#### **REPÓRT**

# ON THE INSPECTORATE OF UPPER EGYPT FROM APRIL 1920 TO MARCH 1921

BY

#### R. ENGELBACH.

In this report I have endeavoured to give a general account of the work done, or in progress, since taking over the inspectorate, with a description of the objects found and bought during this period which are in any way out of the ordinary.

#### KARNAK.

At Nag' Es-Sabtieh, the village on the south-west corner of the temenos wall of the temples of Karnak, Hakim eff. Abou Seif and I have cleared a block of houses, 18 in all, by simple exchange, the inhabitants having agreed to accept land in payment for their entire properties. The houses were valued by a commission of notables and the land was given to them at the rate of L. Eg. 120 per feddan. (Since these transactions took place the land has dropped in value considerably.) There remain some 25 houses still to be got rid of, including four big ones. We may be able to come to terms with some of the small fry but an expropriation will be necessary before we can obtain the large houses as the owners are demanding fabulous prices for them.

The infiltration in the temple of Karnak has been the worst for fifteen years, and the deposit of salt has been correspondingly bad. A delay in the arrival of the new hose-pipe has made the extraction of the salt very difficult, and now, even after repeated washings, the deposit has not been completely removed. An even more serious result of the infiltration has been that the obelisk of Thutmose I seems to be leaning, even more

than last year, towards the Hypostyle Hall. M. M. Pillet, who has lately taken over the work of M. Legrain, is examining this question.

The sabâkh work has lain in unproductive places and very few objects have come in; the only objects of interest being a statue of Kha'-nefer-Re', Sebek-hetep, and a votive stele. These are described later.

#### THEBAN NECROPOLIS.

The most important work being done on this side is the making of a 1/1000 large-scale map of the entire necropolis by the Survey Department. This will, of course, be an official publication and will shew in detail the limits of each modern house and the position and number of all the tombs. The 1/500 maps done by M. Émile Baraize are now out of date, and do not in any case cover half the area of the necropolis. The encroachments have been very great in the last twelve years; a few stones casually laid on the ground become, in an amazingly short space of time, a low wall, then a high wall — and then a house, which will be sworn to by a hundred witnesses as having existed from time immemorial. It has been our work lately to clear up doubtful boundaries and this has succeeded better than I should have expected. My method is to persuade the inhabitants to accept a piece of land which seems of doubtful ownership, on the condition of their relinquishing all claim on a similar piece of land needed by the Service to make the boundaries of their property definite and compact. The result has been that the Service has gained a great deal of land, which would certainly have been lost if the matter had been taken to the Courts. The originals of these sheets will be done within two months.

The Survey Dept. is taking the best plans published of the ancient monuments and suitably reducing them for insertion on their map. The excavators at Thebes have also been giving all the assistance in their power for making this work as complete and accurate as possible.

A result of this limiting of the encroachments on the Theban necropolis will be a great crowding in the houses. In a very few years it will be necessary to start a new town site, if it be possible to find a piece of desert which we are tolerably certain is free from tombs. I am now studying this question.

We owe our thanks to the Director General of the Survey Dept. for doing this work for the Service so promptly, and our thanks are also due to Lieut. Bernard Hood, R. A. F., for taking a series of air-photographs of the Theban Necropolis, which the Survey Dept. is printing for us.

The clearing of the roads round the tombs and temples on this side of the river, which has been done for the visit of H. H. The Sultan, will be a great boon to your visitors in the future.

#### LEGAL NOTES.

The year has produced a fair crop of cases in the Courts. The majority of these are concerned with illicit diggings, dealing in antiquities without licences, thefts in a small way and assaults. Some cases are of considerable importance as they serve to establish precedents which may be of value in future cases. Of these, two may be cited:

On the 19 February 1920 two natives were condemned to one month's imprisonment for not reporting a find of sculptors models, made in digging a well on their own property at Karnak. The objects were confiscated.

At the Parquet at Qena, on the 11th April 1920 two other persons were condemned to six months imprisonment for selling imitation antiquities as genuine, and to two months imprisonment for trying to sell a genuine antiquity — namely a bronze Osiris — without a licence.

#### OBJECTS FOUND.

(1) Statue of Sebek-heter IV. — On the 7th June 1920, the sabbâkhîn working about 10 metres north of the temple of Apet at Karnak, found the lower part of a black granite statue of Kha'-nefer-Re', Sebek-hetep (IV) seated on a throne. On both sides of the legs of the figure, on the throne, are vertical lines of hieroglyphs each reading:

«The Good God; Lord of the two Lands; The Gallant; King of the South and North, Kha'-nefer-Re', Sebek-hetep.»

The inscription appears to me not to be of the same date as the statue, as it is very roughly cut — almost scratched on the stone. Judging from the work of the statue, it might well be of the XIIth dynasty and usurped by the later king.

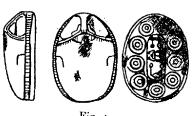


Fig. 1.

The left face of the throne is decidedly concave and appears to have been

used as a mortar in late times. Its height is now o m. 79 cent.

(2) A XII<sup>th</sup> (?) Dynasty scarab. — Figure 1 shews the front, back and side

of an unglazed steatite scarab bought at a shop in Luxor. It is one of a curious series having the name of a XIIth king, in this case that of Senusert I, with two nefers substituted for the word Re', thus : 11362 | ].

Several XIIth dynasty kings' names have been found written in this way, but that of Senusert I seems to be the most common.

From its rather degraded form, shewn in the legs and the circles, it has been thought that this series belongs, in the most part, to the Hyksos period. I know of no published group containing one of these scarabs which could make the date certain. On the other hand, some of the scarabs of this series are of the same excellence as the best XIIth dynasty scarabs. Several examples of these "neferui" scarabs are given in Petrie, Scarabs and Cylinders, pl. XII. The beetle, called Hypselogenia, which this specimen is supposed to represent, is common in, but not exclusive to this type (Scale, full size; entry number 46.919).

I have in my possession a very fine spiraled scarab, giving the name **↓↓ ‡ \* \***, which appears to be of the best XH<sup>th</sup> dynasty work.

(3) Stele of Khuwy (Entry nº 46.784). — This stele is of limestone with a slightly rounded top. Above are a pair of uzat eyes with a sealring between them. Seven lines of inscription follow. Below, on the left of the stele, are a male and female figure of crude design, the male being in front but quite clear of the female figure, except that she has her left hand on his shoulder. Both figures are seated on one chair. Between

these figures and a table of offerings on the lower right side of the stele is a short vertical line of text giving the name of the woman, 'Asha-Sonb.

Vertical :  $(\longrightarrow)$ 

Horizontal: † «A royal offering by Horus of Edfû and Osiris, Lord of Busiris, the Great God, Lord † of Abydos; may they give funeral-offerings of bread, beer, ducks, oxen, incense, ointment, clothing, and every † good and pure thing which Heaven gives, the Earth creates, and which the hill Nile brings and on which a god lives, to the ka of the Priest, the Enterer † Khuwy. His son causes his name to live, the † Judge of Hieraconpolis, Har-nakht, right of speech, son of the Lady of the House Iot-s-sonb, right of speech. † His son is the Priest, the Enterer, Ḥar-ḥotpe, right of speech, worthy."

Vertical: "The Lady of the House, 'Asha-sonb, right of speech, worthy". The title "q" is discussed in Annales du Service, vol. XVII, p. 239, by M. Daressy, who suggests that it means one who has the right of entry into the temple. Both the following steles contain names with this title.

The stele measures o m. 53 cent. high and o m. 41 cent. wide.

(4) Stell of Hor-Behedti-mose (Entry n° 46.786). — Limestone stele, o m. 24 cent. high and o m. 11 cent. wide, found on the 15th November 1910. The work is very crude and the text seems corrupt. The top is rounded, and has the seal-ring between the two uzat eyes usual in these steles. Nine lines of text follow. There are no figures on the stele.

### 

\* "A royal offering by Horus of Edfû and Osiris, † Lord of Busiris, the Great God... \* ... life. \* May be give funeral offerings of bread(?), beer (?), oxen, ducks and clothing to the ka of the \* Priest, the Enterer, Hor-Behedti-mose, \* begotten of the Priest Har-hotpe, \* begotten of the Priest Irer. Saith he: 7 I am one perfect among his brethren and \* gallant... \* ... \* ... \* ... \*

- a) The text here seems corrupt, but I have seen, in a dealer's shop at Edfû, a stele having the same group of signs after the neter.
- b) With the reference books at my disposal here at Luxor I can give no translation of the word hm-t. If it means 'wife', I have never known it spelt in this way.
- (5) Stelle of Hor-her-khut-f (Entry n° 46.785). This stell is of limestone, rounded at the top, and measuring o m. 49 cent. high by o m. 30 cent. wide. The work is very coarse indeed. The face of the stell is decidedly convex.

Below the seal-ring, between the *uzat* eyes, are six lines of text. At the bottom right hand corner is a female figure seated on the same chair as a male figure but not touching it at all. Each figure holds a lotus in the right hand. In front of the figures are two vertical lines of text.

Vertical, R: (←)

Vertical,  $L: (\longrightarrow)$   $\square \Longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^*$ 

<sup>1</sup> «A royal offering by Horus of Edfû, the Great God, Lord of Heaven, and Osiris, <sup>2</sup> who is in Edfû; may be give funeral offerings of bread,

wine, oxen, ducks and every fine thing \(^3\) on which a god lives (and may he be) clean \(^4\) of hands according to the instruction (?) of his God; may he know the 'place of his legs', may he be serene in his comings (?), may he be \(^5\) at his place in the temple. To the \(^6\) Priest, the Enterer, Hor-her-khut-f, son of Ramose.

R. column: «His beloved wife Iuf».

L. column: "The Priest, the Enterer, Hor-her-khut-f".

The provenance of these three steles  $n^{os}$  3, 4 and 5 is Tell Edfû, where they were found by the sabbakhin.

In the sabâkh work here a very considerable quantity of antiquities have been found. In my opinion the site is too valuable to allow sabâkh work without skilled — and honest — supervision during the whole time that digging is taking place. I realize that the inhabitants must have sabâkh for their crops, so I suggest that the excavation of the tell be taken up by the Service, or that a concession be given to some recognized excavating party as soon as possible, and the sabbâkhîn be put under the control of the digger as regards the place where the sabâkh may be taken.

As to the date of these steles, they are almost certainly of the Middle Kingdom.

(6) Ushabti-box of Pa-nef-em-dyt-Amen. — This box, the end of which is shewn in fig. 2, and the side in fig. 3, was seized by the Service ghafirs from an unlicensed dealer at Luxor. The case was taken before the tribunal and resulted in a fine of P. T. 50 and the confiscation of the box.

The box measured o m. 40 cent. by o m. 16 cent., the sides being o m. 23 cent. high and the ends o m. 33 cent. high. Only the bottom, one side, and parts of the ends now remain. It was divided by a partition at the point A in the figure, and all the joints had been filled in with plaster. The ground colour is yellow, inside and out, and the scenes are outlined in red and coloured white, red, blue, green, and black. I have indicated the colours by letters on the drawing.

The scene on the side represents the deceased and his wife offering four statuettes of the Children of Horus to the God Harakhti and the Goddess Maat, the former being styled 'The Particoloured'.

The text of this scene reads: "Praising Re'; may be give floral-offer-

ings to the Agent of Amen, Pa-nef-em-dyt-Amen, right of speech, and his wife, the Musician of Amen, Henut-neferu."



Both the ends of the box seem to have been devoted to the Ritual of the Ushabti, the vi<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of the Dead. The ritual has been considerably abbreviated, and it will be noticed that it begins with "O my Ushabti" instead of the more usual "O this Ushabti" or "O Ushabti of...".

The text reads (fig. 2 --): «May the Priest, the Agent of the House of Amen, Pa-nef-em-dyt-Amen, right of speech, be glorified. Saith he: O my Ushabti, if I be ordered for the doing of any works such as are to be done in the Underworld, for the tilling of the fields, (or) for the carrying of sand from the East...».

- b) The determinative for \( \) \( \) \( \) \( \) 'send' has been inserted in error in the word \( \) \( \) 'to command'.
  - c) The  $\longrightarrow$  seems superfluous.
- d) The word 0 4 'to throw down' has been put in for the word 0 4 'to till'.

At the other end of the box, the first column alone remains. The only difference in the text in this copy of the ritual is that after the words 'O my Ushabti' the words \\_\_

Fig. 2. the words 'O my Ushabti' the words \\_\_\_\_\_\_ occur. I can give no explanation of their meaning.

The lid of the box was fastened on by tying it down to small pegs or



Fig. 3.

knobs of which there are three on the surviving side. These are marked 'P' on the drawing.

(7) Part of a black granite statuette of a kneeling man. — The statuette was supported by a pillar which was uninscribed. The figure held a tablet between the hands on which two complete lines and part of a third are still legible.

«... Monthu, Lord of Tûd, Overseer of the flock of the High Priestess of Amen, Hêmai.»

The name occurs in coptic as 2HMAÏ (see coptic ostrakon described later in this article).

The provenance of this fragment is unknown.

(8) Ankh-was amulet. Fig. 4 (Entry no. 46.791). — This amulet, of green glazed ware, dated to the reign of king Taharqa, XXV<sup>th</sup> dynasty, was bought from a dealer in Luxor. It measures o m. 235 mill. long and had been broken and rather skilfully repaired by the dealer.

The front of the handle is flat, with the inscription in faded brown characters. The back has no colour other than the green glaze. The back of the handle is rounded, with two grooves along its length to indicate the continuation of the sceptre down to the bottom of the amulet. The cross-arms have lotuses and binding-cords in relief, but not very clearly defined.

"The Good God, Khu-nefertum-Re'; Son of the Sun, Taharq; given life; beloved of Amen-Re', Lord of Karnak; given life like Re', eternally."

The throne-name of the king is not at all clear. The only variants of the name which I have notes of here are  $\circ$   $\downarrow$   $\bullet$  and  $\circ$   $\bullet$   $\bullet$   $\bullet$ .

The dealer tells me that the amulet comes from the sabâkh work at Karnak, which is possible.

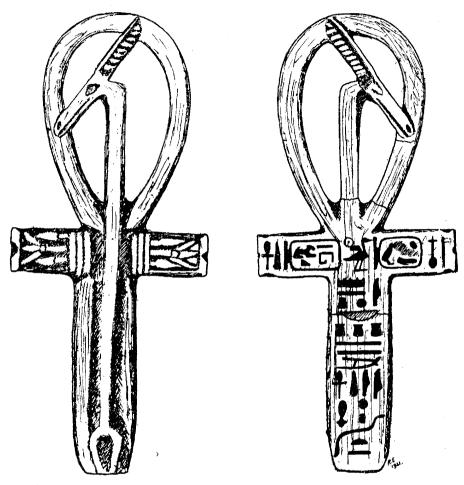
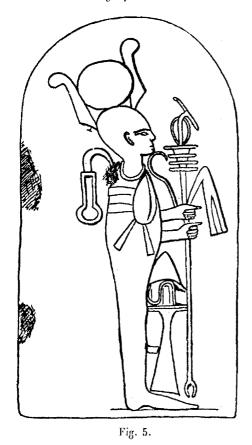


Fig. 4.

(9) Limestone votive stell of the god Khonsu from the sabâkh work west of the temple of Khonsu at Karnak, about 20 metres north of the temple of Apet. The stell (fig. 5) measures 0 m. 235 mill. high and 0 m. 112 mill. wide, and is of coarse work in bas-relief and appears never to have been coloured. It is of the XXVI<sup>th</sup> dynasty or later (found June 1920).

(10) Base of a statuette of basalt of late date from the sabakh work at Dendereh in 1907. Around the base are two prayers written in both



directions from the centre of the front, and finishing at the centre of the back. The work is very good and the stone well squared and polished. The difference between the sa-bird and the geb-bird is well shewn (fig. 6).

Words spoken: "Greeting to thee from the mouth of Nephthys, Daughter of Geb; she protects thee in life, stability and prosperity. O Osiris, thy soul comes forth to the Elysian Fields; thou

art purified in divine water drawn from Hetep-hem; thou renewest youth like Khepera.»

Words spoken: "Greeting to thee from the mouth of Isis. Re' shines within the sarcophagus. O Osiris, thou findest thy bravery through his brilliance when he sails above. He circles around thy tomb like the Great

Cat of Heliopolis. Thou art distinguished among the Horizon-dwellers; thou becomest a follower of his boat.

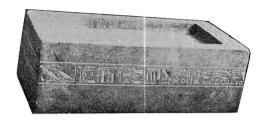


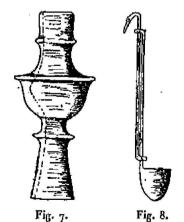
Fig. 6.

The reference to the Cat is taken from the xvin<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Book of the Dead (see Budge, Book of the Dead, trans. p. 54), where he translates the passage: "I am the Cat who fought hard (?) by the Persea-tree in Heliopolis on the night when the foes of Neb-er-tcher were destroyed...."

The base of the statuette measures o m. 30 cent. by o m. 12 cent. by o m. 08 cent. (Entry no. 46.918).

(11) and (12) Bronzes. Fig. 7 shows one of a set of seven objects of a use unknown to me. Each example varies slightly in shape, but are all

of nearly the same height, i. e. of about o m. 28 cent. They are hollow throughout their length (Entry nos. 46.753-46.759). Fig. 8 is one of a set of three crucibles found with the objects mentioned above. These vary in size and capacity. Two have extending handles like the one shewn, while the remaining one has a simple handle. Each of the handles is decorated at the end with a duck's head (Entry nos. 46.750-46.752).



(13) Stell of Limestone of A MAN CALLED

HAT-IAY, who is entitled 'the Standard-bearer', found with the bronzes mentioned above (Entry no. 46.749). This is shewn in fig. 9.

Nos. 11 to 13 were all found on August 6th in the sabâkh work at Tell Edfù. With them were found an iron fas-head and a small iron anvil of



Fig. 9.

square section, tapering from the bottom upwards. The remainder of the find included some dishes of Ptolemaïc date and a large number of Ptolemaïc copper coins of various denominations.

(14) Coptic ostrakon from the sabâkh work in the birbeh at Medinet Habu, in the Sahidic dialect (Entry no. 46.740). It measures o m. 22 cent. long and has been rather badly broken. It contains 24 lines of well-formed writing with very few ligatures. The characteristic letters are shewn below (fig. 10).

## ABEKAMNOMPTW 42Y

Fig. 10.

#### The text reads:

- $_{1}$  cts gopii m[c]n toinc [c]tek
- мітсон пхоєїс [ече]смоу єрок
- 3 м<del>й некраме</del> тнроу мй нектв
- 4 нооре мії йка нім стфооп нак
- 5 йос сптачсмоу спенейоте стоуа
- 6 [a] B NOJOPII ABPARAM MN ICAAK MN
- 7 їакшв· †паракалеї йтєкмйт
- 8 con жекас екначі $\overset{(a)}{\underset{\cdots}{\Pi}}$ ροογω νίπκογ $\overset{(sic)}{\eta}$
- OG ERM EX. PERSYPTIN ESAMM 0
- 10 **ТС ЙРФМС С**Ї СМ2НТ · АРІ ПNА
- 11 ΑΠΡΈΟ ΜΗΠΙΟΟ ΝΕΤΑΚΟ ΑΥΟ
- 12  $N\bar{\Gamma}$ XOO $\gamma$ 29 EBOX KAXWC · HETE
- 13 фачтагоч тира филтаач

- 14 жекас ере пенжоеїс іс п
- 15 ΧΈ ΝΑΤΝΝΟΟΥ ΜΠΕΘΕΜΟΥ
- 16 СЕРАЇ СЖЙ НЕКЖЙООУ МЙ
- 17 ИСКІРФТ МЙ ИСКІВН $[\gamma e]$
- үөмзаири фуа үоүнт 81
- 19 МЙ ИЕКРОМЕ ТИРОУ
- 20 **6** ΝΕΪ2ΪC**G·** ΟΥΧΑΪ 2Μ
- 21 HXOCIC TAAC M
- 22 ПСИСОН ЗНМАЇ ЗЇ
- 23 тм єп[іф]
- 24 [A]NÏ[OC]
- "(1) First I enquire about (2) thy Brotherhood. The Lord shall bless thee (3) with all thy men and thy cat(4)tle and everything which belongs to thee (5) in the manner which He blessed our Holy Fathers (6) of old, Abraham and Isaac and (7) Jacob. I request of thy brother-(8)hood that thou take charge of the small (crop of?) (9) flax so that it be plucked; for the fear (10) of man has not come Northwards. Do the favour and (11) delay not lest it perish; and (12) do thou.... it well. Whatever (13) befalls I will pay for it (lit. give it) (14) so that our Lord Jesus the (15) Christ shall send His blessing (16) on thy threshing floors and (17) thy vats and all thy affairs (18) and He shall save them (19) together with all thy men (20) from these troublous (times). Health in (21) the Lord. To give it to (22) our brother Hêmai from (23) Epiph-(24) anios."
  - (a) The n is written above the line between the  $\ddot{i}$  and the p.
- (b) This rare form is from the verb 2000c «to pluck» (cf. Crum, Rylands Catalogue, no. 160, note 1).
- (c) 'The fear of man, etc.' may have something to do with some inroad, but hardly that of the Persians in 619, referred to in other ostraka, which refer to the troubles coming Southward.
- (d) A hitherto unknown verb in the pronominal form which may refer to some process in treating the flax.

(e) This may mean 'these troubles' referring to some previous letter, but more probably means 'these hard times' which may be those of the early 7<sup>th</sup> cent. when there were severe political disturbances.

I have to thank Dr. W. E. Crum for most of the notes given above. I submitted my transcription and translation to him and he was kind enough to comment on it without seeing the original ostrakon, correcting my translation in several particulars.

The writing is now hardly legible and it was only by very careful wetting that I could recover the text (Entry no. 46.740).

R. Engelbach.