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HARVARD ALUMNI BULLETIN



INTERNATIONAL LAW,
BY PROFESSOR HUDSON
COMMITTEE REPORTS
FOR A NEW CHAPEL
EXCAVATIONS IN EGYPT
OPEN ANCIENT DOORS

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The Plateau at Giza s S in from the Great Cheops Pyramid.

A New Discovery in Egypt

DURING the early part of last week George A. Reisner, '89, A.M. '91, Ph.D. '93, Professor of Egyptology at Harvard, who is giving courses in Cambridge during the second half of the present academic year, received word from the Harvard-Boston Egyptian Expedition, of which he has been in charge since its formation in 1905, of the discovery of a tomb at Giza which has been definitely dated to the reign of Sneferuw, first king of the IVth Dynasty, that is, about 3,000 B. C., plus or minus 100 years. This is the only important intact tomb yet found by any expedition previous to the VIth Dynasty. Mr. Alan Rowe, an Australian, Professor Reisner's first assistant, and Mr. Duncan Greenlees, a young Oxford graduate, the second assistant, were in charge of the Expedition at the time of the discovery.

The Expedition had been at work on the district about Giza since 1909. The first of the two photographs which are reproduced with this article shows the area as seen from three-quarters up the pyramid of Cheops. The large plateau rises some 150 feet above the town of Kafr-es-Seman, which appears in the background. In the immediate foreground are two pyramids, those of Cheops's wives, and between them the dark, ship-like outline of a small excavation, the tomb of a funeral boat, which is marked by a small white circle in the first photograph. In the center of the panorama, and separated by definitely marked "avenues" running parallel with the base of the picture, are four mastabas, or tombs, of the sons and daughters of Cheops. These mastabas are about 16 meters wide and 70 meters long. The first avenue is some 17 meters wide; the others, about 6 meters. A fifth mastaba lies at the end of the row, nearest the town, but it has not yet been excavated sufficiently to be recognizable. To the right are further, partially disclosed mastabas.

It is at the left corner of the mastaba nearest the bottom of the photograph, and just off the causeway which runs from the great pyramid to the edge of the cliff, that the new tomb was discovered. The spot is indicated by a small white square in the first photograph. This point is approximately 100 meters due east of the great pyramid of Cheops. During the final clearing of the rock surface, a patch of white plaster was noted which covered masonry consisting of massive stone blocks laid in plaster. On removing the plaster, a stairway was disclosed filled with blocks of stone also laid in plaster. On removing these, eleven steps appeared which led down southwards to the side of a square shaft, blocked in a similar manner; and the stones there were laid very carefully to imitate the natural rock. At eight meters down the shaft, a closed recess was found in the shaft wall, which contained a sacrificial offering consisting of a bull's head and legs, matting, and pots. At a depth of twenty-six meters the top of the burial chamber was reached on the south side of the shaft. The bottom of the shaft was reached at thirty meters. After the removal of the top course of stone in the masonry block which closed the door of the burial chamber, the chamber itself was seen to be about eighteen feet long by twelve feet wide.

Inside there was an alabaster sarcophagus intact, and on the coffin lay an elaborate, woven-gold mat with a line of incised hieroglyphics, giving the name Neb-ti-Sneferuw, which is apparently the name of the person buried in the coffin. The name indicates that the person was a woman, probably a princess. The posts of the sarcophagus are sheathed in gold, and the floor of the chamber is covered with vessels of bronze and alabaster and a quantity of gilded, wooden furniture, which is in bad condition. Many objects at the time of the dispatch were not yet iden-

tifiable. The Egyptian authorities have put a barbed-wire fence around the area of excavation, and the work of clearing the tomb is not to be undertaken until Professor Reisner's return to Egypt.

Although the date of the tomb is that of King Sneferuw, the first king of the IVth Dynasty, and the predecessor of King Cheops, the tomb is not, according to Professor Reisner, that of either King Sneferuw or Cheops. It was in existence when the pyramid of Cheops, the first pyramid at Giza, was erected; and the superstructure of the tomb must have been cleared away by the architects of the latter king when they built the causeway which led from the valley to the temple in front of the Cheops pyramid. Professor Reisner believes that Cheops was buried in his own pyramid. Two pyramids are identified with King Sneferuw: One, Dahshur, about fifteen miles south of Giza, and another, Medum, still farther south. It is probable that Sneferuw is buried in the pyramid of Dahshur. The objects taken from this tomb will probably be placed in the Cairo Museum.

The photograph reproduced on the next page shows the second funeral boat-tomb. The excavation of the first boat-tomb uncovered at the Giza excavations appears in the lower left-hand corner of the panoramic view. These tombs of the "sun ships," as they are called, were built to enclose the boat in which the dead king or queen was supposed to sail the heavens with Ra, the great god of the sun. The photograph reproduced herewith shows the Ptolemaic cross-structures within the tomb, erected over 2,000 years later, after the wooden boat had been removed.

The Harvard-Boston Egyptian Expedition was begun in 1905, under an agreement between President Eliot and Gardner Martin Lane, '81, then president of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. It has already completed nineteen years of archaeological research in the Nile Valley. Its primary interest has always been the recovery of historical material and, as Pro-





Tomb of a Sun Ship

fessor Reisner has said, the greatest attention has been devoted to the development of scientific methods of excavating and of recording the excavations. At the present time, in addition to the two assistants, Rowe and Greenlees, the Expedition employs Said Ahmed Said, the bahreis, as chief of the excavating force, and Mahmud Ahmed, "the Mummy," as chief of the camp staff. The organized working

force comprises about 100 men. Additional casual labor of from 100 to 150 men is also engaged as the occasion demands. The camp and headquarters of the Expedition are located behind the Pyramid of Cheops, about three minutes by Ford from the scene of work.

The accompanying map of the Nile basin shows the extent of the Expedition's operations since 1905. The names of the

places which Professor Reisner and his assistants have worked are underlined. The cataracts of the Nile are indicated by numbers. Besides the excavations at Giza, which are still going on, the following important pieces of excavation have been carried out:

1. The pyramid temples of King Mycerinus, who built the Third Pyramid at Giza (about 2,750 B. C.), 1908, 1910.

2. About half of the great cemetery of princes, courtiers, and officials beside the Giza Pyramids, 1905-07, 1912-16.

3. The rock-cut tombs of the feudal lords of the Hare-nome at Bersheh, 1915.

4. The Nubian archaeological survey for the Egyptian Government, 1907, 1908.

5. The excavation of the palaces of the Israelite kings at Samaria, for the Harvard Palestinian Expedition, 1909, 1910.

6. The excavation of the fort and cemetery of the Egyptian administration of Ethiopia at Kerma, in the Sudan, (1900-1600 B. C.), 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916.

7. Excavations at Napata, the capital of Ethiopia (Sudan), 1916-1920: (a) Temples at Gebel Barkal; (b) Royal cemetery of the Egyptian XXVth Dynasty at El-Kur'uw; (c) Royal cemetery of Tirhaqa and the later kings of Ethiopia at Nuri.

8. Excavation of the pyramids of Meroe, the later and southern capital of Ethiopia, 1920-23.

Since its inception, the cost of the Harvard-Boston Expedition has been borne largely by annual subscriptions given by public spirited men and women of Boston. Among the subscribers the name of Augustus Hemenway is particularly to be noted for large and frequent contributions. In all periods of difficulty the Trustees of the Museum have made appropriations for the work from Museum funds.

A full list of the subscribers follows:

Mrs. George R. Agassiz, ~~F. Lothrop Ames~~, ~~Miss Mary S. Ames~~, ~~Mrs. Frederick Ayer~~, ~~Miss Ellen B. Ayer~~, Francis Bartlett, Oric Bates, Mrs.

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Professor Reisner returned to the United States only recently. He is giving three courses in Egyptology at Harvard during the second half of the present academic year: One on the Egyptian language, one on Egyptian history, and a third on "Archaeological field work as a method of historical research".

TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

Turner F. Garner, A.M. '22, Ed.M. '23, dean of the Day School of Commerce of Northeastern University, Alfred D. Sheffield, '96, of Wellesley College, and Augustus D. Zanzig, Sp. '21-22, director of music in the Brookline public schools, spoke at the annual meeting of the New England Association of Teachers of English, held in Boston on March 19.

The following Harvard men were elected officers of the association: Vice-president, Professor J. L. Lowes; editor, Charles S. Thomas, '97, lecturer on the teaching of English in the Graduate School of Education; secretary and treasurer, A. Bertram de Mille, A.M. '03, of Simmons College; members of the executive committee, Percy W. Long, '98, A.M. '00, Ph.D. '06, of the Massachusetts State Board of Education, and George F. Cherry, '13, of Loomis Institute, Windsor, Conn.

MOTOR BUSES ON BROADWAY

The Boston Elevated electric cars have been taken off Broadway, Cambridge, and motor busses are now running on that street between Harvard Square and Kendall Square.

M.D. '20—Robert M. Harbin, S.B. (Univ. Georgia) '16, has been appointed Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio. He has also been appointed orthopedic surgeon to the Lakeside and Rainbow Hospitals, Cleveland.

'21—George N. Carpenter's address is 611 West Lemon St., Lancaster, Pa.

OBITUARIES

'08—CHARLES BINNEY TUPPER. Died at New York City, March 9, 1925. He was a stock broker. He had travelled extensively, and a number of years ago formed a company in Berlin and carried on business in central Europe. He married Miss Hermine L. Eppinger, in 1908. She survives, as do his brother, Walter W. Tupper, '10, A.M. '12, S.D. '18, and a sister.

'11—ARTHUR BEANE. Died in New York City, March 15, 1925, after a brief illness, from pneumonia. He was one of the most widely known Harvard men. Born in Massawippi, P. Q., June 27, 1880, he spent his boyhood and early manhood in the sturdy life of that farming community. At a time when he was older than the usual preparatory schoolboy, he entered Mt. Hermon School, Mt. Hermon, Mass., where his vigorous personality developed into leadership and his spiritual nature acquired a religious devotion which continued through his life. He always retained a deep interest in Mt. Hermon

and was a member of its graduate committee. As an undergraduate at Harvard he took an active part in Phillips Brooks House, and was interested also in athletics, particularly in rowing; but his great height made it impossible to find a place for him in an eight-oared shell, and consequently his strength and endurance could not be utilized. In the years just after his graduation, however, he went, for several successive seasons, to Gales Ferry with the Harvard freshman crews; he did no coaching in rowing, but was adviser, councillor, and friend to the young oarsmen. From 1911 to 1918 he was graduate secretary of the Phillips Brooks House Association; in that capacity he performed his greatest service to the University and its students and graduates. He was also treasurer of the Harvard Union from 1913 to 1916. In August, 1918, he retired from Brooks House and became director of personnel for the Slatersville Finishing Co., Slatersville, R. I., one of the plants of the Kendall Mills, Inc. He continued with that concern, and became general manager and vice-president of the Slatersville Finishing Co. and a director of the parent company. At first he spent all his time in Slatersville, but as his increasing responsibilities took him frequently to Boston and New York, at length he moved back to Cambridge where he lived at 26 Fresh Pond Parkway. In 1912 he married Miss Ruth B. Richards of Washington, D. C. She survives, with four children.

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