

ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE (1909-1910).

SINCE the last of these reports was written, two new excavations of great promise have been begun, Cyrene and Sardes, both by American archaeologists, and the work of the British School at Sparta has been brought to a close. The most interesting new discoveries are perhaps those from Crete: the Late Minoan I cemetery found by Mr. Seager at Gournia and the tomb-chapel and great Early Minoan rock-cut cistern from Knossos.

The activities of the Greek Archaeological Society have been very numerous. Dr. Brueckner has continued his work at the Dipylon cemetery locating the enclosure of the *Τριτοπατρεις*, Dr. Stais has published his excavation of the Sanctuary of the Nymphs at Phaleron,¹ Dr. Sotiriades has worked at Chaironeia and Dr. Arvanitopoulos has carried forward his work at Pagasai, which led two years ago to the discovery of so many painted grave stelai.² This year, the lower part of the stele with the picture of a woman dying in childbirth has been found.³ It is inscribed:

Λυπρὸν ἐφ' Ἡδίστηι Μοῖραι τότε νῆμα ἀπ' ἀτράκτων
κλώσαν ὅτε ὠδίνος νύμφη ἀπηντίασεν.
σχετλή, οὐ γὰρ ἔμελλε τὸ νήπιον ἀνκαλιεῖσθαι
μαστῶι δ' ὑφέξειν χεῖλος ἐοῖο βρέφους.
ἐν γὰρ ἐσεΐδε φάος καὶ ἀπήγαγεν εἰς ἓνα τύμβον
τοὺς δισσοὺς ἀκρίτως τοῖσδε μολούσα τύχη.⁴

Besides these, many other smaller excavations have been carried on, and much has been done to set in order ancient monuments, thus continuing the excellent tradition of past years. In particular the restoration of the Propylaia of the Acropolis has been continued under the immediate care of Mr. Valanos. The possibility of such restoration has been carefully studied by members of the American School of Classical Studies, and an interesting paper was read in the course of the winter by Dr. Elderkin, in which he proposed a theory to explain the irregularity of the position of the windows and door in the Pinakotheka. He shewed that these appear to be symmetrically framed by the columns to a spectator ascending the slope below

¹ 'Εφ. 'Αρχ. 1909, p. 239.

² *J.H.S.* xxviii, p. 320.

³ 'Εφ. 'Αρχ. 1908, Pl. I.

⁴ *Παναθήναια* ix. 1909, p. 314.

the Propylaia along a certain line, and concluded that this was the direction of the approach as originally planned. An ingenious argument from the orientation of the pedestal of the monument of Agrippa strengthened this theory. This was followed by a very important paper by the Director, Mr. Hill, on the earlier Parthenon, the building which was in process of construction at the time of the Persian invasion. By an elaborate study of the foundation of the present Parthenon he succeeded in identifying several blocks now scattered over the Acropolis or built into its North wall, close to the unfinished marble column-drums of the same temple, as belonging to this early Parthenon. He proved that it had sixteen columns at the side and six at each end instead of the nineteen and eight given by Doerpfeld's restoration. The seventeen columns by eight of the Parthenon was thus, as was naturally to be expected, an advance on the earlier temple and not, as had been previously supposed, a slight retrogression. Considerations of space forbid me from detailing Mr. Hill's convincing arguments, which rest on a close study of the steps of the foundation and the stylobate of the old Parthenon, some blocks of which he has found still *in situ* in the foundation of the later building.

At Corinth the American School dug chiefly at Peirene and the theatre, where more Greek seats have been found in place, buried in the foundation of the diazoma of the Roman theatre.

At Peirene two of the four reservoirs of the earliest fountain have been cleared, and a large part of the system of supply tunnels. To the N.E. of the court a fountain has also been found, which received its overflow. The basin, the parapet of which shews marks of much drawing of water, is inside a building with a corbelled vault of heavy blocks, which reminds the excavators of the galleries in the Mycenaean fortress wall of Tiryns. It seems possible that this fountain-house is actually prehistoric, as neolithic and Geometric sherds have been found in abundance in the course of the excavation, and the spring is a natural one, which may well have supplied the inhabitants at a very early period. North of Peirene colonnades have been found completing the boundaries of the rectangular court, identified with the Peribolos mentioned by Pausanias, which contained the picture of Odysseus attacking the suitors.⁵

The German Institute has continued its work at Tiryns, and every year makes it more and more plain how much this site still held in reserve after Schliemann's departure. This year was chiefly devoted to the western half of the palace. The most important finds were remains of mural paintings. The subjects included two warriors with lances, a charioteer, parts of horses and a fragment of a cult scene. Still more interesting are some not yet reconstructed fragments representing a boar-hunt, in which white dogs are attacking boars caught in a net. There are also remains of an almost life-size woman's head, a drawing in a miniature style in black and white, and

⁵ Paus. II. ch. iii. 3. For these notes I have School of Classical Studies.
to thank Mr. Hill, the Director of the American

other fragments. Nothing throws so much light upon Mycenaean life as such paintings as these, in which the artist has a much freer hand and wider range of subjects than in any other branch of art, and the publication of these remains will therefore be eagerly awaited.⁶

From Delos the excavation of the sanctuary of the foreign gods begun by Hauvette in 1881 is reported. The sanctuary has two divisions, one for Egyptian and one for Syrian deities, and the whole is of the greatest importance for the history of these foreign cults.

The Egyptian temple and altar date to the end of the second century before Christ, and replaced the sanctuaries of Sarapis, Isis, and Anubis mentioned in inventories of the Second Athenian League. Several new and important inscriptions have been found giving names of priests and information as to the cult. The offerings belong to the time of the Second Athenian League. From the Sanctuary of the Syrian gods come two inscriptions of interest. One runs: Διόφαντος | Ἀλεξάνδρου | Ἀτάργατι | καὶ Ἀδάτωι | τὴν ἀνάβασιν ἐφ' ἱερέως | Σαραπίωνος Ἱεροπολίτου. The other gives the first evidence in Delos of the cult of the Syrian god Hadranas. It is: Διονύσιος ζακο|ρεύσας ἐν τῷι | ἐπὶ Κρίτωνος ἄρχοντος ἐνιαυτῷ | ὑπὲρ ἑαυτοῦ καὶ τῶν θρεψάντων Ἀ|[δ]ρανᾶ ἐφ' ἱερέως? | - - -

Votive offerings to Hagne Aphrodite have been found and a dedicatory inscription to the same goddess in the now fully excavated small theatre. Other finds are a statue of Baal represented by a Zeus type. An inscription giving the rules of the purification necessary before entering the sanctuary ought to be of much interest.

The British School this year had a short season at Sparta, chiefly devoted to the excavation of the Mycenaean remains on the hill of the Menelaion. A large number of houses were found, all belonging to the end of the Mycenaean period. Unfortunately they were much destroyed by erosion and the finds were also very scanty. The best preserved house yielded some fine kraters and curious clay sealings to close the mouths of wine-jars, tied in place with rushes and stamped with a seal, which bore an intaglio design of animals. Nothing Greek was found, and it was plain that there was a large Mycenaean town on this hill, probably finally destroyed by a fire, and that at the beginning of the Iron Age Sparta was refounded on the classical site, the only trace of the older town being the shrine of the Hero Menelaos.

The Eleusinion at Kalývia tes Sochás, an hour and a half south of Sparta was also excavated, the German Institute having generously waived their prior claim. The nature of the site was clearly demonstrated by some stamped tiles and a few small objects, but no results of importance were obtained.

A little final work at the Orthia sanctuary was rewarded by two second century A.D. inscribed bases for statues of *bomonikai*, victors in the contest of

⁶ An especial acknowledgement for these German Institute at Athens. notes is owing to Dr. Kurt Müller of the

endurance at the altar of Orthia. A similar base was already in the Sparta Museum, but one of the new examples gives a fresh formula of some interest.⁷

The work in North Greece of Messrs. Wace and Thompson, students of the British School, has been continued this year. Two tumuli were examined, one at Tsanglí in Central Thessaly about midway between Pharsala and Velestino, and another at Rachmáni between Larissa and Tempe.

The mound at Tsanglí is about 200 × 210 metres with ten metres of deposit, the Rachmáni tumulus being much smaller. The results now obtained compared with previously excavated sites make it possible to distinguish four prehistoric periods in Thessaly: Neolithic I, with red-on-white painted pottery; Neolithic II, with the ware characteristic of the Dimini settlement; Chalcolithic and, fourthly, of the early Bronze Age, with unpainted pottery. The latter part of this is contemporaneous with Late Minoan II and III, and includes the tombs at Sesklo, Dimini, and Zerelia. At Rachmáni many Late Minoan III sherds were found amongst the latest pottery of this deposit, together with fragments of the curious Thessalian geometric pottery found at Marmáriani and Theotókou.

In the Tsanglí tumulus houses were found belonging to the later part of the first Neolithic period. In one case the remains of three successive houses could be distinguished. The latest of them had the characteristic plans of these buildings well developed. It was rectangular with a row of wooden posts down the middle, and each angle was flanked by a pair of internal projecting walls or buttresses. These buttresses, whatever their object, are the most remarkable feature of the plan. The finds in this house were vases, celts, and terracotta figurines, in which the excavation in general was very rich.

The house at Rachmáni belonged to the third of the above four periods. It yielded good specimens of a kind of pottery with paint laid on so thickly as to form an incrustation, a large store of carbonised wheat, pease, lentils, figs, and other vegetables, and four very curious human figures with the bodies made of terracotta and the heads of painted stone, a kind of primitive anticipation of acrolithic sculpture. These latest excavations together with the results of previous campaigns are to be published as soon as possible in book form.⁸

Dr. Doerpfeld's *Fünfter Brief über Leukas-Ithaka*, dated Leukas, May, 1909, carries on the account of these excavations from the point where it was left in the report in this *Journal* two years ago.⁹ It gives a full account of the tombs then briefly mentioned, and to the five that had then been found near the Palace in the Nidri Plain adds nine others. The most

⁷ A full report will appear in the *School Annual* to be published in 1911.

⁸ For these notes I have to thank Mr. Wace. His earlier excavations have been noticed in

J.H.S. xxviii. p. 323; xxix. p. 359, and reported in *B.S.A.* xiv. p. 197, and *Liverpool Annals of Archaeology*, ii. p. 149.

⁹ *J.H.S.* xxviii. p. 332.

important is the untouched *pithos*-grave of a woman, which contained seven monochrome vases, a necklace of forty-nine gold beads, a silver armlet, a bronze tool, a knife, and two burned bones. Dr. Doerpfeld has also excavated at the Chapel of Hagia Kyriake at the entrance of the harbour. Figurines both primitive and classical were found, and Dr. Doerpfeld believes the site to be a Sanctuary of the Nymphs, the ancient recipients, like their modern successor, Hagia Kyriake, of the vows of sailors leaving the harbour of Leukas. The pamphlet ends with a notice of recent literature on the Leukas-Ithaka question.

The work of the Austrian archaeologists at Miletus in 1906 and 1907 has already been described in these reports.¹⁰ A proof from the *Jahrbuch* kindly sent me by Dr. Wiegand enables me to carry these on with the campaign of 1908. I can only mention here two discoveries of especial architectural interest: one is a bath, consisting of a rectangular court, along one of the sides of which is a row of bathrooms, a type transitional between a Hellenistic gymnasium and a Roman bath, and the other is a late Roman temple of the form of an early Christian Basilica with two rows of smooth monolithic pillars. The entrance hall has four columns, and on the architrave is the dedicatory inscription of M. Κλαύδιος Μενεκράτης to Sarapis and Isis. Dr. Knackfuss in 1909 continued the excavation of the great Temple of Apollo at Didyma. The work is very heavy, but is rewarded by the very fine architectural construction of the temple which is now being disclosed.

American enterprise has now also begun the excavation of two other sites, Cyrene and Sardes, both of which have for long been archaeological desiderata. Of the results of Mr. Norton's work at Cyrene nothing can as yet be said, but Mr. Butler has kindly given me some notes on the first campaign at Sardes. The old Lydian and Greek site of Sardes has been buried to a depth of from six to twelve metres, either by a land slide or by the result of erosion. A change in the course of the Pactolus has cut through this deposit, and exposed a cross section of the stratified remains of soil and debris, and at this naturally formed section work was begun. Remains of a building believed to be Lydian have been found, statue-bases and the huge marble foundations of the west end of the great Temple, to the east end of which belong two columns still standing erect *in situ* a hundred metres distant. Of this huge temple at present only the western part has as yet been cleared. It has suffered a good deal by being used as a quarry for the Roman and Byzantine town, but the further east the work goes the better is the preservation, and already a fourth century Greek inscription has been found on the wall containing Persian names, weights, and measures, and informing us that the temple was dedicated to Artemis. Many other Greek inscriptions were also found, but not *in situ*.

An early Lydian Necropolis has been discovered and a number of tombs opened. They consisted of a *dromos* and a chamber with a stone couch and a door, and contained native pottery free from all Hellenic influence, a little

¹⁰ *J.H.S.* xxviii. p. 334.

bronze and Egyptian scarabs and alabaster. Vases containing charred bones were found as well as skeletons lying on the benches, and it thus appears that inhumation and cremation were practised side by side. Very important are a number of Lydian inscriptions from these tombs still in perfect preservation.

In Crete, Knossos is again the centre of interest.¹¹ Dr. Evans begins his letter to *The Times* on this latest campaign by saying that there is no finishing a site like Knossos, and indeed every season fresh marvels come to light. This year the great vault underneath the Southern Porch, which has given work for two seasons, has yielded up its secret. It appears to have been a great rock-cut cistern, ninety-five feet in circumference and fifty-six feet deep, with a spiral staircase cut in the rock-wall, by which it was possible to descend to within some three metres of the bottom. The earth in the cistern contained nothing later than Middle Minoan I sherds, from which it is clear that the cistern itself is early Minoan, and so earlier than the first palace of which any remains now exist. A second similar cistern has also been located. Coming after Mr. Seager's wonderful finds of jewellery and stone vases at Mochlos, this discovery shows us still more clearly the height attained by Cretan civilisation at this very distant epoch.

The work at the Little Palace and the further reconstruction of the grand staircase I can only mention, but the discovery of more graves at Isopata near the Great Royal Tomb led to the most important result of the campaign. Six chamber-tombs were found, all belonging to the most flourishing time of the Later Palace, and thus to be assigned to the second half of the fifteenth century, B.C. The finds, although the tombs had been pillaged in antiquity, were important. Fine Palace style (Late Minoan II) vases, a small gold signet ring engraved with a design of two goddesses clasping hands and standing in front of their shrines; a new class of painted vases with unfixed colours designed exclusively for sepulchral use are the more important, but the main feature of the discovery is the religious significance attached by Dr. Evans to the tomb to which he has given the name of the Tomb of the Double Axes. The sepulchral chamber itself is about six metres square. The burial cist was sunk in a raised stone platform, and all around the chamber run rock-cut benches. A pier carved as a half column juts from the back wall, and with the benches gives the whole the effect of a room in a house. The pillagers had left enough to suggest that the dead man was a warrior, and the ritual double axes and the remains of a steatite *rhyton* in the form of a bull's head suggest that the chamber was originally fitted up as a shrine for the cult of the dead. Although the entrance was walled up, there are indications that the worship was performed not once only at the funeral, but was repeated subsequently. Dr. Evans is justly reminded by this room-like sepulchral chamber of the Etruscan domestic idea of the future life, and for the religious ideas of the Cretans it is certainly the most important grave yet opened.

¹¹ Derived from a letter from Dr. Evans in *The Times*, Sept. 17th 1910.

The excavations by Mr. Seager and Miss Hall in the neighbourhood of Gournia in the name of the University of Pennsylvania Museum have added to our knowledge mainly by the important discovery of a late Minoan I cemetery of a type hitherto unknown, and of a period to which very few Cretan burials, except approximately the great tombs at Knossos, could be assigned. The cemetery lies near the sea below the town of Gournia on a hill side called Sphoungarás. The earliest burials were of the ordinary Middle Minoan II type with characteristic pottery, stone vases, and gold ornaments like those already found at Mochlos. The bulk of the interments, however, some 150 in number, were those which give the cemetery its great interest. The bodies were buried in inverted jars, with the knees drawn up to the chin, the corpse having been trussed and put into the jar head foremost, so that when the whole was inverted, the body remained in a sitting posture. No traces of burning were observed. The date, late Minoan I and middle Minoan III, is fixed by the patterns painted on the jars, and the objects found with them. The seal-stones were peculiarly interesting, firstly, because the circumstances of their finding give them a fixed date, and secondly, because many of them were of a type hardly to be expected so early. It is interesting to compare this cemetery with the slightly later chamber-tombs of Knossos. Neither difference of period nor difference of wealth seems sufficient to account for such wide divergence in the method of disposing of the dead.

At Vrókastro,¹² a hill about 1000 feet above the sea in the Valley of Kaló Chorió near Gournia, Miss Hall has uncovered part of a town, the stratified remains of which ranged from early Minoan to the Geometric period, at which later time iron is found in the same abundance as bronze. The continuity of the remains from the Bronze to the Iron Age should make this excavation of great interest, and it is much to be hoped that the late transitional remains will be abundant and well preserved.¹³

At the Minoan palace of Hagia Triada near Phaistos Prof. Halbherr has made fresh extensive excavations. The most important result is the discovery of a great portico with eight rectangular piers, of which the limestone bases have been preserved, and staircases at either end leading to an upper story. Looking across the fertile mountain-girt valley towards the sea and originally gaily decorated with painted stucco, this portico reminds the Italian excavators of some luxurious pleasure house at Ostia or Pompeii.

At Siva, a little to the south of Phaistos, MM. De Sanctis and Levi della Vida have dug an Early Minoan tholos-tomb. Although pillaged, enough was left, including some ivory seals, to shew that it belonged to the same period as the numerous *tholoi* found by Dr. Xanthoudides in the Messará plain at and near Koumása.¹⁴

¹² *I.e.* Ὀβραιόκαστρον, *Jew's Castle*.

¹³ These notes I owe to the kindness of Miss Hall and Mr. Seager. A publication is to

appear in the Transactions of the department of Archaeology in the University of Pennsylvania.

¹⁴ See notices in *J.H.S.* xxviii. pp. 328, 329.

At Gortyn Prof. Halbherr has prepared to excavate the area round the famous great archaic inscription, by diverting the stream which flowed at its foot.¹⁵

Dr. Chatzidakis has continued the excavation of the Minoan building at Tyliossos, which he began a year ago.¹⁶ Three more store chambers have been cleared, containing some very fine Late Minoan I and II vases and a few other small objects. The roofs were supported by two or more pillars. Adjacent to this building and possibly forming a part of it, but in any case contemporary, is a large rectangular structure (25·70 m. × 65·70 m.) Two steatite tables of offerings were found in it and horns of oxen (*bos primigenius*), deer, and wild goats, and many bones and teeth of pigs. To the south are remains of the Middle Minoan period, which are to be excavated next year.

About half a kilometre from this building Dr. Chatzidakis found a pit filled with fragments of vases ranging from Early Minoan to Late Minoan II, a discovery recalling the two similar pits found by Mr. Hogarth at Zakro.¹⁷

On the shore west of Candia a Kamares, *i.e.* Middle Minoan, *pithos* containing a human skeleton and a cup was found buried in the sand. Fragments of other *pithoi* appeared on the surface, and the site appears to be a Middle Minoan cemetery, resembling Mr. Seager's Gournia cemetery described above.

The problem of the date of Lato, the modern Goulás, has again been attacked by M. Adolph Reinach. Since Dr. Evans' paper and M. Demargne's excavation some ten years ago, the site had been left aside,¹⁸ until M. Reinach worked there for three weeks last summer. He cleared a temple in the Agora, of which the dedication is unknown, although, from the votive offerings discovered, it probably belonged to a mother goddess. Other parts of the town were also excavated, but all the remains he considers to be of the classical period. The only Minoan objects found were a red striped bull's head and a small stone vase. Although this would seem to point to some Minoan settlement on the site, M. Reinach thinks that they must have been brought there after the pillage, or possibly an ancient digging, of some neighbouring site such as Gournia. Nothing Roman or Byzantine was found, from which M. Reinach concludes that Lato was destroyed at the time of the Roman conquest of Crete and never rebuilt.¹⁹

To the many archaeologists who have kindly sent me the numerous notes upon which this report is based, and especially to Dr. Karo, I take this opportunity of offering my best thanks.

R. M. DAWKINS.

¹⁵ These notes I owe to the kindness of Dr. Luigi Pernier.

¹⁶ *J.H.S.* xxix. p. 362.

¹⁷ *B.S.A.* vii. p. 123.

¹⁸ Dr. Evans' paper with plans by Professor Myres is in *B.S.A.* ii. p. 169.

¹⁹ These notes I owe to the kindness of M. Reinach.