

SECOND REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS AT
TELL ES-SÂFI.

By F. J. BLISS, Ph.D.

THE present report brings the record of the work done to about the middle of July, when a break of a few weeks was made, owing to the summer's heat. We are able to announce the discovery of a building, evidently a small temple of pre-Israelite date, enclosing three standing-stones. Owing to the limited space available for illustration in the *Statements*, the current reports must necessarily be incomplete, as full descriptions of unfigured objects are apt to lose much of their significance. I may mention here that Mr. Macalister has filled over 80 sheets with drawings of the objects and fragments found up to the present time, a careful catalogue of which is preserved. I mention this fact to show that the length of this report is not at all indicative of the amount of work done.

In my first report on the work at Tell es-Sâfi (p. 188) I announced that we had marked out an area, 80 feet by 90, on the narrow plateau at the north-east of the Tell, north and east of the graveyard, with the intention of clearing the whole area to the rock. The plan was to work this in three sections, each 80 feet by 30. At the date of posting that report the first section had been completed (rock having been found at an average depth of 26 feet), and the second section had been deepened to about 13 feet. By the end of June this second portion had been finished, and, as there was no time to complete the third proposed section before the summer's break, we decided to suspend operations on the plateau, especially as it seemed best, before we left, to restore the land to the level condition in which we had found it. The dimensions of the area excavated indicate how laborious a task this was. In our last season's work the utmost care was taken to prevent the overlooking of minute objects, a large part of the earth being sifted. On re-handling the earth at the time of filling up, it

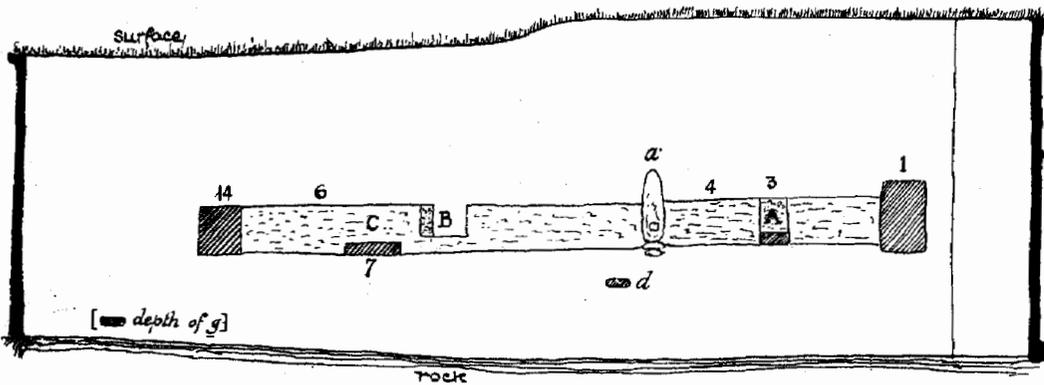
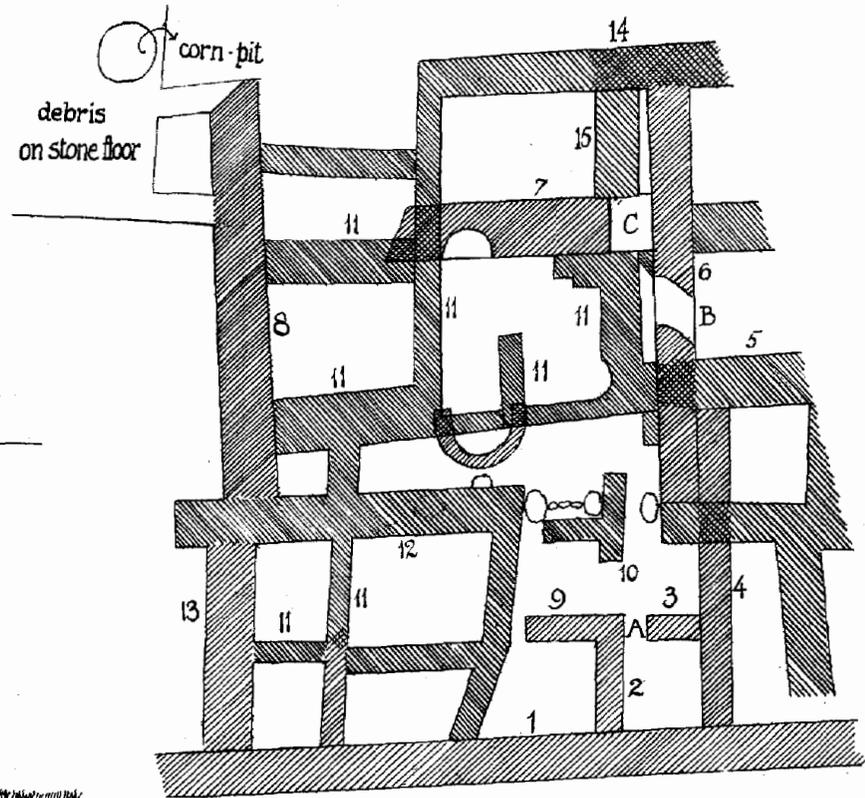
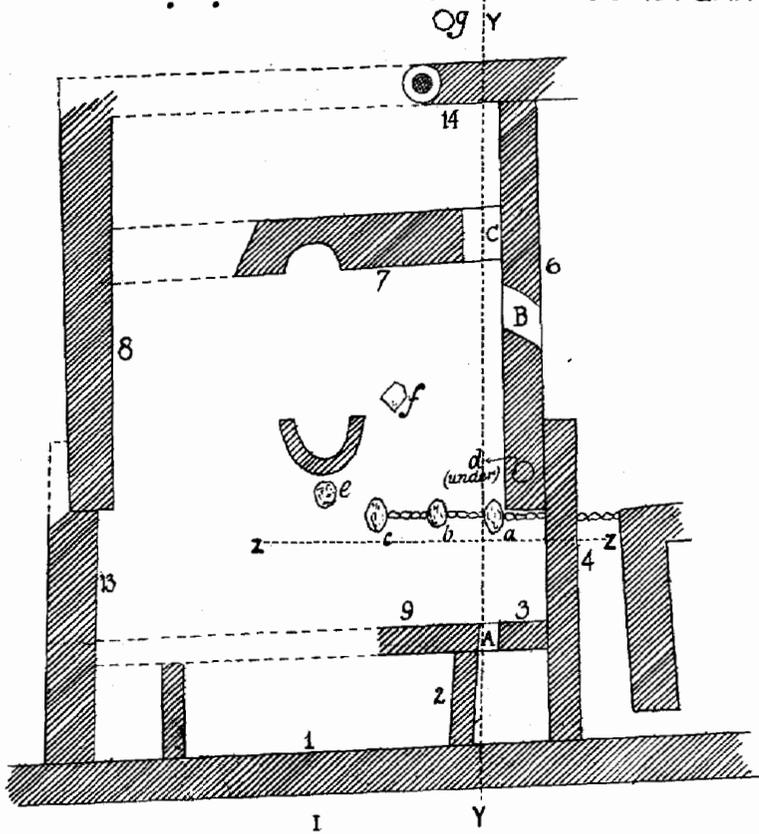
was a gratification to find that the number of objects that appeared was almost *nil*, though especial *bukhsheesh* was offered to the discoverer.

In the course of digging this large pit, 80 feet long, 60 feet broad, and at an average 26 feet deep, we came across the foundations of buildings which represent at least four mutually excluding occupations. The main material used was stone, but here and there were patches of fallen and decayed mud-brick, indicating that this material had been employed for the partition walls. In one place seven courses of a brick wall were found. I may mention here that our suggestion, made on p. 195 of the last *Quarterly*, that the city wall to the south of the Wely consisted of mud-brick on stone foundations, has been verified, some 40 feet having been traced.

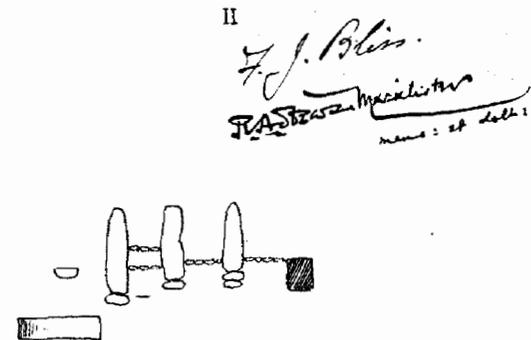
The four systems of construction just mentioned were as follows:—(1) Immediately under the surface appeared a series of rudely-constructed large chambers, with walls consisting chiefly of rubble laid in mortar, but containing some dressed stones, which showed the unmistakable fine diagonal chiselling of the Crusaders. Several voussoirs scattered about had the same chiselling. The foundations of these walls were from 4 to 6 feet below the surface. (2) At a depth ranging from 11 feet to 14 feet occurred several walls, consisting of roughly-covered rubble laid in mud, ranging in breadth from 2 to 4 feet. (3) At a depth ranging from 15 to 18 feet were the foundations of a third series of chambers of similar construction. Some of these walls may have been used in period No. 2, but that their date of building was antecedent will be shown in our discussion. (4) From a depth of 20 feet to the rock were found several isolated walls, representing the ruins of the earliest period, and apparently having no connection with the wallings above.

As only two-thirds of the proposed clearance have been completed, it would be unedifying to publish at present the partial plan of the Crusading chambers, especially as these showed no features of importance. At a depth of from 18 to 20 feet, however, were found three upright monoliths standing upon foot-stones, together with the foot-stones of others, all

TELL ES-ŞAFI EXCAVATION: GROUNDPLANS. (NORTH-EAST PLATEAU, CENTRAL STRATA)



SECTION YY



SECTION ZZ

in situ, which are of such special interest that a report upon them cannot be delayed. That these stones were enclosed by walls is clear; that some of the walls found in close connection with the stones could not have had anything to do with these is also clear. We have already intimated that while the walls whose foundations occur at a depth ranging from 11 feet to 18 feet may be resolved into two periods (the second and third of the series), part of the earlier system appears to have been used at the later period. Accordingly it has seemed best to publish two plans side by side (Plate I), one (No. I) showing all the walls just mentioned, and the other (No. II) showing only the more ancient walls which formed the temple surrounding the monoliths. As the depths of rude foundations of any given building may vary from point to point, and as these rubble walls show no distinct signs of bond, the task of elimination was delicate, and hence it will be necessary to give the process by which such elimination was effected. The delicacy of the problem was enhanced by the fact that the area including these walls was excavated in two portions, the western portion having been filled up (owing to practical exigencies) before we suspected the existence of the temple. All walls, of course, had carefully been planned. It should be noted that in the reconstruction of the temple, while we have omitted walls, in no case have we added walls, but have merely carried on by dotted lines such ruined walls as actually exist.¹

First as to the monoliths themselves. In cross section they are irregularly oval, the surface being roughly flaked down. They consist of soft limestone, and are so much weathered that no signs of the tool used are left. Stone *a* tapers to a point; stones *b* and *c* taper slightly, but have comparatively flat tops. The heights of the three stones differ, but their tops are almost in the same horizontal plane; *a* is 5 feet 10 inches high, cross dimensions 30 inches by 24 inches; *b* is 6 feet 5 inches high, cross dimensions 27 inches by 19 inches; *c* is 7 feet 1 inch high, cross dimensions 31 inches by 21 inches; *a* rests on a

¹ On Plan II the two systems of walls are indicated by a difference in hatching.

roughly pentagonal foot-stone, measuring 24 inches by 20 inches, which stands on a second similar foot-stone, set on *débris*; *b* and *c* have but one foot-stone each, that under *b* being roughly rectangular. Between stones *c* and *b* was found a row of rough field-stones, unworn by feet, and above this, separated from it by about 1 foot of *débris*, a second row. Between stones *b* and *a* was another similar row, about 4 inches higher than the lower of the two rows just mentioned. The line of stones continued between *a* and Wall 4, and was found 18 inches lower between Walls 4 and 5. This line appears to indicate a natural ground level, and hence the monoliths rose from 4 feet to 5 feet only above the surface. Signs of rubbing were observed on the exposed surfaces of the monoliths, in one at the height of a man's shoulder above the supposed ground line, in another at the height of the shoulders of a sheep. In the *débris* south of the monoliths, at about the level of the row of stones connecting them was found a quantity of bones of camels, sheep, and cows. A few such bones were found under the foot-stone of *b*.

Assuming this row of field-stones to indicate the ground level of the temple, we may look for other signs of ground levels in the surrounding walls. At A we find a doorway with a footworn sill $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the line of stones connecting *a* and *b*, but only some 4 inches below the line connecting *c* and *b*. Doorway A leads into the chamber bounded by the walls 1, 2, 3, and 4, which thus appear to have been in use when the monoliths were connected by the rows of field-stones. From the height still standing wall No. 1 appears to have served for the later period as well. In the long wall 6 occurs a skewed opening (B), roughly silled with footworn stones, 1 foot below the line of stones connecting *a* and *b*, and hence only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the sill at A.¹ A similar footworn sill occurs in the doorway C, 8 inches below the sill at B, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches below the sill at A, and only 20 inches below the line of stones connecting *a* and *b*. These sills are too nearly at the same level to admit of the supposition that they represent different periods, and hence appear to belong to one system of chambers, the flooring

¹ For discussion of the opening B, see a later paragraph.



VIEW OF SUPPOSED "TEMPLE" FROM THE SOUTH.



VIEW OF SUPPOSED "TEMPLE" FROM THE NORTH.

of which was slightly irregular. Moreover, the walls with which they are connected are either very nearly parallel, or very nearly at right angles to each other. Further examining the walls we find Wall 8 parallel to Wall 6, and terminating at the south in about the same line. In Wall 7 there occurs a break, roughly in the form of an apse, though it has not the symmetry necessarily indicated in a small scale plan. This break is 4 feet 5 inches across and 2 feet 4½ inches deep. At first it was a question whether the break was due to the ruined condition of the wall at this point, or whether it was a part of the design rudely carried out. The fact, however, that no signs of foundations occur at this point is in favour of the latter view, as, had it been a mere breach, the bottom row of stones would probably have remained. This view is strengthened by the position of the break almost midway between the parallel walls, 6 and 8, and, further, by the fact that it faces a rude semicircle of stones, having a diameter of 3 feet 7 inches, which is only 10 inches shorter than the diameter of the supposed apse. This semicircle stands to the height of 20 inches, and consists of two courses of stones. The level of its top is some 4 feet below the line of stones connecting *a* and *b*, hence if it belonged to the same system of construction we must suppose that several courses have been ruined. Its occurrence almost immediately in the centre of the chamber which we are endeavouring to reconstruct is noteworthy. This chamber is bounded on the north by the wall 7, which is broken off a few feet west of the apse, but which probably once ran to Wall 8, as indicated by dotted lines. On the western half of this wall a later wall, slightly thinner, was superimposed; this is omitted from Plan I. The chamber is bounded on the south by Wall 3, and by its evident continuation, Wall 9, which are very nearly parallel to Wall 7. On Plan I we have extended Wall 9 to the west. It is bounded on the east and west by Walls 6 and 8, as far as the line of the monoliths, where the chamber is widened to the east by the breadth of Wall 6, and Wall 4 (which runs behind Wall 6) becomes its eastern boundary. Wall 13 is retained on Plan I, as it appears generally to correspond to Wall 4. The distance between

Walls 6 and 8 is about 32 feet, and between Walls 7 and 9 about 30 feet; hence the chamber appears intended to have been a square, made broader towards the south end.

On Plan II the interior of this chamber may be seen to be crossed by various walls, which appear to belong to later constructions, and which are accordingly omitted from Plan I. The walls 10 were clearly constructed when the monoliths were no longer objects above ground, as they are built around *b* (standing about to the level of the top of this stone) and over the line of stones connecting *b* and *a*. The walls marked 11 enclose small rooms, unconnected by doorways, sufficient proof that they represent the foundations of buildings of a later period ruined down below their ground level. Moreover, these foundations are mainly higher than the ground level of the temple. Wall 12 is omitted from Plan I, first on the ground that it interrupts the symmetry of a building the general lines of which appear to be clear; second, it butts on to the monolith, *c*, entirely obscuring one side of it which was equally weathered with the other side; third, in the north face of this wall a monolith 6 feet 3 inches long is built in sideways as a bottom stone, while projecting from under this face, 6 inches below its foundations, we found the round stone *e* (diameter, $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches), at about the level of the line of stones between *b* and *c*. We have here evidently the foot-stone of a fourth monolith as well as the monolith itself, the latter built into a later wall, probably contemporaneous with Walls 10, which were erected at a period when the standing stones were neglected.

To the north of the large chamber enclosing the standing stones we have signs of a long, narrow chamber connected with the former by door C. Of its north wall (14) only the eastern portion remains, and has built into it at the point where it is ruined a stone vat, 30 inches in diameter, with a broken bottom. The position of this vat appears to be merely accidental, and illustrates the rude nature of the construction. Resting on the remains of this wall and extending beyond it to the west is a later wall (omitted from Plan I), which is probably contemporaneous with Wall 11. To the south of the large chamber are signs of a series of small rooms, bounded on

the south by Wall 1. One such chamber—the one entered by door A—has the lower part of its four walls complete, and, as observed above, is shown by the level of its door-sill to belong to the period of the large central chamber. We are thus reminded of the division of the Greek temple into Naos, pro-Naos, and Opisthodomus, only in this case the space for the pro-Naos is sub-divided.

In regard to the skewed opening at B, the sides are irregular on plan, though fairly plumb, the wall here (No. 6) is ruined down to a level only a couple of feet higher than the rough sill, consisting of irregular footworn stones, the polish extending to a slight bend in the jamb where it is unlikely that a man should step in passing through the supposed doorway. These considerations led me to question the fact whether we had here a doorway at all, or whether this were merely a point where the wall was ruined down to the level of some footworn stones which had been built into this wall, just as the broken vat had been built into Wall 14. However, I am not inclined to be dogmatic on the matter. Mr. Macalister does not recognise this objection, and has advanced the ingenious and plausible theory that the opening was skewed on purpose to admit the rays of the rising sun on a certain day of the year, directly upon the apse in the north wall.

Under the foundations of Wall 6 was found, apparently *in situ*, the irregularly circular stone *d*, 30 inches across, similar to the foot-stones under the monoliths. Its level is about 1 foot lower than that of the foot-stone of *c*. The stone *f* was found *in situ* about 1 foot higher than *d*. It has a rude pentagonal shape, measuring 24 inches across, shows signs of footwear, and is indented with three small sockets, 1 inch across and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep. Stones *a*, *b*, and *c* are in a line pointing almost due east (the reading of the prismatic compass is 92 degrees), but taken in connection with the bases, *d*, *e*, and *f*, form part of a rude circle. Now stone *d* is buried by the wall No. 6, hence, assuming a connection between the six stones, it seems probable that the stone circle was an object of veneration before the surrounding temple was built. At that time stone *d* must have disappeared from the system. The fact

that the line of field-stones connecting the monoliths extends between stone *a* and Wall 4, and between Walls 4 and 5, suggested the possibility of finding foot-stones under these two walls. However, no such stones were found, and they probably never existed, as it is improbable that these should have been removed when the walls were built, and that the smaller field-stones should have been left undisturbed. The latter, then, were probably put in place after the walls were built.

At a point 40 feet to the north of stone *b* was found a boulder, *g*, resembling a foot-stone, at a level about 5 feet below the general level of the other foot-stones. On the assumption that the stones above described originally formed a circle, this might possibly be the foot-stone of a monolith, such as is constantly found outside the circumference of such circles elsewhere; as the Friar's Heel at Stonehenge, and Long Meg, in the group known as "Meg and her daughters." The depth at which *g* was found would, of course, make it necessary to assume a much longer monolith than *a*, *b*, and *c*.

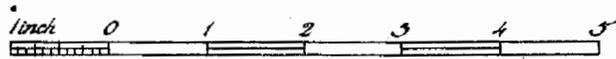
Unfortunately the objects found in the large clearance pit were comparatively few, aside from the pottery which we have shown (p. 193, *July Quarterly*), to lie in four strata: (1) From the surface to a depth of 7 feet we found a mixture of styles with a good proportion of Arab ware, the other types consisting of Jewish ware, Greek ware (both early and late), and a few pre-Israelite specimens. (2) From 8 to 10 feet we have the same types, minus the Arab stuff and with less late Greek. (3) From 9 to 20 feet occur pre-Israelite types, including Phœnician forms. (4) From 21 feet to the rock occur only the most ancient forms of pre-Israelite ware (dated at Tell-el-Hesi, 1600-1700 B.C.), with no Phœnician stuff. The temple thus falls into the later pre-Israelite period, as its supposed ground is about 18 feet under the surface.

The painted pre-Israelite pottery shows a great variety of patterns. Only one specimen is now published, though the fragments cover 11 sheets of drawings. This was found at the level of the temple (Plate II). It is a large and fine jar, 27.4 centimetres high, in buff ware, with strainer-spout on the side containing

TELL EŞ-ŞÂFI EXCAVATION: PRE-ISRAELITE POTTERY



PROJECTION OF ORNAMENT



■ Black
 ▨ Red



*PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND
 7. J. Bliss.*

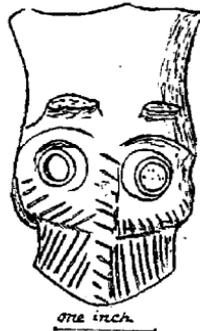
13 holes. The handle, which was not opposite to the strainer-spout but a quadrant round from it, as well as the rim, is broken off. The ornament, in order from bottom to top, consists, first, of four horizontal red lines; second, a broad band, showing the figure of a bird, spirals, upright lines, and zigzags, all in black; third, three red lines; fourth, a belt, consisting of groups of concentric semicircles in black (necessarily distorted in the projection of the ornament shown in the drawing); and, finally, a red band around the neck. The jar was found broken, but we were able to put the fragments together.¹

A curious vessel, of a form quite new to me, was found just above the temple (Plate III). It is in the form of a cylindrical cup, 13·8 centimetres in diameter at the mouth and 9 centimetres in height. The sides are concave and the base convex, the foot being broken off. At one point in the side an irregularly triangular hole has been formed in the making. In front of this is one attachment of the handle, now lost; as the rim shows no trace of the other attachment, the handle was never looped upwards, and if looped at all must have joined the lost foot. In the side opposite this hole the wall of the cup is interrupted to admit of a group, consisting of (1) the head and neck of a swan with prominent bill and with bulging eyes—one of these eyes has gone, showing that they were formed separately and fitted into cups made for the purpose; (2) two small rude bird figures, one on each side of the swan (the left being broken off), with shapeless body but with eyes projecting prominently from the head. In front of the swan is a bent pillar, springing from the lower edge formed by the concavity of the side and rising concave to the swan neck; this pillar terminates in a flower-like cup with three petals, between which and the bill of the central figure is a free space of about 1 centimetre.

The grotesque figure shown in the cut was found below the temple level. It has a beard and horns, with eyes of

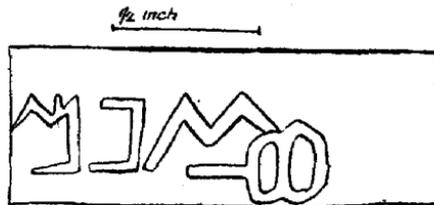
¹ The descriptions of objects here given are taken mainly from the catalogue of finds kept by Mr. Macalister.

cylindrical form. The figure is hollow, the top being cupped like a candlestick. A cast is sent.



GROTESQUE HEAD IN POTTERY FROM BELOW SITE OF SUPPOSED "TEMPLE."

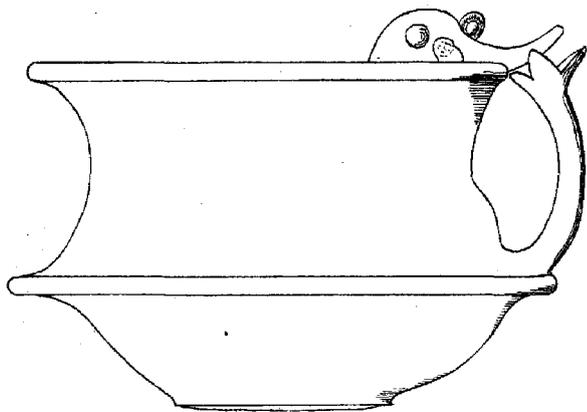
The jar-handle with inscription in Samaritan characters was found within a few feet of the surface. It appears to consist of three letters, which we read מנש , with a symbol below, like two adjoining circles, often found below the inscriptions on Greek jar-handles.



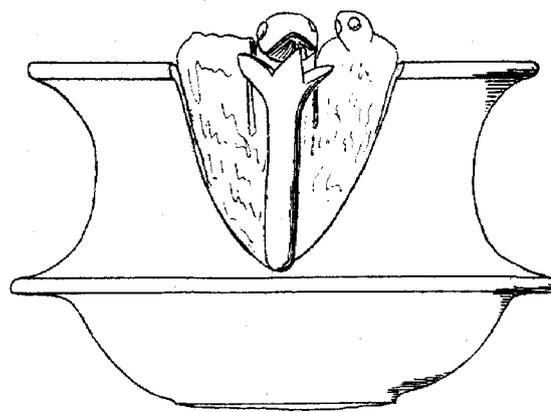
INSCRIPTION IN SAMARITAN LETTERS STAMPED ON JAR-HANDLE.

A good many objects were found in stone (including a jar of black marble and a rude mace-head, both below the temple level), iron, bronze, and bone. Only the latter are published at present (Plate IV). No. 1 is an object of unknown use, consisting of a cylinder ending at the top in a semi-spherical head and drilled with a cylindrical hole. No. 2 is similar, but more ornate; it consists of a rosette (not unlike the capital of a column), at the top of which is a U-shaped socket; found at a depth of about 14 feet. No. 3 appears to be an archer's wrist-guard, consisting of a plano-convex strip of bone, pierced with two holes and

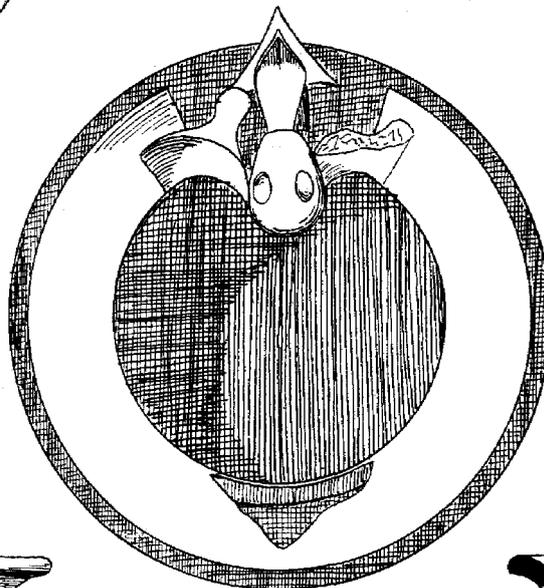
TELL ES-ŞÂFI EXCAVATION: PRE-ISRAELITE POTTERY



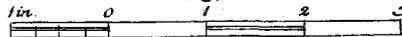
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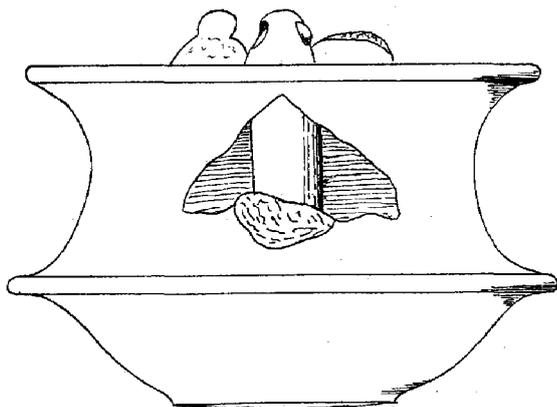
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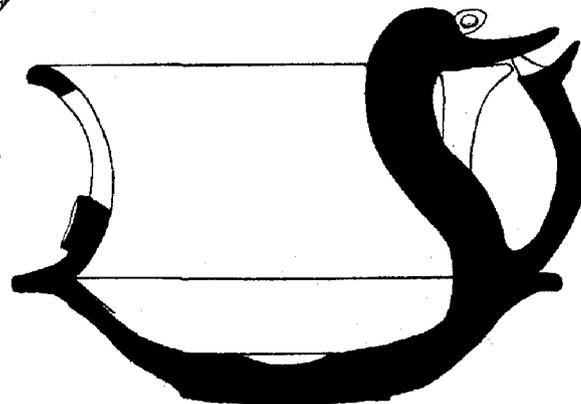
TOP



Prof. M. M. M. M.
F. J. Bliss.

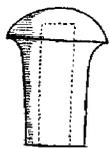


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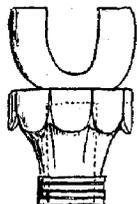


SECTION

TELL ES-SÂFI EXCAVATION : BONE OBJECTS



1

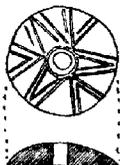


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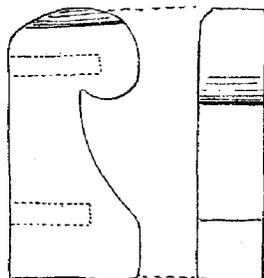


3

section



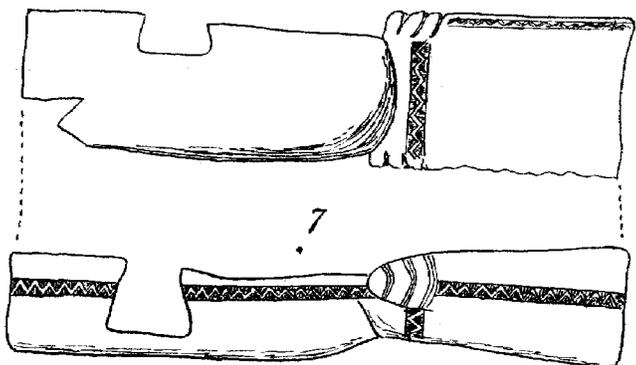
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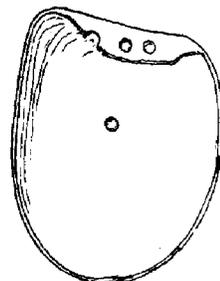
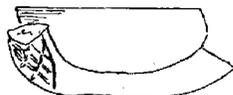
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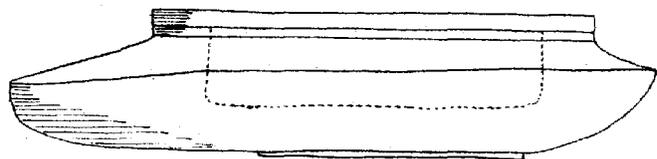
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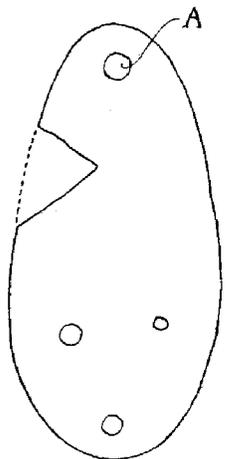
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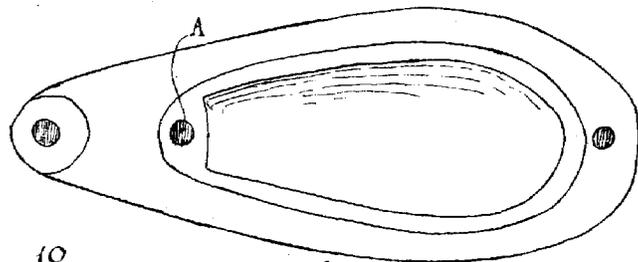
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a

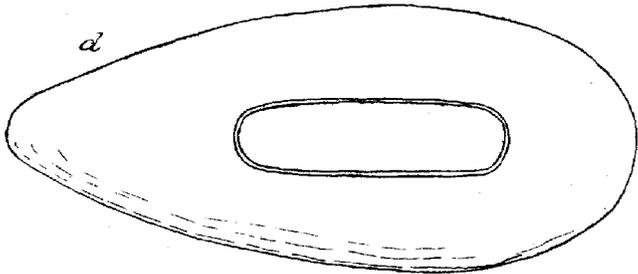


b



10

c



d

F. J. Bliss.
Palestine Exploration Fund.

ornamented with lines at the extremities. No. 4 is a spindle-whorl of ordinary type, with ornamentation. No. 5 appears to be part of a bracket, with two holes for fastening; it was found at a depth of 18 feet. No. 6 may be a pendant, ornamented. No. 7 is an object of unknown use, consisting of the half of a long bone, split longitudinally, sawn off smooth at the ends, and ornamented with chevron pattern. No. 8 is a fragment of a cup on two stands, only one of which remains; the rim is ornamented with chevron pattern in relief. No. 9 is highly polished and pierced with three holes. The interesting object, No. 10, was found in a trial shaft on a part of the north-east plateau, not yet fully excavated, at a depth of some 12 feet. It is a vessel 17 centimetres long, 3·6 centimetres high, and 7·4 centimetres in extreme breadth. It appears to be an incense boat. The vessel was found complete, and the cover in fragments, one of which was missing. The cover fits on to a depression in the top of the boat, and was intended to turn on a pivot which once ran through the two corresponding holes marked A. Of the drawings, *a* represents a side view of the boat, with cover *in situ*; *b* shows the cover; *c* represents the top of the vessel (cover removed); and *d* the bottom, showing the ring-base. On the theory that this is an incense boat the perforations in the cover are for letting the incense through. The perforations at the two ends of the vessel itself are apparently the stands for some further covering portion, now lost.

Scarabs 1-4 (Plate VI) were from this large clearance, No. 4 being found at the level of the temple. The bone figure of Phœnician type (Plate V, No. 1), the monkey, in green paste (Plate V, No. 2), and the rude cylinder (Plate VI, No. 12), were all found at the level of the top of the standing stones.

On p. 197 of the last report we referred in general to a quantity of miscellaneous objects cast on to a rubbish heap covering the ruined ancient city wall. We now give a catalogue of these objects, which, though mingled together, represent many periods and civilisations.

A. *Pottery*.—(1) Various fragments of vases, including black and red polished Greek ware (550-350 B.C.), early Greek

ware (550-750 B.C.), Jewish and Phœnician types, the latter including the inscribed jar-handle described in the last *Quarterly*, as well as another jar-handle stamped with a figure hunting a stag.

(2) Over 100 fragments representing at least 40 different masks, falling into three types:—(a) Female heads, with hair braided under head-dress, having circular ear-drops in the ears. Features of Græco-Phœnician type (*see* photograph). Top of head arched and brought to smooth surface for suspending, with hole for same. In some cases we find traces of ornamental colouring in red. Height when complete about 23 centimetres. Masks in pottery and stone are not unknown in Palestine; in an interesting note in the *Quarterly Statement* for 1894, p. 209, the Rev. J. E. Hanauer connects these with the *oscilla* or "little faces" of Bacchus, suspended in the vineyards (Virgil, *Georg.*, ii, 388-392). (b) One very rude fragment, possibly a male. (c) Several fragments resembling type (a), but much smaller, and having, as a rule, a serrated edge.

(3) Fragments of convex plaques (convex behind) showing the foreparts of female figures, in one case to the knees, with details of arms, breasts, drapery, &c. These are of the same character as the face-masks, being merely prolongations of the same.

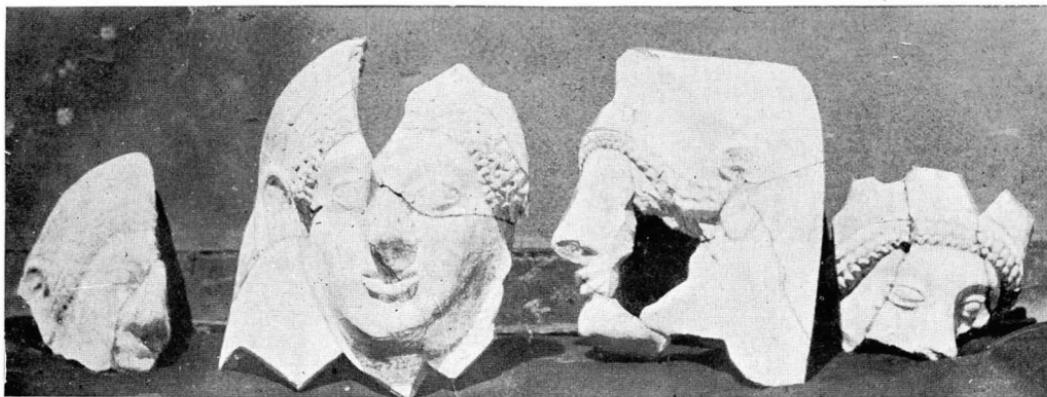
(4) Twelve small heads, including fine female head with classic features, head of Silenus, archaic Greek head of warrior with helmet; these three have been cast.

(5) About a dozen fragments of a seated female figure, very badly moulded, so that the features, arms, &c., are indistinct. The most perfect specimen (of which a cast has been made) is broken off below the knees; present height, 14 centimetres. The figure is nude; one arm is bent, with the hand resting upon the abdomen, the prominence of which indicates pregnancy; the other hand rests on the knee; the head-dress is in the Egyptian form, with veil falling over the shoulders. The figure is hollow, the back being unworked, and almost flat.

(6) Three fragments of hollow male figures of the same type, but varying in fineness of execution. These are shown in the accompanying photograph. The best moulded is the central



THREE POTTERY FIGURES RESEMBLING JEWS, HOLDING THEIR BEARDS.



EXAMPLES OF FRAGMENTS OF POTTERY MASKS.



STONE HEADS.

figure, which has a long beard, the end of which is clasped by the right hand. On the head is a round flat cap, from under which a veil falls on the shoulders. The hair is braided, and the features have a marked Semitic cast. The back of the figure is unworked, and the fragment preserved does not indicate whether the figure was seated or not. Present height, 11·8 centimetres. A cast has been taken. The figure to the left is seated; the right hand clasps the beard. The cap is pointed, having a knob at the top and side lapels. The figure to the right is very faintly moulded and badly proportioned, but the rough indication of a hand clasping the beard relegates it to the same type with the figures just mentioned.

(7) A plaque with rude figure of Pan, with hoof and horns, painted vermilion; height, 10·5 centimetres.

(8) Three badly-moulded figures of a horse's head, with rider behind, indicated only in outline. (Cast.)

(9) Two hollow female figures, with heads gone in both cases; heights, 17 and 21 centimetres respectively. The type appears to be Græco-Phœnician. In the first, the right hand is broken off, and the left arm is bent so that the hand rests on the body between the navel and the breasts. In the second, both arms are broken off at the elbows; around the neck has been a high collar, of which traces remain.

(10) A rude head which appears to be of the Mycenaean type. (Cast.)

(11) A badly moulded figure of woman, draped from waist downwards, with undraped child on shoulder. (Cast.)

(12) Three small fragments of figures, one showing hand clasping breast. The second with hand holding asp to breast. (Cast.) The third with hand holding asp to thigh. (Cast.)

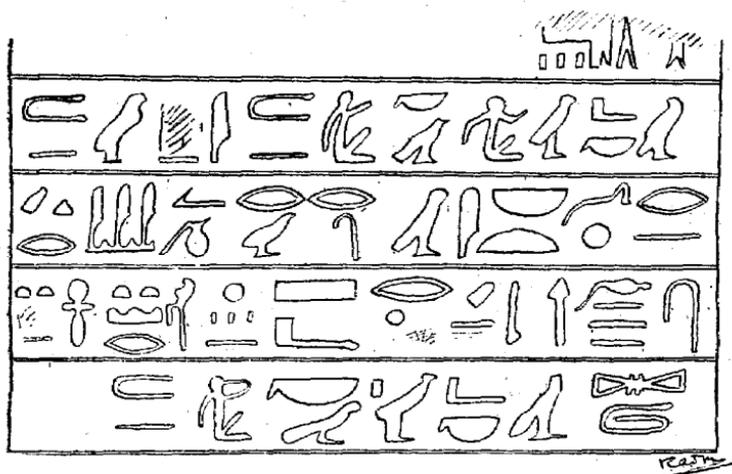
(13) Small fragment showing two figures wrestling.

(14) Small fragment; middle of a figure wearing ægis, with Gorgon head. (Cast.)

(15) A bit of clay, stamped with seal. (Cast.)

B. *Stone Statuettes*.—A large number of fragments of statuettes were found, carved in chalky limestone. The style of art is rude, and the details of ornament are better worked out than the features, arms, hands, &c. Six heads turned up,

five of which are shown in the photograph. All appear to be female. Counting from the left, the first wears a pointed cap, with lapels hanging down on either side; the hair is braided under the cap; the nose is broken off. The second has a ring of vermillion colouring about the neck, with head-dress of beads above the roughly indicated hair. The features of the third head are almost entirely worn away. The fourth was plainly part of a corbel; present height, 11.1 centimetres. The nose is broken, but the other features are distinct. The head-dress consists of a lion's head, with lapels hanging down and cut about the ears. A cast has been sent. The fifth has braided



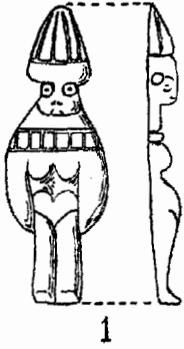
INSCRIPTION ON USHABTI FIGURE.

hair, with coronet above, and shows traces of crimson colouring on neck and hair. The nose is gone, and the other features are badly formed. Among the other fragments are headless busts, clothed in tunics, usually tightly fitting, and in some cases extending to the feet, with roughly executed lines of drapery. On one example, of which a cast is sent, the drapery is much more graceful, showing the contour of the breast, &c. This specimen has a beautiful necklace, with pear-shaped pendants. Besides these were several fragments of hands, feet, &c., &c.

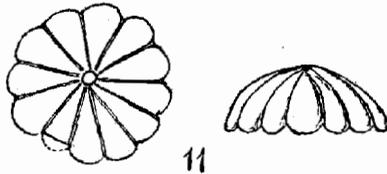
C. Egyptian Objects.—(1) Twelve paste charms in the forms of eyes (Uchats) of various forms and colours (Plate V, No. 10),

TELL EŞ-ŞÂFI EXCAVATION: MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS

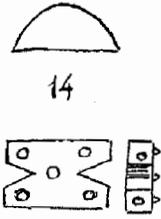
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11

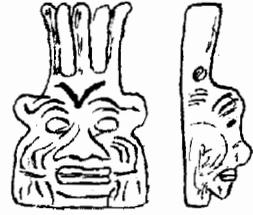


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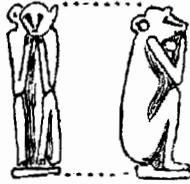
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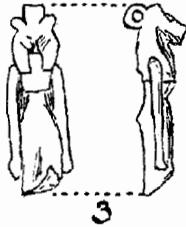
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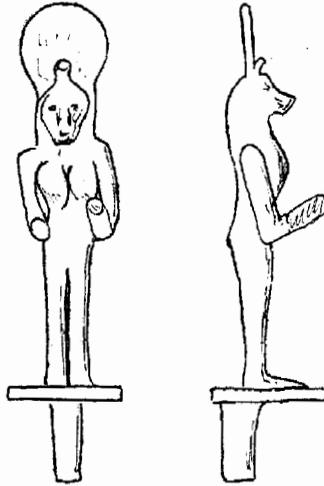
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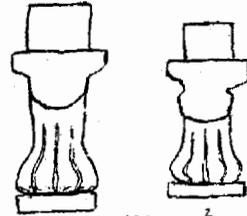
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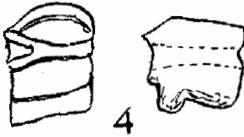
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13



a 17 b



4



5



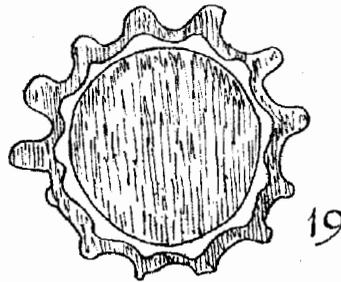
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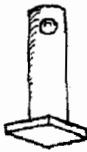
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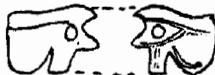
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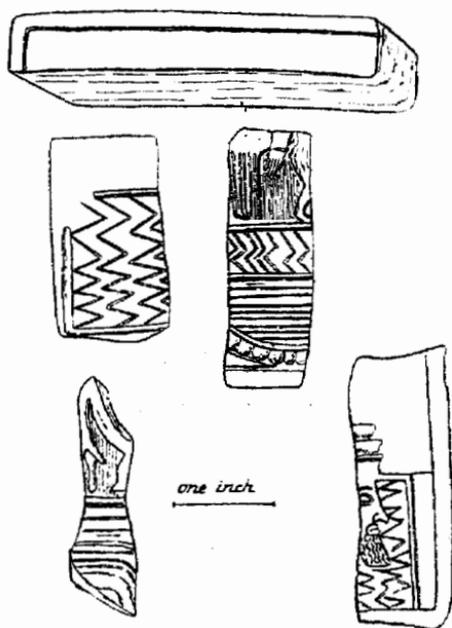
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25

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.
7. J. Bliss.

(2) Two figures of Bes in blue paste, about 3·6 centimetres long (Plate V, 5); one minute figure of Bes in green paste; one green paste head of Bes, with black eyes and head-dress of green and black feathers (Plate V, 16); a smaller head of Bes, same type, blue paste (Plate V, 25); and a full figure of Bes, green paste, with similar head-dress (No. 25). (3) Seated female figure of black-brown paste, slightly fractured at lap, which appears to have borne a child. Perhaps Isis and



FRAGMENTS OF AN ASSYRIAN STELE.

Horus (18); cast. (4) One lion's head (cast). (5) Three broken figures of Sekhét (No. 22). (6) Six minute paste amulets. (7) Bone scarab on bronze holder (Plate VI, 8), and blue paste scarab (Plate VI, 6). (8) Bronze statuette of Sekhét (Plate V, 13) on tenon for mounting, with uræus, broken off. (9) Lower half of Ushabti figure; green paste (*see cut*).

D. *Babylonian and Assyrian Objects*.—(1) One green glass seal, scaraboid form, with figure of man (Plate VI, 7); one blue glass seal of similar shape, showing man on horseback fighting

TELL ES-ŞÂFI EXCAVATION

SCARABÆI &c.



1



2



3



4

one inch



5

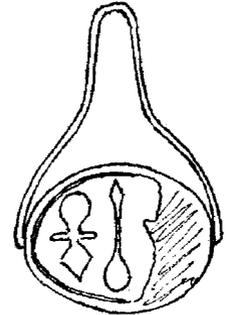


broken

6



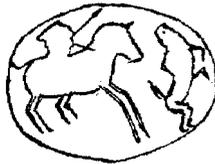
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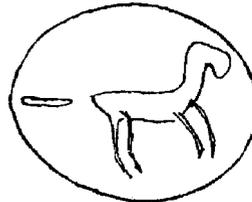
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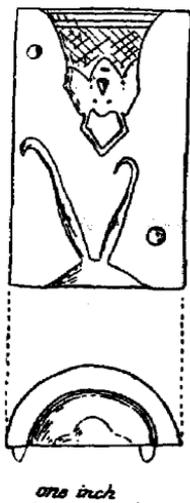
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R. A. Stewart
J. Bliss.

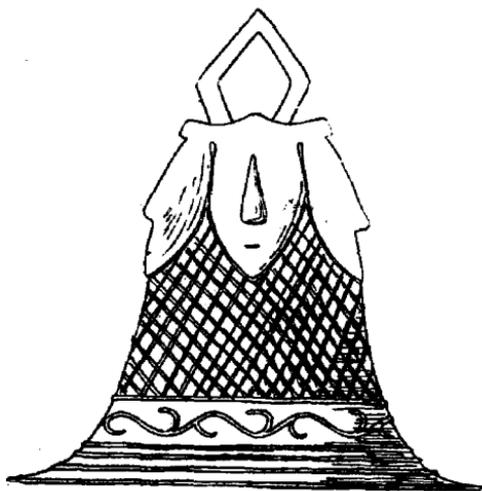
black with white edges. Of the same type was a grotesque seated figure, obscene in character, of which a cast is sent.

F. *Over 300 Beads* in carnelian, agate, coral, blue paste, blue and white paste spotted, amethyst, &c., &c. Many shapes and sizes, a few of which are shown on Plate V (Nos. 12 and 15).

G. *Miscellaneous*.—Two wooden objects of unknown use (Plate V, 17); one small pear-shaped weight; a stone mould



MOULD FOR CASTING BELL.



ENLARGED SKETCH OF BELL.

for casting a small bell, including the clappers (*see cut*). A cast has been taken and shows the bell to be ornamented with heads in relief. The bone objects, Nos. 7 and 9, Plate IV, were also found in this rubbish heap.

JERUSALEM, 4th September, 1899.