

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE, 1899-1900.

It is satisfactory to be able to begin this report by announcing important additions to the equipment of three of the Athenian Schools. The German Institute was able to inaugurate its spacious new library at a special meeting held on March 12 to celebrate the completion of its twenty-fifth year. The British School has received from Mr. W. H. Cooke, nephew and joint-heir of the late George Finlay, the library of some 5,000 volumes, together with the bookshelves and antiquities, which had remained untouched in the historian's house in the Ὀδὸς Ἀδριανοῦ since his death in 1875. And M. Homolle is drawing up the plans for an annexe which will enable the French School to extend its hospitality to students from Belgium, Russia and other countries which have no archaeological headquarters in Athens.

The excavations on the north side of the Acropolis have been suspended. The Archaeological Society is spending large sums each year upon the repairs to the Parthenon, and is also buying up houses, when opportunities occur, with a view to continuing the excavations on the site of the ancient Agora. One great undertaking, upon which the Society has been engaged at intervals for upwards of forty years, has been brought to a successful conclusion. The Stoa of Attalos is now completely cleared and from being one of the most bewildering it has become one of the most intelligible of Athenian monuments. Great credit is due to Mr. Mylonas, who has been in charge of the work for the last two years. The Archaeological Society has recently published a first instalment of the late Dr. Lolling's Catalogue of Inscriptions, and a volume on Epidaurus by Dr. Kavvadias. These are to be followed at intervals by other archaeological books. The third, which is in the press, is a history of the doings of the Society from its foundation to the year 1900. Its income and practical usefulness have increased immensely during the past five years. The Society has recently lost one of its best-known members in Stephanos Kumanudes, who was for thirty-six years its secretary and for many years keeper of its antiquities, now merged in the national museum. He was an honorary member of the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, and author of a well-known volume of sepulchral inscriptions.

The year 1900 will be remembered as one of remarkable progress in Mycenaean studies. Mycenae itself has produced nothing new, but the fruits

of research are coming in from the four corners of the Mycenaean field, from Cyprus and Crete, Troy and the Western Islands. Dr. Dörpfeld's forthcoming book on Troy will give the first complete account of the Homeric fortress which Schliemann did not live to see uncovered. The same explorer has initiated researches in Ithaca and Santa Maura, which may do for the topography of the Odyssey what his Trojan campaigns of 1893 and 1894 did for that of the Iliad. Mr. Murray has published the splendid gold and ivory treasures from Enkomi in Cyprus. Best of all, Crete has been thrown open to research. After years of waiting Mr. Arthur Evans has begun work at Knosos; Mr. Hogarth has explored the Dictaeon Cave; and now Dr. Halbherr is busy upon the citadel of Phaestos.

The discoveries at Knosos would suffice by themselves to make this a memorable year. The work was carried on from March till the end of May by parallel researches executed on the one hand by the British School at Athens under its Director, and on the other by Mr. Arthur Evans, who has acquired the site of Kephala at Knosos. Both were aided by the Cretan Exploration Fund, which however, owing to the unfortunate circumstances of the time, had not attained the dimensions hoped for by its promoters. The site excavated by Mr. Evans proved to be a Mycenaean palace of vast extent. In the work of excavation he was aided by Mr. Mackenzie, whose four seasons at Phylakopi specially qualified him for the task, while Mr. Hogarth began a systematic examination of the surrounding region, with a view to determining the limits of the Mycenaean town and the position of the cemeteries. Mr. T. D. Fyfe did good service as architect and draughtsman.

The ruins of the Greek and Roman Knosos are scattered over a large plateau four miles to the south-east of Candia. The main road from Candia to the interior passes a long low knoll rising slightly above the cornfields just where the plateau is cut in two by the deep bed of the little river Kairatos. At the next bend of the road one sees that the mound which is so inconspicuous on the north and west presents to the east and south a steep face washed at any rate in former days by the Kairatos and a tributary brook. It was upon this mound, called *τοῦ τσελεβή ἢ κεφάλαια*, 'the gentleman's head,' that in 1877 the late Mr. Minos Kalokairinos, of Candia, exposed some walls inscribed with strange masons' marks and enclosing store-chambers lined with earthenware jars. His excavation was a private venture, unsystematic and unrecorded, but the particulars gleaned by Haussoullier and Stillman in 1880 and by Fabricius in 1886 were enough to make Schliemann and others cast longing eyes upon the site. It is not too much to say that the results obtained by Mr. Evans in this first season surpass the most sanguine expectations.

The area already examined, though not yet fully excavated, measures roughly 130 yards from north to south and at least 70 from east to west. The remains which extend over this space are those of a single complex building, a palace apparently, but a palace very different from the *μέγαρα* of Tiryns and Mycenae. The extent and character of the outer wall are not yet apparent, but it is clear that while the compact castles of the Argolid

were built for defence, this Cretan palace with its spacious courts and broad corridors was designed mainly with an eye to comfort and luxury. A corridor eleven feet wide, lined with huge blocks of gypsum, seems originally to have run the whole length of the buildings from north to south and is still preserved for over 300 feet. From it there opened on the west side a series of galleries forty feet long and seven or more feet wide, in plan resembling the casemates which open out of the corridor in the wall of Tiryns. Eight of these have been excavated and each has proved to be lined with huge jars, from 3 to 6 feet high, ranged along the wall so as to leave a narrow gangway up the middle. Beneath the closely compacted paving of these magazines are double tiers of stone cists lined with lead and apparently made for the safe keeping of treasure. A few only of these have as yet been opened. West of these store-rooms is a large paved court. On the other side of the corridor are large and small rooms, and beyond them again an open court or piazza on the east. The palace seems to have been bounded on the south by a broad corridor resting on an artificial platform. On the north the excavators have partly cleared what may prove to be the main entrance. By far the most interesting of the chambers opening into the east court is the wonderfully well-preserved Throne-room, where a carved stone chair stands in the centre of one long wall with stone benches at either side. Opposite to the throne is a tank into which one descends by shallow steps. Three columns of cypress wood supported the ceiling. The throne, the walls, even the floor were brilliantly coloured; in particular a magnificent pair of griffins were painted right and left of the door leading into a small inner room, which, to judge from the fact that it can have had no window and contained some stone lamps, may possibly have been a bedchamber.

Early in April discoveries of fresco-fragments and of inscribed tablets began to justify the extreme caution with which Mr. Evans had worked from the outset. There was no depth of earth—some of the best finds were made only a foot or two from the surface—and little stratification. It was an exception if occasionally a vase of the earlier 'Kamarais' ware was found beneath the Mycenaean floor; in many places the Mycenaean buildings rested directly upon a far earlier neolithic settlement, full of primitive hand-made pottery and stone implements, through which in one place a shaft was sunk for over twenty-four feet before these remains came to an end and solid rock was reached. It looks as though the intervening strata had been levelled away by the Mycenaean builders in order to provide a large enough platform for their palace. But shallow as the Mycenaean deposit was, it proved astonishingly rich. The pre-Phoenician inscriptions, row upon row of closely-written characters incised upon clay tablets, in shape and colour like sticks or slabs of chocolate, were collected singly and in heaps, in clay *larnakes* and in decayed wooden chests, until the entries in the inventory rose above fifteen hundred. Mr. Evans has published some specimens and discussed the classes into which they may be divided, and described the very interesting countermarked seal-impressions with which they were secured, in the *Athenaeum* for May 9 and June 23. They are of two distinct types, one linear, the other more picto-

graphic in its nature, like that of previously discovered Cretan signets. The wall-paintings constitute almost as precious a discovery as the tablets, for the specimens of Mycenaean fresco-work obtained at Tiryns, Mycenae, and Phylakopi, are comparatively few and fragmentary. The best of those from Knosos is the Cupbearer, found in a corridor near the south-west angle. It is the life-size figure of a boy. The head with its strong profile, somewhat full lips and high skull, is intact. The flesh is painted a warm dark red, against which the bright chequered pattern of the loin-cloth is sharply relieved. He wears a necklace and armlets and a signet tied by a string about his wrist. He carries a tall funnel-shaped vase, the blue and red colouring of which apparently betokens silver with gold mounting. Remains of a painted frieze representing men and women, walking apparently in some kind of ceremonial procession, were found upon the wall of the western piazza. In many cases only the feet are preserved, but enough survives to show that the central figure was a woman in a richly embroidered robe. On the same wall was part of a spirited galloping bull. A chamber near the north entrance yielded a remarkable monument which seems to stand midway between wall-painting and sculpture, a nearly life-size bull modelled in low relief upon the wall-plaster. In many of the eastern rooms there were found fragments of exquisite miniature work. These designs, which are narrow friezes painted with great delicacy upon a prevailing light blue background, represent parties of women seated at windows and in the courts and gardens before buildings, conversing with lively gestures. Sometimes they seem to be looking down from the upper rooms of a house whose façade is represented with all its details. Sometimes the heads of men are seen, but the separation of the sexes is strongly marked, and the men are always shown upon a different plane. Very remarkable is the elevation of a Mycenaean shrine—like the dove shrine of the Akropolis tombs—outside which some of the female figures are seated. M. Gilliéron, whom Mr. Evans engaged to make coloured drawings of his more important finds, has been especially successful in reproducing these vivacious little groups.

An Egyptian seated figure of diorite, with inscriptions on three sides, was found in the East Court. It proves to belong to the Twelfth Dynasty. Of Mycenaean sculpture Knosos has given some tantalising fragments, in particular an alabaster hand, and one fine specimen, a lioness's head in marble which had the eyes and muzzle filled in with coloured paste or enamel. Among the numerous smaller finds special mention must be made of a little piece of carved agate representing a sword-sheath and belt. Of pottery, usually so abundant in such excavations, not much was found in the palace, where its place must have been taken by the numerous stone vessels discovered and metal vases such as those which actually replace earthenware in some of the shaft graves at Mycenae. But this gap was abundantly filled by Mr. Hogarth's discoveries. His pits and shafts revealed the existence of a considerable pre-historic town extending for some distance round the palace, and from a group of houses which

he excavated on the slope south-west of the brook and the Candia road there came a wonderful harvest not only of Mycenaean pottery but of the beautiful polychrome 'Kamarais' vases, which seem to have been the common ware in Crete until they were supplanted by the Mycenaean fabric. The best preserved of these houses, which measures about 55 by 45 feet, is of great architectural interest. It was decorated externally with a course of white gypsum blocks, and one of the rooms was lined with thin slabs of the same material. Two of the rooms contain square built columns, like those which were found in similar small chambers at Phylakopi and in two rooms of the neighbouring Palace at Knosos.

At the beginning of June Mr. Hogarth transferred his operations to the Cave of Zeus above the village of Psychro on the northern face of Mount Lasithi, the ancient Dicte. This ancient sanctuary has been plundered by the villagers for years past. It was here that Mr. Evans purchased the famous stone libation-table inscribed in Cretan characters. A plan and description of the Cave accompany his publication of it in vol. xvii. p. 355 of this Journal. By blasting away the fallen rocks which encumbered the floor, Mr. Hogarth was able to reach parts of the deposit of offerings which had been inaccessible to the peasants and was rewarded by an enormous amount of pottery, bronze swords, knives and lance-heads, fibulae, pins and rings, and statuettes in bronze, lead and terracotta. The bulk of the finds belonged to the Mycenaean age, and the period of geometric art which followed. Thus the popularity of this cult, recorded by Hesiod alone of ancient authors, must have declined about the time when that of the Cave on Mount Ida, which also claimed to have been the birth-place of Zeus, appears from the Oriental bronzes found there to have been at its height. An unexpected discovery was made in the last days of the excavation. A small Cyclopean enclosure found in the farthest recess of the cave was at first supposed to represent the real shrine or sanctuary. It occurred however to Mr. Hogarth to continue his excavation in a lower subterranean hall filled with stalactites, which is reached by an almost vertical descent of a hundred and fifty feet through a shaft at one side of the upper cave, and here the veritable *adyton* was found. For four days Mr. Hogarth and his seventy workers groped there by torch-light 'in indescribable reek and wet.' Quantities of votive offerings, in particular little double axes of bronze, were found to have been placed in natural niches formed by chinks between the stalactites, and a series of statuettes and engraved gems was recovered by sifting the mud at the bottom of the pool to which the cavern descends.

A day's ride to the east of Psychro lies Kavusi on the Gulf of Mirabello, where, in 1899, Mr. Evans saw and secured for the Candia Museum a series of geometric vases which had been extracted from a *tholos*-tomb on the mountain above the village. Miss Boyd, who holds the Hoppin fellowship at the American School, has now done a useful piece of work in following up this clue and exploring several groups of tombs in the same valley, besides uncovering some twenty rooms of a little castle perched on an isolated crag near the scene of last year's discovery. The most important finds were

due to the rediscovery of what must once have been another and richer *tholos*-tomb. Peasants had broken into it a generation ago, but there remained a quantity of pottery and of objects in bronze and iron, including a unique geometric amphora with well-drawn human figures (a group of mourning women and a man in a chariot), and a bronze plaque with repeating design of a man between two rampant lions. These, like the rest of Miss Boyd's discoveries, the dwellings on the peak and the scattered tombs containing bronze fibulae and iron swords, belong to the dark age which followed the decline of Mycenaean civilisation.

At Goulas, on the western side of the same gulf, some excavations made last year by the French School have added considerably to the interest of those amazing ruins. (A description and sketch-plans by Messrs. Evans and Myres are to be found in the second volume of the *British School Annual*). Starting from the south-west gate, M. de Margne cleared the winding stairway which ascends to the Agora and a series of chambers opening off it, one of them containing a primitive oil-press. Passing through the propylaea, paved with simple pebble-mosaic, the visitor finds himself in an open square, the centre of which is occupied by a great cistern, a cube of over twenty feet. It was once roofed over, and the lower halves of two columns which supported the roof are still *in situ*. From this little agora a broad flight of steps which also served as seats—they are divided by narrow flights of shallower steps like those between the *cunei* of a theatre—leads up to a small terrace with a central altar, where a number of terracotta figures was found. An inscription found in the Agora identifies Goulas with the Lato of classic times. The excavations have not been continued this year. M. de Margne worked at Itanos and found some historical inscriptions. Of Dr. Halbherr's discoveries at Phaestos no particulars are yet to hand, except that he is excavating a large citadel of the Mycenaean and pre-Mycenaean age.

It is some years since Dr. Wolters called attention to a group of apparently Mycenaean tombs at Mazarakáta in the south-west of Cephalonia. Mr. Kavvadias has now examined them and found fragments of genuine Mycenaean pottery, thus putting it beyond a doubt that the Mycenaean influence extended as far as the Western Islands. On the other hand, excavations failed to reveal the slightest trace of a Mycenaean settlement upon the older of the two citadels of Same, on the north of Cephalonia. Even Ithaca, where remains of the Homeric age ought to be abundant, refuses to produce them, although the two sites which have been identified as the home of Odysseus have now been excavated, the crag of 'Aερό by Schliemann, the lower height of Πόλις by Dr. Dörpfeld last March. These negative results do not prove much, but they certainly justify Dr. Dörpfeld's wish to put to the test a possible solution of certain difficulties in the topography of the Odyssey which suggested itself to him three years ago. He identifies Homer's Ithaca with the classical Leucas (the modern Santa Maura), his Same with the classical Ithaca (Thiaki), and his Dulichium with Cephallenia (Cephalonia), Zakynthos (Zante) alone of the four islands having retained its original name from Homeric to classical times. He points out that in

several respects Leucas resembles the Homeric Ithaca. Thus it is the northernmost of the group of four islands:—

αὐτὴ δὲ χθαμαλὴ πανυπερτάτῃ εἰν ἀλλὶ κείται  
πρὸς ζόφον, αἱ δὲ τ' ἀνευθε πρὸς ἡῶ τ' ἡέλιόν τε.

It has a single mountain-mass:—

ἐν δ' ὄρος αὐτῇ  
Νήριτον εἰνοσίφυλλον, ἀριπρεπές,

whereas the modern Ithaca has two ranges of about equal height. It is separated from the mainland by a narrow strait, whereas the modern Ithaca is twenty miles out; now Odysseus has flocks and herds on the mainland, and there is regular communication by ferry; moreover Telemachos twice asks a newcomer by what ship he came, and adds

οὐ μὲν γὰρ τί σε πεζὸν ὄτομαι ἐνθάδ' ἰκέσθαι

implying the existence of an alternative land route, such as the ferry or ford at the north end of Leucas and the circuitous coast-road leading to it.

Again, the island of Arkudi, midway between Leucas and Ithaca, suits the description of Ἄσπερις, where the suitors lie in wait, while Telemachos may be understood to escape them by sailing outside Cephalonia and landing on the south-west promontory of Leucas. As for the identification of sites on the island itself, scholars who accompanied the last island-cruise of the German Institute were of opinion that Dr. Dörpfeld had made out a *prima facie* case. The outcome of some excavations which he hopes to make this summer with funds put at his disposal by Mr. Goekoop, a wealthy enthusiast from The Hague, will be awaited with great interest.

In Thessaly, on the slopes of Mount Ossa near the village of Marmáriani, Mr. Tsountas last summer opened five tombs built of small stones in true beehive form and obtained a quantity of geometric vases, for the most part craters of a hitherto unknown type. Close by he discovered a huge neolithic settlement of far earlier date, from which, as the yield of a few trial-trenches, he brought back to Athens a remarkable series of bone and stone implements. Quite recently cist-tombs containing Mycenaean vases and ornaments, with bodies laid upon their sides in a curled-up posture, have come to light at Volo.

Mr. Petrie's excavations in the tombs of First Dynasty kings at Abydos have produced specimens of very early Aegean pottery 'of forms hitherto unknown but evidently of the same family as the Mykenaeen pottery of later time.' Those found in the tomb of King Mersekha-Semenptah, the Semempses of Manetho, are pieces of jugs decorated with triangles filled in with dots in reddish paint, and may be dated, Mr. Petrie believes, to about 4500 B.C.

Turning to the classical period, we find that for the French School and the German Institute the past year has been one of preparation rather than achievement. M. Homolle is excavating the temple of Athena at Delphi, and hopes next year to resume the long interrupted works at Delos. The

French School is also about to undertake the excavation of the great temple of Athena at Tegea, the houses which cover the greater part of the site being expropriated with funds supplied by the Greek Archaeological Society. The German Institute made some experimental cuttings at Megara last autumn, and the position of the conduit of Theagenes and the fountain-house to which it led were successfully determined. Here again the Greek Society proposes to aid the Institute by expropriating the owners of houses. There is reason to hope that the sixth-century reservoir, which is of the same age and order of public works as the great conduits constructed by Polycrates at Samos and by Pisistratus at Athens, may be found in good preservation.

Of excavations in Greece proper those of the American School at Corinth take the first place. The principal results of last year's work were the discovery of the fountain of Glauke and of the great gate of the Agora. These, with the fountain of Pirene, the bath of Eurycles, the theatre and the temple of Apollo, gave the excavators six fixed points in the topography of the city as described by Pausanias. The road from the port of Lechaem, paved with marble and bordered by colonnades, ends at the foot of a broad stairway, on Greek lines but reconstructed in the Byzantine age, which leads up to the great north gate of the Agora, the propylaea mentioned by Pausanias. Pirene was found a few yards to the east of the stair. A short distance to the west, upon a road that branches off to Sikyon, are the well-known archaic temple, now identified as that of Apollo, and the rock-hewn fountain of Glauke, a part of which has long been visible just beyond the temple, although its real nature was never suspected.

Resuming work this spring, Professor Richardson proceeded to clear away the accumulated soil, often as much as twenty feet deep, from the north-west corner of the Agora. A quantity of architectural remains and some colossal sculptures, found in and about a mediaeval wine-press, are thought to have been dragged there from the Propylaea. Pausanias tells us that the roof of this building supported gilded chariots driven by Helios and Phaethon, and as both the gate and the chariot-group appear again and again upon imperial coins of Corinth we may infer that they were among the principal ornaments of the city. Two colossal statues of youths in barbarian dress, eight and a half feet high, and two heads which evidently belonged to a corresponding pair of female figures, show considerable vigour and breadth of treatment despite their Roman workmanship. Each of these figures was attached at the back to a flat pier or pilaster, the head being cut away behind so as to fit against a Corinthian capital, which crowned the pilaster and formed a background to the face and flowing hair. The drooping head of one figure suggests that we have to do with examples of those *captivorum simulacra barbarico vestis ornatu*, which were first employed in the Persian Colonnade built at Sparta in memory of Plataea, and afterwards, Vitruvius tells us, became favourite types in architecture. Some reliefs upon the plinths of the newly found statues, representing Victory crowning a trophy and the like, embody in spiritless fashion the central idea of the original monument.

Numerous architrave-blocks, both straight and curved, and pieces of a coffered ceiling decorated with heads of Helios and Selene, furnish the material for a restoration. Of the other sculptures the best are a head crowned with ivy-leaves, probably an Ariadne, and part of a round basis of neo-Attic style with figures of dancing Maenads.

One other discovery made in the same neighbourhood deserves special mention—that of a reservoir and fountain in surprisingly good preservation. Corinth was as remarkable among ancient cities for its abundance of running water as Athens was for its dryness, and Professor Richardson has been so fortunate as to uncover three of the numerous fountains which excited the admiration of Pausanias. A fourth, the picturesque ‘Bath of Aphrodite’ on the northern outskirts of the town, has often been held to represent the ancient Pirene but must now resign its claim. The real Pirene has been identified both by inscriptions and by its position near the entrance to the Agora. Its reservoirs, hewn out of the softer stratum underlying a ledge of conglomerate, and its tunnel-like conduit which still supplies the villagers of Old Corinth, are doubtless of early date; but the exterior was remodelled in Roman times, so that the series of grotto-like chambers formed one side of a court fifty feet square, with a round basin in the centre, apsidal recesses on the other three sides, and upon the walls a sumptuous revetment of white marble. The construction of a still later façade seems to be recorded in a Byzantine inscription painted on one of the architraves.

The fountain of Glauke is much ruined, but its freedom from Roman embellishments makes it easy to picture the simplicity of its original appearance. It presented to the street a plain, temple-like front inserted beneath a brow of overhanging limestone. Those who came to draw water passed up three steps into a chamber floored and roofed by the natural rock and filled their pitchers at marble spouts in the form of well-modelled lions’ heads, two of which were found near the spot. Behind are four rock-cut reservoirs considerably larger than those of Pirene.

The little fountain discovered in the Agora last May has no such associations as Pirene and Glauke, but is important on account of its perfect preservation. A flight of steps leads down into a small chamber, the roof of which is upheld by three square columns. Facing the entrance is a well-built wall of porous blocks in which two bronze lion-head spouts are still *in situ*, and below are basins in the pavement to receive the falling water and channels to carry it away. The entrance had been blocked up, apparently at a time when the fountain had not been long in use. Professor Richardson sees no good reason for identifying it, as the Athenian newspapers have done, with the *κρηνη* surmounted by a bronze Poseidon which Pausanias describes. For fuller information as to its date and surroundings we must wait until next spring, when work will be resumed in this part of the Agora.

A number of interesting excavations were undertaken by the Greek Archaeological Society. Of Mr. Staës’ work at Sunium something was said last year. It may be added that the inscription from which he infers that the well-known temple was dedicated to Poseidon, not to Athena, was

found under the floor of a mediaeval cistern on the north side of the temple platform. The substructure has been repaired and strengthened. In laying bare the enclosing wall of the *τέμενος* a large building with curved face was found near the propylaea, and is believed upon the evidence of an inscription to have been a granary, *σιτοβολεῖον*. Other inscriptions were found in an adjoining gnomon-shaped stoa, and on the slope descending to the sea on the east a small shrine of Asclepius was discovered. Attempts to find the temples at Plataea, and the last resting-place of Leonidas and his followers at Thermopylae, produced only negative results. At Eretria Mr. Kourouniotes continued his excavations with more success, discovering a large building which probably formed part of the agora and a series of inscribed stelae. He also obtained some good vases from the cemetery, including three lekythoi bearing the name of Diphilos and some geometric amphorae. He has now resumed work and is reported to have made important discoveries of inscriptions and archaic sculpture—in particular a torso of Athena, and a group representing a young man carrying off a girl—in excavating the temple of Apollo Daphnephoros. In this connection mention must be made of Dr. Wiegand's recent study of the well-preserved fortress of Dystos, eight hours' ride to the south of Eretria. Though the remains have often been described, a survey of the whole site with plans and photographs of details was much needed, and this Messrs. Wiegand and Wilberg have now given us in the *Athenische Mittheilungen*. The most remarkable features are the gate, defended by projecting and converging towers, and the two-storied dwelling-house which Spratt first drew and published. Dr. Wiegand thinks that Dystos formed part of Eretrian territory in the fourth century, and that the marsh referred to in the well-known Eretrian drainage-contract was the stagnant lake which still extends to the foot of the acropolis of Dystos.

In Aetolia Mr. Soteriades continued his excavations at Thermon for a third season, and brought to light more architectural details in terracotta near the early temple of Apollo. The temple was found to have been built upon a huge deposit of ashes, bones and broken pottery, which was in fact a primitive altar. In exploring the great rock-fortress of Vlochòs in Western Aetolia he was so lucky as to find an inscription which confirms Mr. Woodhouse's view that this was the chief city of the Thestieis, mentioned by Polybius along with Stratos and Agrinion.

Notable progress has been made at Epidaurus, where a new museum has been built to house the inscriptions and the stadium and gymnasium have been completely cleared. The latter is very like the Greek Palaestra as described by Vitruvius; it measured 250 by 230 local feet and enclosed an open court 140 feet square. Its walls, like those of many other Greek buildings, were mainly of sun-dried bricks, only the lower courses being of stone. They collapsed in Roman times and were never repaired. The propylaea were converted into a temple of Health, and a small theatre or concert-room was built in the courtyard. A plan of the whole *ἱερόν ἄλσος* accompanies Mr. Kavvadias's new volume on Epidaurus. The buildings which have been excavated or further examined since the publication of his

*Fouilles d'Epidaure* in 1893 are the stadium and gymnasium: temples identified with more or less certainty as those of Apollo and Asclepius—a joint cult, Aphrodite, Themis, the Dioscuri (*ἀνακείων*), and the *Θεοὶ ἐπιδόται*—perhaps the healing powers of Sleep and Dreams: a Greek and Roman bathing establishment: the stoa or palaestra of Cotys: and a great two-storied caravanserai (*καταγώγιον*) 250 feet square, symmetrically divided into four courts, round which ran colonnades and rooms opening out of them, 160 rooms in all. From the first these works have been so managed as not to disfigure the landscape, and quite recently the resident Ephor, Mr. Heliopoulos, has done much under Mr. Kavvadias' direction to render the site more intelligible and attractive by removing rubbish-heaps, cutting paths and planting trees.

With the publication of his great book on Thera it was understood that Baron Hiller von Gärtringen had closed his researches on Mesavouno, the ancient capital of the Island. Half against his will he was tempted to return there for two months last summer with the result that some tantalising gaps in the published plan have been filled up. Mesavouno is a rocky hill rising almost sheer from the plain at the south end of the island and dropping almost sheer to the sea; it is only on the north that a lower saddle joins it to the central mountain-mass of Hagios Elias. The town that occupied this inhospitable ridge, with its main street following the watershed and narrow crooked lanes diverging right and left, must have borne a close resemblance even in such details as the vaulted ground-floor rooms of the private houses to more than one similarly placed modern town in the Cyclades. To the numerous public buildings previously excavated has now been added a little theatre, which is perhaps most remarkable as showing how the thrifty inhabitants faced the problem of water-storage. They took advantage of the form of the theatre to construct a huge cistern under the seats, accessible by a passage from the orchestra, and so contrived that the whole auditorium should serve as a collecting basin. A number of inscriptions cut on the rocks were added to the long series previously collected on this site. Among those in the archaic Theran alphabet there are a number which celebrate so-and-so's beauty or popularity various epithets, *ἄριστος* and the like, occurring in place of the *καλὸς* which is conventional in such inscriptions elsewhere. A whole essay might be written on a still more curious group of rock-carvings and inscriptions, due to the vanity of Artemidorus, a member of the Ptolemaic garrison, who constructed a *Τέμενος* here in honour of a dozen different deities and recorded his piety in a series of pompous hexameter couplets. Baron Hiller has returned to Thera this summer to finish the excavation of the town, working as before at his own charges but in the name of the German Institute, and is to be joined by Dr. Zahn, who last year obtained some good specimens of primitive island-pottery, contemporary with some of the Phylakopi varieties, from graves at Akrotiri in the plain east of Mesavouno.

Although for some time past the German Institute has excavated but little on its own account, it may claim credit for the admirable work which

Dr. Wiegand has been doing at Priene and Miletus on behalf of the Prussian Museums. His book on Priene will be published before the end of the year. Meanwhile a more detailed account may be given of the buildings briefly mentioned in last year's summary. The temple of Demeter and Kore occupies one of the highest terraces in the town, immediately at the foot of the Acropolis cliff; it consists of a long closed court, containing a fountain with square basin for ablutions, a pronaos furnished with stone benches, and a broad, shallow cella in which stood two or three marble 'tables of offerings.' The Byzantine church, built in what may once have been an open piazza in front of the theatre, contains a rude but interesting ambo with sculptured reliefs of peacocks and vines. The Stadium is an artificial terrace just within the town-wall on the south, the lowest part of the site. Like the stadium at Aegina, it was one-sided; the tiers of seats rose up the hill-side on the north and were sheltered by a colonnade behind them. The *βαλβίδες* at the west end are well-preserved; the places of the runners are marked by Corinthian columns which carried an entablature and formed an ornamental screen. A stair leads to the gymnasium, which closely corresponds with the Greek palaestra of Vitruvius. The *ephebeum*, *exedra amplissima cum sedibus*, placed where he prescribes in the middle of the north side, is further identified by the fact that many hundreds of the boys who came here generation after generation for exercise have cut their names on the walls and columns. Up to a height of ten feet above the ground the whole surface is covered with them, the formula being always the same, *ὁ τόπος τοῦ Νέστορος τοῦ Νέστορος* or the like. Now that these excavations have come to an end the site of Priene well repays a visit. It is a ride of two and a half hours from Sokia, the terminus of a branch of the Smyrna-Aidin railway, distant four hours from Smyrna.

The same explorer has now begun work at Miletus, and already a first report on his doings has been laid before the Berlin Academy. The early stages of work on such a site, encumbered as it is with Roman, Byzantine and later buildings, were not likely to produce much in the way of Hellenic monuments. It was necessary to fix the limits of the city by tracing the course of the town-walls, which seem to be Hellenistic with later additions. The only important building which has yet been cleared is a theatre-like edifice, which yielded a quantity of architectural remains. It seems to have passed through many vicissitudes, but at one time it certainly served as the Bouleuterion. Before the theatre extends a large square, bordered by colonnades, with a great central altar, in the immediate neighbourhood of which were found fragments of two series of reliefs, one decorated like the parapet of the well-known Stoa at Pergamon with sculptured weapons and armour, the other with mythological scenes. Dr. Wiegand has had an earnest of the success which awaits him in a rich harvest of inscriptions, nearly two hundred in all, extending from the sixth century before to the fifth after our era. The majority belong to the Hellenistic period.

The Austrian excavations at Ephesus have reached a more interesting stage. They were continued for six months last year by Dr. Rudolf Heberdey,

aided by Mr. Wilberg, an architect who has previously done good service to Dr. Dörpfeld at Troy and Athens and to Dr. Wiegand at Priene. The report in the *Jahreshefte* for 1900 contains a summary of the architectural history of the theatre and a new copy of the apocryphal correspondence between Christ and Abgarus, inscribed apparently as a charm on the lintel of a Byzantine house. The interior of the theatre had been excavated in the previous year. Now the magnificent marble façade, dating from the first century A.D., and the streets and open squares upon which it faces, have been laid bare. At the same time, the difficulties caused by standing water having been overcome, it has been found possible to trace the colonnades and marble-paved quays which follow the curve of the harbour-basin. Here an important discovery was made. At the point where the main street descending from the theatre reached the quay, it passed under an ornamental marble gateway, the remains of which are complete enough for the reconstruction of the original design. In several respects the monument stands midway between the typical propylæon of Greece and the triumphal arch of Rome. Thus, while the central opening was spanned by an Ionic architrave and entablature, those at either side were arched. Yet the refinement of the Ionic detail leaves no doubt that it is a work of the early Hellenistic age, and it follows, Mr. Heberdey thinks, that the harbour and the adjoining quarter, hitherto supposed to date only from Roman times, must have been laid out on their present lines two or three centuries earlier. The old belief that the Greeks were not familiar with the use of the arch dies hard, and it is still sometimes asserted that they used it only in face of constructive necessity and not as an ornamental feature. Now however we must be prepared to learn that Roman architecture was indebted for many of its most characteristic forms to experiments made in the great cities of Asia Minor. A very striking example of the arch in a Hellenistic building is furnished by the semicircular window, sixteen feet across, which lights the Council chamber discovered three years ago at Priene.

Through the kindness of Prof. Robert von Schneider, Director of the Imperial Museum at Vienna, the writer has lately had the privilege of seeing the sculptures from Ephesus in the work-rooms where they are being prepared for exhibition, and is permitted to give some account of them here. The most important piece is a superb bronze athlete of rather more than life-size. The head, which when found was somewhat flattened, but otherwise intact, has a noble, almost Praxitelean profile, and freely-modelled clustering hair, such as no copyist could hope to render in marble. The body and limbs were shattered—their condition could hardly have been more hopeless, but the excavators sent home some 240 pieces, and Dr. Benndorf and Prof. von Schneider with the Sturms, father and son, the expert sculptors of the museum, set to work on the problem of piecing them together. Thanks mainly to the skill and patience of Herr Wilhelm Sturm the younger, a way was found of joining the fragments by means of internal clamps, a work of extreme difficulty owing to the thinness of the metal, which decreases in thickness, curiously enough, towards the feet, and of bracing the whole

together with an inner framework of metal rods. It proved to be an Athlete using the strigil. Poised on his right leg, his head inclined forward, he has passed the scraper along his stiffened left arm, which is extended downwards and not straight out like that of the Lysippian figure, and pauses for a moment at the wrist. Dr. Furtwängler had already inferred the existence of such a type by comparing a marble athlete in the Uffizi, wrongly restored as carrying a vase, with a similar figure holding a strigil which occurs upon a gem; so the newly discovered Apoxyomenos finds a niche already prepared for him in the history of sculpture. Another bronze from Ephesus is an ornate lamp-stand, one of a pair which supported large lamps with five or six radiating mouths. It seems to have been designed in honour of Heracles. The rich Ionic capital rests on the head of Heracles, wearing his mistress's kerchief, and Omphale, hooded in the lion-skin, set back to back in the fashion of a double herm; on the leaves clothing the abacus reclines a figure of the deified hero attended by two Cupids; and from each volute there floats a free tendril, terminating in a spreading flower from which springs the body of a child-Heracles with shouldered club. The shaft is missing, but a group of Heracles and a centaur, about fourteen inches high, which stood on the plinth at the base of the lamp-stand, is tolerably complete. Taken by surprise, the centaur has torn a bough to serve as a weapon from the tree which grows beside him, and now, thrown back on his haunches, he wheels his lithe body round to confront the pursuer; but Heracles has already closed with him, his right foot pins down one of the centaurs's hind-fetlocks, his left hand grasps one foreleg, and the irresistible club is swung back for a crushing blow. A whole room is given up to the Frieze of Hunting Cupids, the reconstruction of which is only a question of time for the skilled staff of the Vienna Museum. It is a lively composition, full of grace and variety and humour, but its keynote is an almost painful contrast between the soft childish forms, rendered with a skill more Florentine than Greek, and the fierce beasts against which they are pitted. On one well-preserved panel a plump girl-Cupid stands in the pose of a fighting Amazon, with no better protection than a scarf wrapped about her left hand, and drives her spear at a lion who is just breaking away from the hounds. The dark-red paint is still fresh on her braided hair; paint must have been used to outline the rock over which a comrade leans eagerly to second her attack; and many of the accessories must have been shown in the same way. Other scenes portray the end of the hunt. Two laughing Erotes stagger along under the weight of a dead stag, and a third of sturdier proportions strides with a fawn on his shoulders up to a high two-wheeled game-cart, over the sides of which lolls the tusked head of a boar. Among the other sculptures brought from Ephesus there are many interesting pieces, in particular some archaistic heads and an early Roman portrait-bust of the lean aquiline type. A series of handsome pedestals has been made by re-polishing shafts of rare coloured marbles found in the excavation.

The name of Denmark may now be added to the list of nations undertaking research in the Levant. For two years at least the scheme for a

Danish expedition to Cyrene has been under consideration and Dr. Kinch and Dr. Blinkenberg have been spoken of as probable leaders. The news that it has started—so the *Athenaeum* reports—comes as something of a surprise to those who know the difficulties and dangers which Mr. Weld-Blundell and other travellers in the Cyrenaica have had to encounter. The conditions have changed for the worse in the interval since the excavations undertaken by Sir Murdoch Smith, whose death has just been announced, and Mr. Porcher in 1861. It has become a point of religion with the natives, many of whom are followers of the Senoussi, that Europeans must be kept out of their country at all costs. However, the expedition will doubtless have all the support which the presence of a man-of-war can afford, and if it succeeds in getting to work we may look for results of the first importance.

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