruscan Cære, we have some historical notice. Veii, I believe, only becomes known to us in Etruscan times; but if sepulchral customs are of any avail in guiding us in the dark history of the past—and we believe them to avail much—then these discoveries would show that the same people that once held Præneste must also have held Veii, prior, in all appearance, to Etruscan occupation. It will be seen that the very remarkable mode of sepulture pursued at Veii was also pursued at Præneste, while it is totally at variance with all we know of that of the Etruscans. The reliques that have occurred in the sepulchres of both these cities are absolutely identical in character, and, as will be seen, have a very singular affinity with those discovered in the earliest tombs of Cære or Agylla. No doubt these reliques have, in part, a certain connection with Etruscan style, but the Etruscans were probably not a little indebted to preceding races for much of their arts and civilisation. It has been too prevalent a habit in Central Italy to give the name of Etruscan to whatever is decidedly not Roman, just as though the Etruscans were actually the *autochthones*, instead of being the successors of some races, while others were co-existent with them.

A circumstance that particularly struck me in these discoveries was the general use of iron, at such an early period, in connection with bronze and copper. Continental archæologists have long entertained a conviction of the early use of iron in Europe, or, as it is technically termed, of a first iron period. The present instance seems a very satisfactory confirmation of their views. It will be seen that Padre Garrucci makes continual mention of the occurrence of iron during his researches; and there may be seen in the Palazzo Barberini, beneath a mound of reliques from Palestrina that have never been arranged, a mass of iron tires from bronze wheels, iron spears, swords, knives, &c., which prove beyond all

contradiction the general use of the metal. Unfortunately these iron reliques are rapidly perishing from neglect.

The archaic tombs of Præneste and Veii prove moreover not merely the free use of iron, but also of ivory and amber, articles certainly not of necessity, but of luxury, even in the most palmy days of Rome. Now in connection with these facts is a matter too important to pass by without notice, though we can only briefly allude to it on the present occasion.

Just on the confines of Styria, among the mountain-forests and lakes of that beautiful part of Southern Germany, exists Hallstadt, a very primitive village of salt miners. Here, some time since, was discovered the necropolis of a tribe, affirmed to be Keltic, which, in remote times of uncertain history, owned and worked these salt mines.^a In their graves, among a profusion of other reliques, we find the same rich combination of amber and ivory,^b especially in the decoration of iron weapons, that occurs in so remarkable a degree at Veii and Præneste. The same unusual ornamental devices appear on the various reliques, while other Hallstadt remains, to which we can offer no parallel at Palestrina, correspond with those of other similar archaic Italic tombs, those of Vulci for instance.

It would be difficult to assign an ethnological cause for this manifest connection of the old Italic civilisation with the barbarism of Noricum. We can hardly conceive a colony, whether Umbrian, Hellenic, or Etruscan, quitting the sunny South to settle in a transalpine mountain nook, among races alien in language as in blood. It is surely to commerce that we must turn for a solution of the enigma. Salt mines are always mines of wealth, and wealth begets a taste for exotic luxuries; which commerce is seldom tardy in gratifying. We shall then perhaps not be far from the truth if we picture to ourselves the traders of Central Italy conducting their mule-trains, laden with the industrial products of the South, over the passes of the Carnic Alps to a sure market in the wilds of Noricum—to Hallstadt.

That Italic wares found their way over Germany at a very early period seems beyond question. Those rare and archaic Oscan bronzes, exhibiting groups of figures, of which examples exist in the British Museum,^c and in my own possession, have a positive origin in South Italy; yet reliques very closely cognate have been found in the grave-hills of Styria and Mecklenberg.^d

^a See Simony, *Die Alterthümer vom Hallstätter Salzberg*. Vienna, 1851.

^b *Die Alterthümer unserer heidnischen Vorzeit*, von Dr. L. Lindenschmit. Band ii. Heft i. pl. 5.

^c *Archæologia*, vol. XXXVI. pl. xxvii. *Horæ Ferales*, p. 233, pl. xxxiv.

^d *Archæologia*, vol. XXXVI. pl. xxvi. *Horæ Ferales*, pl. xxxiii.

Again, later works, of decided Etruscan art, occur not unfrequently in Germany, and more especially in the lands bordering on the Moselle and the Rhine.^a

We need not now stop to inquire by what agencies these objects respectively reached the provinces of the Baltic in one direction, and of the Middle Rhine in the other. It would appear sufficiently evident that channels existed by which the products of Italic civilisation attained the limits of Germany at a period long anterior to Roman domination.

As Padre Garrucci gives his measures in Roman palms, it may be convenient to state that the Roman *palmo* is $8\frac{3}{16}$ inches of our measure; and its subdivision, the *uncia*, is $\frac{8}{16}$ of an inch. *Tufo* and *peperino*, of which some of the tombs of the later class were constructed, are the volcanic stones of the country; the former is a coarse material, but very durable, and more easily worked than the finer and compact *peperino*.

The *discerniculum* often mentioned in the following pages, was a long pointed implement of bronze or silver—not a hair-pin—used by the ladies for parting their hair. The handle is frequently decorated with some ornamental form. A *discerniculum*, from Præneste, in the possession of the Princess Barberini, is of silver, with a gold handle, and very long.

The *æs rude* consisted of pieces of copper rods, or bars, of various sizes, which passed current for money according to weight. It seems to have continued in use, in country places, even after the introduction of a regular coinage.

Believe me most truly yours,

W. M. WYLIE.

EXCAVATIONS AT PRÆNESTE.—1862.

I have given some account of the necropolis of Præneste, in a notice of the excavations I conducted on the property of Prince Barberini,^b in the vicinity of Palestrina, in 1863. I now propose giving an account of some previous excavations, in 1862, in the Vigna Velluti, on the right of the Marcigliano Road,^c and more especially to describe the tombs formed beneath piles of stones which have been discovered in the burial places of Præneste and Veii.

^a Museums of Treves, Mayence, Berlin, Munich, and Berne. Lindenschmit, *Alterthümer*, Band i. Heft. 2, pl. 3; Heft. 4, pl. 3; Heft. 7, pl. 3; Heft. 9, pl. 9. Band ii. Heft. 2, pl. 1, 2.

^b *Dissertazioni Archeologiche*, vol. i. p. 148. Roma, 1864.

^c *Ib.* pl. xii.

The scene of my operations was a plot of ground about one hundred Roman palms in breadth, by two hundred and fifty in length (in English measure about seventy feet by one hundred and seventy-five feet). As the surface furnished no clue whatever to the spot occupied by the interments, I had a trench opened twelve palms long by ninety-six broad. After passing through four palms of vegetable soil, where two examples of the Roman *as* were met with, one of them being a *sextans*, the other probably an *uncia*, and a *triens* with the letter Q, we came on a very compact mass of fragments of stones, pottery, and the like, three palms in depth, in which were skeletons interred beneath large tiles, with some vessels by them. When we had got down to seventeen palms from the surface, we discovered a cist of *tufo*,^a and two tile-graves by it. The cist merely contained a skeleton. It seemed as though a second cist lay by the side of this, but on removing the cover we found the skeleton in a grave dug in the plain earth. By it lay an iron lance, and outside the grave, on the left, a piece of *æs rude*, with two small painted earthen vessels. A little above this tomb lay a skeleton interred in the plain earth, without any cist, and merely a piece of *æs rude* by it. These tombs came to light in the centre of the excavation of ninety-six palms, and we found on trial that the ground on either side had never been moved. I therefore directed a second cutting of twelve palms to be made in advance of all this width of ground, in order to discover on which side I should continue the excavations. However, finding nothing here, I advanced the cutting another twelve palms. Here were some tile-graves, and one of *tufo*, in which I merely found a skull, the rest of the skeleton having crumbled into dust. In a fourth cutting, at a depth of twenty palms, I found a covered cist, and a piece of *æs rude* in it by the skeleton. The disturbed state of the soil showed that tombs existed below, and at a depth of twenty-four palms we came on a cist without a cover, in which was a skeleton, with a spear-head and a piece of *æs rude*. As this cist was in the centre of the excavation, I tried the ground on either side. On the right it was intact; on the left, at a depth of ten palms, I discovered three cists of *tufo* containing skeletons only. Below these a narrow but deep trench had been formerly sunk, in which I found a skeleton in a reversed position, with a strigil and a long

^a These *tufo* cists, or sarcophagi, are in themselves remarkable. They consist of rough blocks of *tufo*, coarsely chiselled, and measuring about nine palms in length, by six in width and depth. These were hollowed out to receive the body, and a covering, generally of one slab of the same stone, but sometimes of two pieces laid together, was placed over it. The few that occurred of *peperino*, being a finer material, were carefully squared and worked. Padre Garrucci is disposed to attribute these tombs to about the fifth century u. c.—W. M. W.

chain, both of copper, two small vessels, and the *æs rude*. Another portion of *æs rude* was found outside the third cist, and afterwards a skeleton lying on the ground, and only covered by tiles. In this part of the excavation we found a coin of the type with a lion's head on the reverse, and a youthful head on the obverse (the legend *Romano* is worn away), and a Roman *quadrans*. As soon as I had ascertained the certain indications of tombs on this side, I directed the cutting to be carried onwards, in the course of which an empty cist was found. The next day I directed the trench to be cut through the entire length of the ground, or about eighty palms further on, so that my excavation was carried on in the same direction on both sides at once. In the angle of this double cutting I found, at a depth of twelve palms below the surface, a quadrangular column of *peperino*, five palms in height and one square. At a depth of twenty palms was a tomb of tiles, with a small vessel by it. At the extremity of the longitudinal trench, on the left, was a *tufi* cist at a depth of ten palms, and in the stratum of *débris* of various kinds I found the stamp of a maker, M·ORCIIVI, and two lamps with monograms N and B, and a third with letters formed of dots in relief. These go round the rim from left to right, and seem to read A·MAMI·A·L. The cognomen, on the contrary, is written from right to left and seems to read CINEROSI... Further on were some fragments of vessels, and terra-cotta tiles stamped with representations of Paris in a Phrygian dress, with a knee on the ground, shooting; Ariadne on the shore, waking from sleep; some fragments of the *as sextantarius*; some coins of Neapolis; and a small coin which has on the obverse a head covered with a Phrygian helm, and ROMA with a dog on the reverse. In the centre of the trench was a narrow but deep hollow, entirely filled with the bones of horses and men. At eight palms from the surface I found a skull, purposely entombed between four tiles, by which was a *triens*.

On the right of the lateral excavation, at the depth of ten palms, lay a skeleton on tiles covered with white stones. By it I found a coarse earthen vessel; a small brick, pierced at the top, after the manner of the truncated cones termed "weights," and seven round beads of coloured glass which must have formed a necklace. After this I found a *tufi* cist with the *æs rude*, and a small vessel within it. In the long trench we found a *tufi* cist containing a skeleton with a strigil that had been mended; and further on, another skeleton interred in the plain earth with a sort of inclosure of white stones round it. These stones come from the mountains of Palestrina, and were brought here either for the purpose of piling them above the bodies, or of forming an inclosure round them. The necro-

polis stands on a bed of *pozzolana*, and no stones of any kind, either *tufi* or *peperino*, are found there, the quarries being some miles distant. On the right side of this skeleton, surrounded with the white stones, I found a heap of bronze fibulæ of various sizes, to the number of eighty. Among these were at least five of amber, and the same number of iron, also five or six plain discs of copper, the largest of which was nearly seven Roman *oncie* (about five inches) in diameter. Not far off was an ossuary of *peperino* without a cover, containing burnt remains, and near it a *tufi* cist, within which, on the right of the skeleton, was a mirror and the *æs rude*. Sinking further, at a depth of fifteen palms, I found another *tufi* cist containing a mirror and *discerniculum* between two little vessels on the right of the skeleton. A third cist had within it two vessels, and on the outside was the *æs rude*.

After this I came on two of the tile-interments, with two common earthen vessels in them; then on an empty tomb of *peperino*, and, in the accumulated soil above it, a skeleton with the Roman uncial *as*.

As the excavation advanced I came on a necropolis, the southern boundary of which I perceived was indicated by the little *peperino* column mentioned above. Here the *tufi* cists abound, and I will proceed to describe them in their order of excavation.

In the lateral excavation, at seventeen palms from surface, I discovered a *tufi* cist, in which, at the right of the skeleton, was the *æs rude*, and at the feet, two little vessels, with a mirror between them. Close by were two more cists, from one of which I took two vessels and the *æs rude*; and from the second, an iron spear-head, two strigils, one of iron and the other of bronze, and a portion apparently of an iron saw. Above this cist was a tile-tomb covered in like a sloping roof. The ground above had been trodden hard, and at eight palms from the surface, close by, I found a cist resting on two palms of moved soil with a trodden layer of chalk above it; this contained a spear-head, ten *astragali*, and thirty shells by the side of the skeleton. There was further a copper ring, and by the right side of the head some small pieces of metal stuck together with iron-rust, consisting of two fragments of *æs rude*, a bronze coin of Neapolis, bearing the half bull with human head, and on the reverse the head of Apollo, and part of the legend; also an iron ring with two fragments of copper *bullæ*, and two more of uncertain objects.

In the long trench, at eighteen palms from the surface, were two cists. One was empty, and the other contained a spear-head. Near these was a tile-tomb. In the lateral cutting I found three cists. The first contained two small vessels, a

mirror, and the piece of *æs rude*. Beneath this cist was a vase about two palms in height. The second cist contained a spear-head and two strigils of bronze, and in the third was a similar strigil, and the bronze neck of a balsam or oil vessel which must have been of leather.* By the side of the second cist, and underneath the first, at a depth of from eight to ten palms from the surface, was another one containing a mirror, a strigil that had been repaired, two small vessels, and the *æs rude*. By it was a tile-tomb with a pike or *verutum* of iron. Below the cist, found, as I have stated, at eight or ten palms deep, was another in which were two small vessels, a mirror, a shell on the right side, a *discerniculum*, and an armilla on the left; also two coloured glass beads, a silver ring, and the piece of *æs rude*. Outside was a skeleton buried in the earth, which had two small vessels by it, one of which was broken.

In the course of my excavation on the day following, I came on three cists in the long trench. Two of these had no covers, the third contained two small vessels, one of which, a coarse one, lay on the right side, the other, a painted vase, on the left of the skeleton; there was also a piece of amber pierced at the upper end. In the cross trench, fifteen palms deep, I found a cist, the left corner of which had been broken, and repaired with a tile. I imagine this to have occurred when they dug places for other cists, three of which I found by this one on the same day. On entering this broken cist, I could just see the faint white trace of the decayed remains which had once been adorned with a necklace of most beautiful gold beads, between which were twelve stars, also of gold. There were also some coloured glass pastes, but quite perished; a pierced amber ornament representing the head of Silenus, of archaic form, with pointed ears like those of a horse. On the left of the skeleton was an *alabastron*, and the bronze neck of another balsam vessel, the body of which had been of leather, and the form still remained, though the leather had perished. On the right side was a copper ear-pick and a piece of *æs rude*, another piece of which lay between the legs. On the left foot was an iron ring, and between the feet there must have been a leather vessel attached to a plate of very thin copper that served for a base. Three painted vases, in a good style of art, and not of the pottery of the country, were at the feet of the skeleton, but two of them were broken.

From another cist by the side of this I got two small vessels, a copper ring, and a nail, found on the breast of the skeleton with some dark substance, pro-

* See Plate III. fig. 2 for an illustration of a balsamario taken from a very perfect example in the Barberini Collection.

bably leather, adhering to it. Close to this cist was a skeleton interred in the earth with an elegant wine pitcher of white ware by its side, and a bellied vessel with two handles, within which was a fragment of another vessel and a piece of *æs rude*. Over this, by the side of the cist with the golden necklace described above, was another with a skeleton only, and by its side a skeleton in a tile-grave, near which were two small vessels. On the left side of the cist with the gold necklace, and almost at the same level, I found another with a vase on which an owl was painted.

Meanwhile, I obtained a fine piece of the *æs rude*, and two vessels from a cist in the long trench.

The day after, in the transverse trench, I found a cist with a strigil doubled up on the thigh-bone of the skeleton, and a piece of *æs rude*; by the head were two vessels, a mirror, and one of the truncated cones of terra cotta we are in the habit of calling "weights." The first cist in the long trench yielded two vessels, and a strigil. The second had a vessel outside it, and within, a strigil, a pike (*verutum*), and the *æs rude*. Another, which I opened in the cross trench, had an iron strigil on the left of the body, and a small vessel.

During the following days I carried the long trench on to the extremity of the ground, where I found a little pillar, four palms in height, which evidently was the terminus of this cemetery on the north side. Close to this, at a depth of thirteen palms, was a cist of *peperino*, which was quite an exceptional circumstance, as all the rest were of *tufo*. In it, by the left side of the body, was a spear-head, an iron strigil, and the bronze neck of a leathern balsam vessel. Under this, again, at a depth of seventeen palms, I opened another *tufo* cist, wherein, at the feet of the skeleton, was a spear-head, and by the left hand a plummet, and the *æs rude* between the legs. In the cross cut, at a depth of seventeen palms, was a very short cist, into which a body had been crammed by resting its back against the side, and bending the knees up. This skeleton was well preserved.

On the following day, in the long trench, at a depth of ten palms, we found, in a cist, a small vessel at the feet of the skeleton, and a truncated cone or weight. By this was another *tufo* cist, with only the *æs rude* in it. Beneath, however, and fifteen palms deep, was a tile-grave, with the *æs rude* by the body. Further on we met with a *tufo* cist at ten palms' depth, in which were two small vessels at the feet of the skeleton, a mirror, and two pieces of *æs rude* about the middle, and, on the right of the head, a spear, with a fractured painted vase not of a local manufacture. In the cross-cut, in the upper stratum of the usual *débris*, I found a *triens*, bearing on the obverse an open hand, and a thunderbolt on the

reverse. We then came on a ditch filled with the bones of men and animals, near which, at twenty palms deep, was a cist, with a vessel on which a swan was painted; and another cist, at nineteen palms, in which was a shell, a rude vessel, and two beads of coloured glass.

The latter part of the excavations revealed a cist at the depth of fifteen palms, and within it a pike, and a strigil by the left hand. Another cist, only twelve palms deep, had a small vessel, the *æs rude*, and a bead of coloured glass. In a third, at a depth of sixteen palms, I found two beads of coloured glass, the *æs rude*, and a spear-head. The fourth contained a fragment of iron, two coloured glass beads, and a little copper *bullæ*, in which, on opening it, I found a small dried stalk of some plant.

The last four cists I opened were not richer than the others; in fact two of them merely contained skeletons. In the third were three little vessels and the *æs rude*, and in the last two small vessels, a mirror, and the *æs rude*.

TOMBS AT VEII AND PRÆNESTE BENEATH HEAPS OF STONES.

How completely this exact narrative of my excavations in the Vigna Velluti corroborates my refutation of Mommsen's assertions will be sufficiently manifest to every one who has read my first volume of "*Dissertazioni Archeologiche*" (p. 154); so I need not refer again to the subject. I shall therefore proceed to give an account of a fresh description of interments, to which, indeed, I have already alluded in my former work. It has become the more important to render this known in detail, as I have since witnessed a similar mode of interment at Veii.

There was, then, a time when it was the custom to deposit the dead in a deep grave, and to deck this their last home with a variety of valuable objects. This done, they filled up the whole of the hollowed space to the very edge with huge rough stones, the weight of which crushed the body, and the objects deposited with it. However strange such a fashion of burial may appear, the repeated instances of it we now have leave no doubt on the matter. It will, in particular, be worth while to relate the discovery of two tombs at Veii, as I was present at the time.

As the excavators were searching for tombs on the summit of a hillock there, after removing a little soil, they discovered that the *tuffo* rock had been cut, which was a certain indication of a tomb. This time, however, they had not before them one of the usual passages which lead to the gate of the *hypogeum*, but a quadrangular space open to the sky, and twenty palms in depth. This was filled with fragments of rock, which they set about removing with care, not

knowing what might possibly be met with below. Proceeding in this manner, they came on a sort of recess cut in the right wall of this square space, in which they found a large bronze basin with hooked handles, and three ribbed bowls (Pl. III. fig. 1) of elegant form. There was also a double plate of copper, the surface of which was divided into squares by lines and a double raised beaded pattern, the centre of each square compartment being filled in with concentric circles. This plate was edged by two copper rods, one of these being flat, with a row of bronze birds fixed on it,^a and the other round, from which small ornamental plates of copper are suspended by small rings. This object (Pl. IV. fig. 2) had four wheels, and in its centre was a basin over which passed a broad strip of metal with a sunken hollow in it, answering to the basin below. It probably was used as an incense burner, and corresponds with a similar relique from Cervetri,^b now in the Vatican Museum, and another in the Barberini Palace, found at Præneste.

There were further three objects composed of copper rods bound together in threes or fours by transverse rods, ending in volutes with rings, to attach a small chain or strap for carrying them by. These must have served for incense burners. (Pl. III. fig. 5.) Also, a small bronze barrel, a pipe with a shifting handle, and a small tripod.

There was also an ivory vessel, encircled at top and bottom by a copper hoop, and charmingly ornamented around by vertical strips of copper, the intervals between these being filled up with amber veneered on the ivory beneath. (Pl. III. fig. 4.)

In the left wall was a vaulted niche, in which a wooden box was found, bound with iron, containing six little vessels of fine white earth, with no other ornamentation than wavy lines marked on them before burning. In the centre of the floor lay a skeleton with a spindle and whirl of amber by its side,^c (Pl. V. fig. 3) and two little sticks of amber, with slight copper rods passing through them, and covered with leaf gold, which possibly may have served for a distaff; also, a silver plate. About the skeleton were scattered a great quantity of tiny rings of yellow and blue enamel, similar to those so frequently met with on the breasts of Egyptian mummies.

From all these circumstances we may infer that a woman lay interred here, and the more so from the objects I am about to describe discovered in excavating the adjoining tomb, which was also filled with stones. Here, then, after clearing a few palms in depth, two repositories appeared cut in the wall on the right and

^a Compare *Iliad*, xi. 633, for these bird forms.

^b Canina, *Etruria Marittima*, pl. lviii. fig. 1, 2.

^c Compare Herodotus, iv. c. 162.

left, and in them bronze vessels covered with patina. In the midst of the excavation, among the stones, were two bronze horse-bits, which must have belonged to the car found here afterwards. The excavation had advanced thus far when I was taken to see it. On descending into the hollow I perceived two pieces of iron projecting from the left side. I got this spot cleared and drew out about the half of a thick tire of iron, with some nails and plates of pure copper, which showed a car had been placed here, in connexion with which were doubtless the just-mentioned bronze horse-bits. To the pole of this car we may also refer six plates and nails of copper which had been employed to strengthen it. The lateral recesses contained a great number of bronze articles, but entirely broken into fragments beneath the weight of the superincumbent stones. Nevertheless there is sufficient evidence for asserting that, besides a bronze jug (Pl. III. fig. 3) and several other vessels, there were parts of two bronze shields, the ornamentation of which perfectly resembles that on the shields found in the Prænestine tomb, which are now in the possession of Signor A. Castellani. There is in particular the form of a quadruped, in raised work, which exactly corresponds with the design of one of the shields in question. (Pl. IX. fig. 1.) I am also of opinion that the helmet was here, and to this, I conjecture, belonged a double strip of thin

BRONZE SHIELD FROM VEII. SCALE $\frac{1}{2}$ LINEAR.

FRAGMENTS OF BRONZE SHIELD FROM VEII. SCALE $\frac{1}{2}$ LINEAR.

bronze, with a raised ribbed and beaded ornamentation of the form of those exceedingly lofty crests on the helmets of Mars in the ancient Umbrian style. (Pl. IV. fig. 1.)

After three days the floor was reached, whereon lay a skeleton with two iron daggers,^a one on either side, in their ivory sheaths inlaid with small squares of amber, and handles also adorned with strips of amber. (Pl. VI. fig. 2.) There were also two bronze chased fibulæ, and a spear-head of bronze with wide blade; and probably some bronze draughtsmen, flat on one side, and round on the other, only one of which was dug out of the mass of mud which enveloped all the objects on the floor.^b

From the tombs of Veii, I shall now proceed to describe those of Præneste,

^a An iron dagger was also found in the Regolini-Galaschi tomb at Cervetri. *Monumenti de Cære Antica*, by Cav. L. Grifi. Roma, 1841, pl. v. fig. 3.

^b These small hemispherical objects are called *pessuli* by Braun (*Bull. Inst.* 1865, p. 217), and *calculi*, or *latrunculi*, by Minervini (*Bull. Arch. Napol.* 1853, p. 192, tav. viii. f. 5-6), who has published three of stone, and of different colours, found in a tomb at Cumæ.

one of which was discovered on the estate of Prince Barberini, and the other on some property of the Chapter of Palestrina, on a branch of the Via Labicana, just before it falls into the Via Prænestina.^a Here, though the various reliques found beneath a heap of stones were broken, yet they still retained some form. For a right apprehension of what remains, and the mode of restoring it, we can avail ourselves of the discovery on the Chapter property. Fortunately these reliques have come into the possession of Signor Augusto Castellani, who has succeeded, with great ability and care, in restoring almost the whole. The first tomb was discovered in 1855 near the Casina Cecconi, at a place called La Colombella.^b It will be understood that at Palestrina sepulchres of this kind, instead of being rooms cut in the *tufo* rock, as at Veii, are open trenches dug in the solid earth. Stones are not found here, and consequently, as they are required for filling up the interments, they have been brought down from the mountain, on the slope of which the city of Palestrina is built. They are of white limestone, rough as when split from the rock, without a trace of lime having been used for binding them together. From beneath them were taken the rich reliques now preserved by Prince Barberini, an account of which I will proceed to give.

PANTHER'S HEAD OF BRONZE, PRÆNESTE. SCALE $\frac{1}{2}$.

1. There was first a large circular bronze vessel with three heads of animals for handles, two representing panther's heads and one a griffin's, or horned snake's; the style being archaic. It has been fancied that these heads were turned inwards facing each other; on the contrary, they protrude from the body of the vessel, with the faces turned downwards.

2. A vessel of thin sheet copper (Pl. VI. fig. 1) in form of a reversed truncated cone, on which are represented, in low relief, two rows of animals, both real and fabulous. In the centre of the upper row is the figure of a woman, with a cloth drawn tight round the loins, sitting on a horse. She holds the reins in the left hand, while the right is extended, and holding some re-curved implement. Be-

Garrucci, Dissertaz. Arch. pl. xii.

^b Ib

^c Compare the account given by Herodotus of similar Grecian works of a far later period, as the copper or

fore her is a stag, and a centaur with human figure and the body of a horse joined on to his back, as in the most archaic forms. This figure is similarly girt about with a tight cloth, and holds a bough in the right hand. Then follows a sphinx, between the fore-legs of which hangs an apron. Behind the horse are a dog, a large antelope, and a chimæra. In the lower row, just below the horse, are two large cocks, without crests or wattles; then on the right a leopard and a bull; on the left a roebuck and a griffin. Below is an ornamentation of bean-leaves. Traces exist of the handle, which seems to have been of iron.

3. A bronze bowl and iron tripod, the feet of which are of bronze, and represent those of a goat.

4. A little car on four wheels, with a brazier, over which passes a sheet of copper hollowed into the form of a cup, in which possibly perfumes were burned. This resembles the vessel found at Veii, described above (Pl. IV. fig. 2), and another found in the Regolini-Galassi tomb at Cervetri,^a now in the Etruscan Museum at the Vatican.

5. A circular bronze vessel supported by three fauns, of the rudest workmanship.

6. Other bronze vessels and jugs of elegant form, some of which were ribbed.

7. Silver cup with bas-reliefs of animals.

8. Silver handle of a silver cist, only a few fragments of which were found.

A similar handle, with the cist itself, was found in another excavation which I will proceed to describe.

1. A gold fibula, broken into two pieces, with four rows of small sphinxes. Its form can be perfectly made out by comparing it with a similar one ornamented with sixteen sphinxes found by the Sigg. Calabresi, at Cervetri.^b (Pl. VII. fig. 3.)

2. Golden tag, of a belt probably, with three heads of lions, and three harpies in filigree work.

bronze bowl—*κρητήρα χάλκεον*—sent by the Lacedæmonians to Cræsus. (Clio. 70.) He describes it as covered with a variety of figures on the outside—*ζωδίων τε ἔξωθεν*. On such a vast surface engraving would be lost, so we may conceive the ornamentation was in embossed or *repoussé* work, as is the case with this Præneste vessel. Again, Herodotus describes the votive bowl of the Samians as fashioned like an Argolic bowl, with projecting griffin's heads around it—*γρυπῶν κεφαλὰὶ πρόκροσσοι*. (Melp. 152.) Now these may have been a number of the very same projecting handles (*protomi*) in some similar zoomorphic fashion. Compare the bowl in the Vatican Museum from the great Regolini-Galassi tomb at Caere, in Etruria Marittima, pl. 57. The Grecian taste in such forms is further exemplified in the mention of the house of Scylas, round which were griffins and sphinxes of white marble. (Melp. 79.)—W. M. W.

^a Canina, Etruria Marittima, pl. lviii. figs. 1 2.

^b It should be mentioned that the tomb at Cervetri contained merely this beautiful work of art, and

3. Gold point, probably of a sceptre, with filigree ornamentation.
4. Six gold pins.
5. Large armilla of gold, with four rows of sphinxes, and its clasp to fix it on the arm.
6. Close to this were found two bracelets of the same size, of purple stuff worked on strips of gold, and with a row of little golden birds pendant from it.
7. A lion couchant, in ivory. On its back reclines a male figure with hair standing upright, and extended arms and legs. There are some traces of another human figure. (Pl. V. fig. 2.)
8. Three fore-arms and hands of ivory, with an ornamentation in relief, of four successive circles of lions and bulls. Between the animals are palm and other trees. (Pl. VIII. fig. 1, 2.)
9. A fractured conical ivory cup, perhaps the top of a distaff, with a double row, in relief, of winged lions going to the left. (Pl. VIII. fig. 3.)
10. Two horse's heads, lions couchant, and five statuettes in human form, perhaps the ends of *discernicula* or similar objects.

The objects I am about to mention have not hitherto been kept distinct from the preceding, but I am of opinion that the husband lay buried with his wife in this grave, and that the following reliques were his.

PART OF A BAS-RELIEF, WINGED GRIFFIN.
PRÆNESTE. SCALE $\frac{1}{2}$.

These objects then consist of fragments of shields of thin bronze; some remains of a car; and a large bronze bowl with raised ornamentation of figures of winged griffins, and twining shrubs among them. On the ground are rows of flowers. I cannot learn that any spears, swords, or poignards were found, but such probably was the case, though all traces are now lost. In the Barberini collection are poignards, and long iron swords (Pl. IX. fig. 2), with their hilts covered with amber, but it is not known in which excavation they were found.

three small terra-cotta figures of the most archaic form and workmanship. These represent females in a

I must now give some account of the reliques found in a similar tomb close by, which also were crushed by the white stones. This tomb was excavated on the right of the same branch of the Via Labicana, about a mile before it falls into the Via Prænestina, and the reliques are now in Signor Castellani's collection.

The excavators appear to have kept no account of the iron things that were found, but solely of the gold and silver, bronze, copper, and amber.

1. Two bronze bowls, and a vessel of very singular form with handles. The latter is of considerable size, and formed of plates of copper; from the body of the vessel a conical neck rises abruptly, and from the bands, which surround both neck and body, project pointed studs.

2. Three shields of thin bronze with raised ornamentation, and rude forms of animals. (Pl. IX. fig. 1.)

3. The open silver ornamentation of a *situla* (Pl. X.) divided into several bands or stories. The *situla* was probably of wood, encircled by this silver work. On the base is an ornamentation of palm and bean leaves; on the story above are figured bulls turned to the left, in a very archaic style; on the third are portrayed winged griffins turned in contrary directions; on the fourth are sphinxes in a sitting posture. On the body of this *situla* are affixed two plates that terminate in little hooks to receive the handle. On these are represented in vertical order four little winged forms with wide tunics, and over them a head terminating below in volutes and above in the aforesaid hooks into which the ring of the handle enters. The cover of the *situla* (Pl. XI. fig. 1) has a beautiful open flower in its centre, with three rows of petals, and around it volutes ornamented with palm and bean leaves. The form of the *situla* restored is shown in Pl. XI. fig. 2.

4. About eighty pieces belonging to necklaces and bracelets of silver in the form of acorns with rings, &c. through which passed the cord that held them together. (Pl. VIII. figs. 4, 5, and Pl. XIII. figs. 2, 3.)

These necklaces and bracelets correspond with those engraved on the cists and mirrors, as also on a bronze, in the Kircherian Museum of the Collegio Romano.

5. Round discs of silver with hooks to attach them to the necklaces and bracelets. These are occasionally plain, but for the most part have an ornamentation of flowers chased in the centre, and triangles round the edge. (Pl. XII. fig. 2.)

crouching form, and clad in an ample kind of cloak, chequered like a plaid. On the shoulders are brooches, resembling that before us in shape, but without the raised ornamental work. The Cervetri fibula, now in the possession of Sig. Castellani, is of electrum, rather than gold, coated over lead. This branch of the goldsmiths' art was well known to the Greeks. Compare *Odyssey*, vi. 232. A fibula of the same form is in the Blacas Collection, stated to have been found in the Campagna of Rome.—W. M. W.

6. Plates of silver with hooks, straight on one side and curved on the other. These are edged by a filigree ornamentation and a series of triangles. In their centre on the straight side is a row of circles or little wheels, and on the curved side a frog swimming in the midst of the waters, which are represented by zig-zag lines, as in the Egyptian hieroglyphics. (Pl. XII. fig. 2.)

7. Amber in various forms and pierced at the upper end for necklaces.

8. A considerable quantity of leaf-gold used for banding the fibulæ, and the little rods of amber resembling those found in the tombs of Veii.

9. Two cups and a vase of silver. One of these cups (Pl. XII. fig. 1) is covered with rows of little raised beads, and the circular inside centre of the base is divided into two parts. In the upper part, from the middle of a kind of veil, rises the head of Isis bearing the *ovum primigenium*. Behind her is seen the head and half of the wings of a vulture, on the head of which in like manner reposes an egg, and beneath rises the *uræus*. Before the goddess is the sceptre. The lower half is edged by two bands—an external one of ovals, and an inside one of vandykes.

10. Several small human heads in gold, terminating in bivalve shells, with rings at the points for stringing on a necklace.

11. Two sleeping lions carved in ivory, resembling a similar relique in the Barberini collection, mentioned at page 16.^a (Pl. V. fig. 1.)

Signor Augusto Castellani, who purchased these reliques, and has had them restored in the most careful and admirable manner, is entitled to the fullest gratitude of all who take an interest in the arts, and in archæology. We are, moreover, not only indebted to him for the preservation of these reliques, but also for that of the further ones I am going on to describe.

These were found at Palestrina, in the last excavation made by Pier Luigi Galeassi on the property behind the little church of S. Rocco, and which may be considered a continuation of my researches in the Vigna Velluti, inasmuch as the same *tufa* tombs, containing similar scanty reliques, were also found here. Among these, however, he was fortunate in discovering one of the singular tombs filled with masses of rock, as before described.

1. When, then, he had got down to the soil on which the skeleton lay, he found two gold chased bracelets divided into six compartments, and above each

^a Both these ivory carvings are fractured at either end, and would seem to have formed part of some article of ornament or furniture, which was totally destroyed by the stones. A similar design occurs on the ornamentation of a bronze tripod of a later period, found in a tomb at Vulci (Etruria Maritt. pl. cxii. figs. 1, 6, 7). It would seem that the early design in ivory, possibly foreign, had become traditional in the country.—W. M. W.

three female figures erect, with palm trees between them. In the two last compartments are three youthful figures, with two lions between them. The central figure is holding these by the paws, while the figures on the outside hold the tails. Similar bracelets were found in the Cervetri excavations, and are now in the Etruscan Museum at the Vatican.^a

2. There was further found what very probably was a breast decoration. It is formed of two plates of silver joined by silver wires twisted in spirals. On the two plates are raised figures of swans, and nude human forms standing between the swans. On the head of each is a small globe. (Pl. VII. fig. 1.)

3. Two golden *opheis* or bracelets in the form of spiral serpents.

4. Several pieces of amber for necklaces, among which are two in the form of apes, and a human figure standing with the right hand on the breast, and the left bending downwards, as though covering itself in front. The cord of the necklace passes through the ears, which are of round form.

5. A ram's head in glass paste, also for suspension on a necklace.

6. Some fibulæ of silver and amber, similar in form to those of bronze. The amber ones were banded with gold-leaf stamped in lines, as we noticed also in the first sepulchre at Veii.

7. Two thin gold plates, with female figures crowned, similar to those formerly found at Cervetri.

8. A circular bronze vessel, ornamented with strips of amber, and some substance like leather, covered with gold leaf and stamped with lines, which must have been set *cloisonné*.

9. At a short distance from this tomb lay a skeleton bearing a breast ornament of sheet gold, marked with the usual lines, and ornamented with the pieces of amber found around it. (Pl. XIII. fig. 1.)

10. In another part of the ground, not far removed, another skeleton was found, with some dark decayed substance on the breast, as cloth or skin, in the middle of which was a piece of rock crystal. At the head and sides were three silver fibulæ.

11. Two fibulæ, or pendants of silver, in the form of spiral cords, each of which sustains by a hook a little winged female figure. At the top is a similar figure between two winged lions; but it has nothing more of the human form than the head, below which are seen two open wings. Beneath these descends a kind of girded tunic. (Pl. VII. fig. 2.)

^a Etruria Marittima, pl. liv. figs. 4, 5.

Here terminates my description of the reliques found in the tombs of Veii and Palestrina beneath the masses of stones, and I now leave the learned to deliberate as to what nation this remarkable custom may have appertained. In my opinion it must have been that of the Tyrrhenian Pelasgi. The letters and syllables discovered in a very important tomb at Cære, which closely corresponds with the famous one there (the Regolini-Galassi) where *Larthia* lay buried with her husband,^a evidently belong to a period anterior to Etruscan sway, when this city bore the name of Agylla, and belonged to the Tyrrhenian Pelasgi. The same people must also, with Agylla, have held Præneste and Veii—that is, all the domain around the *Palatium* of Evander, itself a city of the Tyrrhenian Pelasgi, before the Latin or Sabine Æqui occupied Præneste, or the Etruscans established themselves in Veii and Agylla.

I do not mean to say that all the various reliques from Veii, and Cære, and Præneste, which we have just compared, have either a Pelasgic origin, or have come by Pelasgic agency; on the contrary, I distinguish in them three different styles of art—Egyptian, Etruscan, and a third, totally dissimilar from either of the former, which may be attributed to the Pelasgi. To this it seems to me belong the arms and vessels of bronze. Moreover there is no reason why *Larthia*, an Etruscan lady, should not have married a prince of Agylla.

R. GARRUCCI.

1 *March* 1866.

^a Canina, Etruria Marittima.

ANTIQUITIES FROM VEII AND PRAENESTE.

1

Size 4

2

Size 5

1

2

3

IVORY CARVINGS, PRÆNESTE, AND AMBER SPINDLE, VEII.

BRONZE VESSEL FROM PRÆNESTE, AND IRON DAGGER FROM VEII.

1

Size $\frac{2}{3}$

2

full size

3

full size

2

Full size

3

Full size

4

Full size

5

Full size

1

Size $\frac{1}{2}$

1

2

BRONZE SHIELD AND IRON SWORD, PRÆNESTĒ.

SILVER ORNAMENTS OF A BUCKET, PRAENESTE.

Full Size

1

2

BUCKET WITH SILVER ORNAMENTS AND ITS COVER. PRÆNESTĒ.

1

Pattern within bowl

2

SILVER OBJECTS, PRENESTE.

full size.

NECKLACES AND GOLD ORNAMENT, PRAENESTE.
full size