EXCAVATIONS IN THE DELTA.

THE TEMPLE OF ONIAS.

A correspondent of the' Times”has supplied an instructive account of the excavations un­dertaken daring this season by the British School of Archaeology in Egypt on the eastern side of the Delta and in the region of Goshen and Succoth, which will supplement the in­teresting details kindly supplied us by Pro- Flinders Petrie, which we published on



that there was an immense mass of burnt bones, thrown out on the north of the town, which were very probably the remains of the daily burnt offering, long since utilized by speculators in phosphates. Such a loss of an historical building, owing to not recording the remains before their destruction, is an object- lesson in the need of thorough research in Egypt. The work will not wait, and every help given to present labours saves what will soon be irrecoverable ; contributions for this pur­pose should he sent to the secretary of the ‘ British School in Egypt,” at University College, London.

Among the problems there, says the writer, the most interesting was the search for the site of the temple of Onias. It is well known how the troubles of the Jews under Antiochus has driven many of them to settle in the east of the Delta, and that, in order to provide a new rallying point, one of the family of the high priests, Oniah IV., had built a temple on the model of that at Jerusalem. This temple served as a substitute for the shrine desecrated and polluted by Antiochus Epi- Tfphanes. The documents quoted by Josephus show that this temple was at the site of an old / Egyptian town named Leontopolis, which was dedicated to the lion-headed goddess “Bubastis of the fields,” that the place was '‘full of materials,” that the temple was built after the pattern of that at Jerusalem, that "a tower of stone 60 cubits high” was erected, and that the whole settlement was granted by Ptolemy Philometor. Thus there were many conditions to be fulfilled in the identification of this site.

It has been generally recognized that the ancient town-known as Tell el Yehudiyeh, 18 miles north of Cairo, was probably the posi­tion ; and the Jewish grave-stores found there by Dr. Naville had given strength to this opinion. But the temple had not yet been actually identified. The work of this season has in the first place shown that a lion goddess was worshipped there, as a statue of an admiral of the Mediterranean fleet of Psametek II. was found which represents him holding a shrine of the lion-headed goddess Hence the name of Leontopolis and the dedica­tion to “Bubastis of the fields” accord with the worship at this site. The description of the place as being "full of materials" for re­use by Onias agrees with there having been an immense stone-lined ditch a mile in length around the ancient town, which would supply material for the new building without using what had been consecrated to idols. Just outside of the ancient town stands an artificial mound, the highest for 20 or 30 miles around. The whole of it has been thrown up at one time ; and, on restoring the buildings on it by the remaining indications, it is found that the height most have been altogether over 59 Greek cubits above the plain, agreeing with the 60 cubits of construction- named by Jose­phus. And this mound was thrown up in the second century B.C., as is shown by the pottery in it. On the top were many ooins of the time of Ptolemy Philometor, and a sherd with building accounts which bears the name of Abram among others, showing that Jews were employed. Thus every stated requirement of the plaoe of Onias is fulfilled at this site; and these connexions are here mentioned as they have not been noticed hitherto.

The form of this settlement of Onias was, roughly, a right-angled triangle, the square corner being formed by the north and east sides. At the west acute angle was the entry to it, and at the sooth point was the summit with the temple. The mound was enclosed on the eastern side by a stone wall, 20ft. or more in height, and 767ft. long, including two bastions at the ends. In the middle of this a high raised stairway, 14ft. wide, led up to the entry ot the temple court on the top. The north side of the settlement was low, with a fortification wall bounding it. The diagonal west side was curved inward, and had a great revetment wall, at least 20ft. thick, rising at an angle of 66deg. or more, to a height of over 68ft., where it supported the temple.

The entrance from the plain at the west end was nearly 150ft wide over all, and about 100ft. inside. This was fortified with towers and gateways, as we know from descriptions. From here the way ran through an area of three or four acres of houses enclosed in the fortifications leading up to the temple platform more than 68ft. over theplair. The foundation of this ascent remains, and points very closely to the axis of the court on the top. The outer court was 32ft. wide and 45ft. long inside; the inner court was 24ft. wide and 64ft. long. The block of the brick foundation of the Holy of Holies is 55ft. long and 17ft. wide. This is of the same proportion as in Solomon’s temple— namely, 7 to 2; and it shows that the building was laid out with half the number of cubits of the prototype, and by the Greek cubit which was probably the most familiar to the Jews under the Ptolemie. The architecture was Corinthian ; and the front of the courts, or of the temple, had the usual Syrian decoration of rounded battlements. The fronts of these battle­ments were ornamented with a band of lines, which rose from the string course into each block and returned.

The religious character of the whole place is marked by the great quantity of sacrifices at its foundation. In the lower part of the mound are found on all sides cylinders of pottery, a couple of feet across. These were sunk in the ground, a fire sacrifice was burnt in each, and then the fresh earth was thrown in to smother the fire, in continuation of the heaping of the mound. This is at one with the Syrian sacri­fice under a building and the later form of that known as “lamp and jar burial,” familiar frr m Mr. Macalister's work in Palestine.

Most unhappily, the ravages of the natives digging for earth have barely left the outline of the foundations of the temple : but 20 years ago the walls were standing, and the pavement and pillars were seen here. It is also stated

THE STAVRIOTE8 AND THE PORTE.

A correspondent of the “Daily News” writes thus from Costantinople :

A curious little incident has arisen in Turkey which is rot without interest. In the far east corner of the Black Sea there exists a people called Lazes, who have often been described as the descendants of Greek settlers dating from the time of the Xenophon expe­dition. Whether this is eo or not, the Lazes appear to be of Greek blood. They are a stalwart race, and most of them profess Mahomedanism. But, as in the case of so many peoples throughout the Turkish Empire, they accepted Islam when the condition was Islam or death.

“Among them are a considerable number who, while outwardly professing the religion of Mahomed, have secretly continued to prac

THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE, MONDAY, MARCH 26, 1906.

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Under this heading advertisements are in sorted at the following rates :—

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ALEXANDRIA -SPORTING CLUB.

MARCH SKYE MEETING.



Petrone led off and into the cutting, the rest in a procession Chendi was the first to enter the straight, with Voltigenr and Petrone at his heels. In the run home he increased the distance, bat nearing the post Voltigenr came along with a clatter and only lost first plaoe by a bare neck. Petrone a good third.

Totalisator paid P.T. 80 on winner and PT. 24, 32, and 22 for places.

The racing season at Alexandria opened on Saturday under auspicious circumstances. The P club's March Skye Meeting, though possessing no particular interest from a racing standpoint, was very well attended, and from a social point of view at least was a success.

The weather was if anything too warm. The first khamseen of the season would have made it unpleasantly so had it not been for a cool breeze which prevailed all the afternoon and which, after sunset, made it distinctly T cold. The warm weather brought a large m number of the fair sex wearing light spring ta frocks, and their presence lent animation and n colour to the scene.

As for the races,there is not much to be said. M The entries were poor and the events almost devoid of interest. The best race of the day was perhaps the Nile Plate, in which Petrone won a well contested race from Doughan. Three of the six events went to Ibrahim Bey Cherif while two were secured by Khalil PachaKhayat, the sixth going to Baron J. E. de Menasce, who deserved his victory. The Omdurman Plate K was a walk over for Gladiateur. The following seare the particulars of the races.

MAHMOUDIEH PLATE of P.T. 2,000, viz : P.T. l,60o to winner and P.T. 400 to 2nd horse. For Arab ponies that have never won stakes or place money of the advertised gross value of L.E. 20. Weight for age and inches. Distance 5 furlongs. <

Khalil Pacha Khayat’s ob.a.p. Doughan, 10.2.

Jenkins. 1

Saleh Bey Yaghen’s b.a.p. Acile, 10 2. White- side. ... 2

Ibrahim Bey Cherifs g.a.p. Ter el Hamam, 10.7. 8

Ibrahim Bey Cherif’s g.a.p. Amour, 10 7. 0

Hasan Bey Kheir El Din’s g.a.p. Maokboul, 10.2. Megahed, 0

Doughan jumped off and made all the run­ning, winning easily by two lengths. Acile got up in the last stride and made a bid for second M place, defeating Ter el Hamam.

Totalisator paid P.T. 38 on winner, and P.T. 26, 22, and 24 for places.

ABOUKIR STAKES of P.T. 1,500, viz. 1,200 to winner and P.T. 300 to 2nd horse. For Arabs that have never won stakes or ^ place money of the advertised gross value of T L.E. 20. Weight for age. Distance f mile.

Ibrahim Bey Cherif's' br.a.b. Chendi, 10.7. 1 S Mr. E. Karam's g.a.h. Voltigenr, 10.7. Michae- lides Jun. 2 A

Mr. E. Bu8tros’ b.a.h. Dynamite, 10.6. Still- g well. { 3

Saleh Bey Yaghen’s ga.h Tokar. 10.7c" 0 y

Khalil Pacha Khayat’s ch.a.h. Selniaii, 10.7. Jenkins. 0 \

Tokar jumped off to a good atari and made the running till the cutting was reached when he gave way to Dynamite, who entered the straight first and looked like winning but was soon overtaken by Chendi. The two raced almost abreast till reaohirg the grandstand, when Chendi drew forward and won a good race by two lengths. Dynamite could not stay the distance and ceded second plaoe to Volti­genr. <

Totalisator paid P.T. 133 on winner and P.T. 28, 28 and 31 for places.

THE NILE PLATE of P.T. 1,250, viz. : P.T. 1,0; 0 to the winner and P.T. 250 to 2nd herse. For Arab ponies. Weight for age and incbfcs with penalties. Distance round the course.

Baron J. E. de Menasce’s g.a.p. Petrone, 9.7.

Matthews. 1

Khalil Pacha Khayat’s c.a p. Doughan, 9.8.

Jenkins. 2

Mr. E. Karam’s ob.a.p. Val d’Or II, 9.7 Elia. Ibrahim Bey Cherifs b.8.p. St. Frusquio, 9.7.

St. Frusquin made all the running till the mile post, keeping about five lengths ahead of Val d’Or. Nearing the cotting Val d’Or joined issues with the leader. Coming out of the £ cutting, however, it was seen that both had fallen back, Doughan and Petrone emerging first. The pair had a neck and neck race down the straight, Petrone finally winning by a neck. The others nowhere.

Totalizator paid P.T. 112 on winner and P.T. 37 and 35 for places.

OMDURMAN PLATE of P.T. 1,000. For f Arab. Weight for age with penalties Distance round the bourse. ^

Ibrahim Bsy Cherifs ob.a.b. Gladiateor, 9.7,

MAIDEN PONY PLATE of P.T. 1,250 of which P.T 250 to go to 2nd horse. For Maiden Arab ponies. Weight for age and inches. Distance } mile.

Khalil Pacha Khayat’s g.a.p. Loulou, 10.3. 1 Ibrahim Bey Cheiifs b.a.p. St. Frusqnin, 10.7. 2 Ibrahim Bey Cherif’s g.a.p. Ter El-Hamam,

1. 0 Hassan Bey Kheir el Din’s ch.a.p. Louhan,
2. 0 i Loulou jumped off at the start and led the

whole way rouud, never once being overtaken, and finally won by a length and a halt from St Frosqnin.Ter el Hamam was the same distance behind, third. 'I'otalisator paid P.T. 30 on winner, and P.T. 25 and 43 for place.

MAIDEN HORSE PLATE of P.T. 1,500, viz: P.T. 1,200 to winner and P.T. 300 to 2nd horse. For Maiden Arabs. Weight lor age. Distance 1 mile.

Ibrah im Bey Cherifs b.a p. Chendi, 10.7. 1

Mr. E. Kar\*m’s g.«.b. Voltigenr, 10.7. Mi chaelides Jun. 2

Bbtod J. E. de Menasce’s g a p. Petrone, 10.7.

Matthews. 8

Mr. E. Karam’s ch.a.h. Val d’Or II» 9.13.

Eia. ®

Khalil Pacha Khayat’s ch.a.h. Selman, 10 7.

> Jenkins. 0

Alexandria Sporting Club.

NOTICK.

It is proposed to hold a Handicap Golf Tournament under Match Rules, if sufficient members enter. Entrance fee ten piastres tariff. Members are requested to write their names on the list which will be found within the Sporting Club tes house by Saturday, March 31st, 1906. 27586-2-1

BAND PERFORMANCE.

tise Christian rites and to be buried with the stakes or place money of the advertised gross

t,8eChr,8t.an nt88 and to be bnr.ed w.»h the ^ J d

•ceremonies of the Orthodox Greek Church.

These people are known as Stavriotes, or 8

Children of the Cross.

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the sixth going to Baron J. E. de Menasce, who deserved his victory. The Omdurman Plate was a walk over for Gladiateur. The following1' are the particulars of the races.

MAHMOUDIEH PLATE of P.T. 2,000, viz : P.T. l,600 to winner and P.T. 400 to 2nd horse. For Arab ponies that have never won

Orthodox

A Qf A«

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Doughan jumped off and made all the run­ning, winning easily by two lengths. Acile got up in the last stride and made a bid for second place, defeating Ter el Hamam.

Totalisator paid P.T. 38 on winner, and

is not difficult to see that powerful argu- pT;26 and ufor p,ace8

ments could be adduced by h m showing t

that religions liberty to all subjeots of Turkey I ABOUKIR STAKES of P.T. 1,500,

has been repeatedly flaunted io the eyes of

Greek Church. Stavriotes,

Within the last month two priests were exiled because they con­ducted funeral services over two Stavriotes, the local Governor declaring that the men were Moslems, and that Christian ceremonies were not permissible.

“When the exile of the two priests was re­ported to the Patriarch here ha took up the matter very seriously, and sent a protest to the Porte in very strong terms. I have not seen it, but an informant who has tells me that he doubts whether the chief of any church in Turkey ever sent stronger one. It

Europe. , The matter made so little progress that on Saturday, the 3rd inst., the Patriarch declared that if the Porte did not comply with his demands he would refuse to celebrate Holy

Communion in a church yesterday -where he Mr. E. Karam's g.a.h. Voltigenr, 10.7. Michael-

had promised to officiate. | lides Jun .

“I am assured that he received a message ^r- Bustros b a h. Dynamite, 10.6. Still-

from the Palace which conceded some of bis | well demands, and as a matter of fact, he did cele- Saleh Bey Yaghen’s ga.h Tokar. 10.7r

brate yesterday in the church where he had promised to officiate previous to his message. Had he refused to officiate, there would have at once been an ontcry through all the Ortho­dox Churches in the world, and the Porte is wise in not allowing the question to become a serious one.”

LONDON COMMERCIAL REPORT.

London, March 8.

Gum Arabic.—Business in Bombay kinds has been very quiet in the continued absence of supplies, bat there is a fair inquiry, particu­larly for Ghatti. Sudan Sorts are firm, in sympathy with dearer prices in Cairo, hot no sales have been made at the advance. Persian kinds are in request at late rates. Aden is firmly held, and stocks are small.

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March—Cornelius—Mendelssohn.

Traumgrei—Schumann.

ReminiBccnoe\* of Sullivan—Winterbottom. Sizilietta—von Blon.

Serenade—Moezkowaki •

Valse—Gold und Silber— L6har.

Section—Three Little Maida—Rubens.

An Oriental Scene—Dervish Chorus—Sebek.  
Regimental Maroh—Khedivial Anthem.

God Save the King.

**Thomas Brown,** Bandmaster,

Calendar of Coming Events.

March.

Men. 26

Wed. 28 Thurs. 29

Sat. 31

April. Sun. 1

ALEXANDRIA.

New Khedivial Hotel. Paul anski’a final Recital. 5.30.

Zizinia Theatre. Italian Opera Com­pany in Iris 9.

Alhambra. Variety Company. 9. Victoria College. Athletic Sports. 2. Victoria House. Ladies of Executive Committee “At Home.” 4.30—6.30. Mustapha Range. B.R.C. Practice. 2.30.

Koch-

Round Point. Pigeon Shooting. 2.30 Gabbari. Pigeon Shooting. 2.30. Wed. 4 A S.C. grounds. Amateur Athletic Sports.

Mon. 16 A.S.C, grounds. Shem el Nessim Skye Meeting.

March.

Mon. 26

CAIRO.

M. Maspero’s

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Lecture. 5.

Khedivial Opera House. French Comedy Company. 9.

Theatre des Nouveautes. 9.30. Alcazar Parisian. 9.30.

Shepheard’s Hotel. Small Dance. 10. K. S. C. Skye Meeting.

Grand Continental Hotel. Small Dance. 10

Ghezireh Palace Hotel Band Per­formance. 4 p.m.

Thurs. 29 Grand Continental Hotel. Concert by Military Band. 4.

Arrival of Prince and Princess of Wales.

Ghezireh Palace. Small Dance. 10. Mena House. Gymkhana.

Zoological Gardens. Afternoon Con cert by the Ghizeh Boys’ Band. National Hotel. Military Concert on terrace by Band of 2nd Batt. R. Inniskilling Fusiliers. 4-6.

E. A. Military Tournament, Obser­vatory parade-ground. Abbasrieh. Shepheard’s Terrace. Military Con cart. 4—6.

Savoy Hotel. Small Dance. 10. National Hotel. Small Dance. 10.

April.

San. 1 Zoological Gardena. E. A. Infantry Band. Afternoon.

Tues. 3 Gheziren. Hunt Meeting.

Ghezireh. K.S.C. Gymkhana.

Last week. Military School Sports.

Wed. 28

Fri.

t

30

Sat. 81

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HIGHEST AWARDS.

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