

necklace, armlets and bangles. Her hair is combed from the centre over the ears and decked out with floral ornaments. The costume is similar to that still worn in the North-West, and the ornaments also are typically Indian, but the pose is evidently copied from a classical type, possibly that of the warrior Aphrodite. Whether the figure is human or divine is uncertain. The relief is solid-cast and, like nos. 418 and 419, appears to have served as an *emblem*. Cf. p. 177 *supra*. (Pl. 186, *d*.)

422. Male figure of copper in the round. Height 4.25 in. Sk. '27-295; Block E'; sq. 74.90'; stratum II. The figure stands in a stiff frontal pose, with hands resting on hips, and is clad in a garment that passes over the left shoulder, leaving the right shoulder bare. He wears a high head-dress and necklace, and in either hand carries an uncertain object. For a statuette of the first century A.D., its style is surprising. From the narrow waist, broad hips and stiff legs, it might be thought to belong to the medieval rather than the Parthian period; and the peculiar high head-dress, though not without parallels even before the first century A.D., is suggestive of a later date. Whether the figure represents a Bodhisattva, or one of the Brahmanic deities—possibly Vishṇu or Sūrya—must, in the absence of more specific details, be left to conjecture. Cf. p. 185 *supra*. (Pl. 186, *f*.)

423. Statuette of copper in relief, depicting Maitreya seated cross-legged on pedestal, with right hand raised in the *abhaya-mudrā* and left hand holding flask. Height 2.87 in. The Bodhisattva wears a necklace and his hair is disposed in conventional ringlets somewhat resembling a wreath. At the back are three nails for attachment. From its style the statuette appears to be a work of the fifth century A.D. From Chir Tope B (Akhaurī), F 18; Dh. '21-B74. Cf. p. 317 *supra*. (Pl. 186, *g*.)

424. Solid bronze relief of the Buddha or Bodhisattva in the *dhyāna-mudrā*. Height 3.62 in. The figure wears a moustache and is clad in the usual *saṅghāṭī* covering both shoulders. Near the navel is a round hole, like the one in the seated stucco image on the main stūpa at Jauliāñ (*q.v.*, p. 372). Crude work of the fifth century A.D. Jn. '16-249; cell 21. Cf. p. 385 *supra*. (Pl. 186, *h*.)

425. Bronze statuette of standing male figure, holding staff in right hand, and left hand on hip. Wears sleeved tunic(?), girdle tied in front, necklace, ear-pendants and hat. Metal solid cast in the round. Crude local workmanship of first century A.D. Height 3.5 in. Sk. '29-59; Block 1'; sq. 10.96'; stratum III. Cf. p. 196 *supra*. (Pl. 186, *i*.)

426. Copper statuette of female figure in the round, with hair in two plaits at back. Height 2.5 in. Sk. '13-303; Seventh Street (east); sq. 80.65'; stratum II. Crude local workmanship of first century A.D. Cf. *A.S.R.* (1912), Pl. XXIV, *c*, 3. (Pl. 185, *q*.)

427. Bronze relief of seated Bactrian camel. Incuse depression for enamel inlay. A well modelled piece of the Śaka period. Length 2.5 in. Sk. '14-1,405; Block E; sq. 77.66'; stratum IV. Cf. p. 134 *supra*. (Pl. 185, *s*.)

428. Bronze figure of cock, solid-cast in the round. Rough local workmanship. First century A.D. Height 3.25 in. Sk. '30-159; Block I; sq. 137.51'; stratum II. Cf. p. 170 *supra*. (Pl. 185, *o*.)

429. Copper figure of humped bull, solid-cast in the round. The metal is much corroded. Height 2.62 in. Sk. '24-596; Block B; sq. 34.51'; stratum III. Cf. p. 148 *supra*. (Pl. 185, *p*.)

430. Hand and wrist of copper statuette, holding bud between first finger and thumb. Bracelets on wrist. Date uncertain. Length 1.75 in. Dh. '15-693; T2; 2 ft. below surface. (Pl. 185, *r*.)

Chapter 29. SILVERWARE

SILVER was a metal not easily procurable in the Panjāb. Even to-day India yields very little of it; and the Panjāb none at all. It is found in association with gold in the Kolar mines in the Mysore and at Anantapur in Madras; but those are the only mines that are now worked.¹ There are other localities, it is true, in Bihar and Orissa as well as in the Central Provinces and Central India, and even in the Kulū valley of the Panjāb, where silver occurs in association with lead, but nowadays the yield of silver from this lead-ore is too small to make its extraction a paying proposition, and it is doubtful if it could ever have been better-paying in antiquity, when the processes of extraction were more primitive. Outside India, however, there were well-known silver mines near the head of the Panjshīr valley in the Hindu Kush and others near Herāt, while in Southern Afghānistān there were rich deposits of argentiferous lead ore from which silver could also be obtained.²

Scarcity of silver in India

So far as Taxila was concerned, nearly all the silver that has been found there, apart from the coined metal, comes from the Parthian city of Sirkap, and inasmuch as the Parthians were in possession of a large part of Afghānistān, including the Kābul and Kandahar areas, there can be little doubt that they obtained their main supply of silver from that part of the world. Some of the Parthian silverware, however, appears to have been imported from the West; for the author of the *Periplus of the Erythræan Sea* tells us that silver and gold plate was imported into the Parthian dominions in India by way of Barbaricum at the mouth of the Indus, whence it was taken up the river to the capital of Śakadvipa at Minnagara, and we may be sure that some of the merchandise which reached Barbaricum by the sea route from the Mediterranean found its way farther up the Indus to Taxila. Nor can there be much doubt that merchandise of a like kind was imported into the North-West by way of one or other of the great trade routes from Western Asia.

Source of silver supply in Afghānistān, but silverware also imported by Parthians from the West

The Parthians, as I have frequently observed, had a great partiality for anything that smacked of Greek or Graeco-Roman culture, and one has but to glance at these silver objects (Pls. 187-9) to perceive how uncommonly Hellenistic in form many of them are, and what a ready sale they were likely to command among the Parthian residents at Taxila, particularly such articles as the *askos* (no. 2), the *phialai mesomphaloi* (nos. 10, a-c), the spoons (nos. 16, 17) or the Dionysus head (no. 21).

Hellenistic character of much of the Taxila silverware

A feature, moreover, of this silverware, as well as of the silver ornaments described in chapter 30, that might tempt us, at first sight, to assign some of it to

¹ Cf. *M.I.C.* II, p. 675.

² *Ibid.* p. 677.

Parthian
goblets

Most of the
silverware
probably made
locally

a foreign source, is the marked disparity that exists in the quality of its workmanship—those pieces which are of Indian design betraying an obvious inferiority to those which are of foreign design. We must beware, however, of allowing this difference of workmanship to mislead us on this point. For it is to be observed that among the articles of non-Indian design and of very superior workmanship are to be reckoned the fine fluted goblets nos. 5, *a-c*, that these goblets are neither of Greek nor Graeco-Roman but of Parthian pattern, and that they could not therefore have been imported from the Mediterranean coasts, though they might have been imported from Parthia itself. This observation applies also, though less manifestly, to the *askos* and the *phialai mesomphaloi*; for although both types of vessels are classical, they nevertheless exhibit features which point to their having been manufactured locally, the *askos* having a high trumpet base, which is found neither in Hellenistic nor in Graeco-Roman examples of this type of vessel, while the *phialai* betray a stylisation which distinguishes them at once from their Hellenistic prototypes.

Taking everything, indeed, into consideration, it seems likely that most of this silverware was made locally in Taxila or at any rate in the North-West of India, and that, whatever disparity there is in its workmanship or difference in its design, is due simply to the varying abilities of the craftsmen employed. Some of these craftsmen belonged, no doubt, to the local population of Hazāra, but we may well believe that the Parthians found it necessary to import others from Parthia proper or from Yavana countries in the West, partly because of their own particular predilection for Hellenistic art, which had sunk to a very low ebb under their Śaka predecessors, partly because of the general dearth of craftsmen in the newly conquered territories, many of whom may, as so often happened, have been killed off or driven away from Taxila by the Parthian conquest. Be this, however, as it may, there is abundant evidence to show that in the first century A.D. there must have been at Taxila many craftsmen well trained in Hellenistic traditions, some of whom were no doubt just as competent to work in gold or silver or copper, as others were in terra-cotta or stucco.

Hoard in house
at back of
apsidal
temple D

As already narrated in chapter 5, a number of the silver pieces described below belonged to a hoard which, in addition to this silver plate, comprised many articles of gold and silver jewellery. This hoard was found beneath the floor of a house immediately at the back of the apsidal temple D in Sirkap; and my first impression was that the articles contained in it had probably formed part of a temple treasure hastily hidden in this most convenient spot, when the city was sacked by the Kushāns. On further reflexion, however, and with a more extended knowledge of the gold and silverwork of the Parthians, I now incline to believe that the numerous girdles, necklaces, bangles, ear-pendants, ear-rings, hair-pins and the like were the ordinary personal belongings of private citizens, and that the other silver objects with them were everyday household utensils, unconnected with any temple worship.

Ownership of
articles and
significance of
their
inscriptions

This question of ownership is of some import in connexion with the short

inscriptions engraved on six of the pieces (nos. 2, 7, 10, 11, 13, 19), all of which, except no. 11, come from the particular hoard alluded to above. Had this silverware been temple property, it would have been natural to suppose that the persons mentioned in the inscriptions, whose names are given in the genitive case, had presented the pieces to the temple; and it is in this sense that the inscriptions have been translated by Prof. Sten Konow, the editor of vol. II of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*. On the other hand, if the pieces were ordinary household utensils, then the persons named were not the donors but simply the owners of the vessels, who had their names engraved on them, just as we know the Romans were accustomed to do, adding on occasion the date or the price paid for the articles or the weight.¹

The last-mentioned item is of particular interest in connexion with the currency and prevailing price of silver at the time. Three of the inscriptions give the value of the vessels in Greek staters, drachms and obols.² In no. 10 it is 30 staters, 2 drachms; in no. 11 it is 11 staters, 2 drachms, and 2 obols, and in no. 13 20 staters, 1 drachm. Now in the Attic currency, which was that in use throughout the old Seleucid Empire (together with Macedonia, Pergamum and Asia Minor generally), and had been adopted by the Bactrian Greeks, Śakas and Parthians, 6 obols went to the drachm, and 2 drachms to the stater or didrachm, other denominations being the tetradrachm, equivalent to 2 staters, the hemidrachm, diobol and hemiobol. In the Indo-Parthian currency, however, it is evident that

Denomina-
tions in local
currency

¹ For characteristic examples, cf. *B.M. Cat. of Silver Plate* (by H. B. Walters, 1921), pp. 32, 33, 36, 43.

² Dr John Allan is inclined to interpret these inscriptions as giving the weight rather than the value of the silver pieces. He thinks that the coins referred to were Parthian, not local Indo-Parthian denominations, the stater being in reality the Parthian tetradrachm, with a weight varying from about 228 gr. in no. 11 to 250 gr. in no. 10 and 266 gr. in no. 13, and the drachm, which was one-quarter of the tetradrachm, varying in the same ratio. But apart from this wide discrepancy in the weights, I find it hard to believe that the people of Taxila, albeit under Parthian rule, were in the habit of using foreign standards of weight based on the Parthian tetradrachm, to which they gave the name of stater, though there is no evidence that that name was used in Parthia itself. Surely it is more reasonable to suppose that the terms 'stater', 'drachm' and 'obol' referred to their own local coinage. Another difficulty is that in the middle of the first century A.D., the period to which these silver pieces belong, the Parthian tetradrachm rarely exceeded 215 gr. in weight and was generally much lighter (cf. Wroth, *B.M. Cat. Coins of Parthia*, pp. lxxv and 161 *sqq.*). In support of his view Dr Allan cites several pieces of silver plate in the British Museum with Roman inscriptions giving the owners' names and the weights of the pieces, e.g. S(exti) I(uli) F(elicis), p. vi, s(emis); Aureliani s(emis) u(nciae), 11 (cf. Walters, *op. cit.* pp. 36, 43). It should be noted, however, that in these inscriptions the weights are specified in the recognised measures of weight, not in the currency denominations, and their evidence, such as it is, might be taken to militate against rather than to favour Dr Allan's view. Dr Allan also cites an inscription (no. 702 on p. 264) in Rapson's *Kharoshthi Inscriptions*, which gives the items 'Ginger 1 drachm', 'Pepper 4 staters'. But there is nothing here to show that it is the weight rather than the value of the articles which is specified. When we write 'Ginger 6d.' or 'Pepper 1s.' it is their price, not their weight, that we are denoting. Had the owners of these silver vessels wished to record their weights, they would naturally have recorded them in the ordinary weights then in use at Taxila, which, as I have shown in chapter 25, were based on the age-old unit of c. 53 gr. tr., and were altogether more accurate and uniform than the Parthian or Indo-Parthian coinages.

Weight and
value of staters
and drachms

there must have been more than 2 drachms to the stater; otherwise the value in inscription 10 would have been given as 31 staters, instead of 30 staters, 2 drachms, and in inscription 11 it would have been given as 12 staters, 2 obols. How many drachms actually went to the Indo-Parthian stater is clear from the current coins themselves, among which we find only two denominations to which the name of stater and drachm could have been applied: the former a coin containing 148 gr. or thereabouts of (base) silver, and the latter a coin containing about 37 gr. In the original Attic standard the stater had contained somewhat less metal, viz.: 134.4 gr., the drachm 67.2 gr., and the obol 11.2 gr. Thus we see that, while there had been little change in the metal value of the stater, the word drachm had come to be applied to a coin equivalent in weight to a quarter of the stater, which the Greeks would have called a hemidrachm. The obol at this time may have been the common copper coin with a diameter of approximately 0.85 in. and a weight of about 155 gr.

Inflation of
silver currency
and debase-
ment of metal

Another fact that also becomes clear is that the face value of the silver denominations was considerably in excess of the amount of silver they contained. The present weight of no. 10 is 7505.3 gr. and, allowing for wear and tear, its original weight must have been approximately 7600 gr., which works out at 249.18 gr. (say, 250 gr.) to the stater. Of no. 11 the present weight is 2603.7 gr. and the original weight about 2640 gr., which works out at approximately 228 gr. to the stater. Of no. 13 the present weight is 5378 gr. and the original weight about 5400 gr., working out at 266 gr. to the stater. Thus the average value of plainly worked silver at that time appears to have been about 248 gr. to the stater; and if we set down the cost of workmanship at from 15 to 20%, which is what silversmiths generally charge in the bazaars to-day,¹ we arrive at something approaching 300 gr. to the stater for the price of the metal, which is double the amount contained in the average current stater of 148 gr.; and this, of course, takes no account of the further depreciation due to debasement of the silver itself, which in the reign of Gondophares, to which these vessels belong, was very great.

Technical
processes

The technical processes employed for this silverwork are the same as those employed for gold and copperwork. These are fully described on pp. 572 ff., 582 ff. and 617 ff. and need not be again repeated. It should be remarked, however, that the finest examples we possess at Taxila of metal repoussé work (Gr. ἐμπαιστική) are the Dionysus head no. 21, and the two *paterae* nos. 14, *a*, *b*. Of these, the Dionysus head was first beaten out by hand with a hammer and then finished off with finer tools instead of being fashioned on a die or pressed into a mould like the gold reliefs nos. 96-9. The *paterae*, on the other hand, were first stamped out or fashioned in a mould and afterwards worked over with graving and other tools before being encrusted with gems or paste.

Date and
findspots

All the forty-two pieces of silverware listed below appear to date from the Parthian period, and with two exceptions were found in the late Śaka-Parthian strata II and III. The two exceptions are nos. 11 and 12, *f*, which were buried

¹ For the price in 1784, cf. *Memoirs of William Hickey*, III, p. 242.

deeper than the rest in the Early Śaka stratum IV. The deposits in which the various pieces were found were as follows:

- Block D. Deposit Sk. '26-4,081. Nos. 1, 2, 4, *a, b*, 5, *a-c*, 7, *a-e*, 8, *a-c*,
9, *a, b*, 10, *a*, 12, *a-e*, 13, 17, *a, b*, 18, 19, 20, *a, b*.
- Block E. Deposit A = Sk. '30-382. Nos. 6, 15.
Deposit B = Sk. '13-194. Nos. 16, 21, 22.
- Block D'. Deposit D = Sk. '29-1,362. Nos. 11, 12, *f*.
Deposit E = Sk. '19-933. Nos. 14, *a, b*.
- Block F'. Deposit Sk. '29-2,278. No. 3.
- Block G'. Deposit Sk. '28-2,068. Nos. 10, *b, c*.

CLASS I. *Jugs* (nos. 1, 2)

Type *a*:

1. Sk. '26-4,081/14; Block D; sq. 58.47'; stratum III. For the details of the hoard in which this jug and nos. 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12, 13, 17-20 were found, see *supra*, pp. 156-7. Plain jug of silver with flat-bottom, flared mouth and small ring-handle attached to the neck. Height 5 in. Cf. p. 156 (16) *supra*; and for handled jugs, 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XIII; 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Class XIII. (Pls. 187, no. 1; 188, no. 1.)

Type *b*:

2. Sk. '26-4,081/13. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Silver *askos* with trumpet base and handle of knotted wire terminating in vine leaves. Length 7.87 in. The handle is attached by rivets. Inscription in Kharoshthī round neck: *Ka 100 20 20 20 20 10 1 Maharaja(bhrata Maṇigula) sa putrasa Jihonikasa Chukhsasa Kshatrapasa* = 'Year 191. Of Jihonika, the Satrap of Chukhsa, son of (Maṇigula, brother) of the Great King.' Cf. p. 156 (17) *supra*.

The form is typical of the first century B.C. to first century A.D. work. Cf. Spinazzola, *Arti decorativi di Pompei*, Pl. 277, and (in enamelled pottery) Brit. Mus. K 15 and K 26. For vine ornament on silver wine vessels, cf. Schreiber, *Alexandrinische Toreutik*, figs. 119-22. The trumpet base appears to be a local peculiarity (cf. the bowls nos. 8, *a-c infra*), but it occurs in Sasanian metalwork, probably derived from Parthian and perhaps ultimately from Achaemenid prototypes. Cf. Sarre, *Kunst des alten Persien*, Pls. CXX, CXXVIII, CXXXV, etc. The genitive *Jihonikasa* is probably to be understood in an absolute sense, as implying that the date was 'during the reign of' Jihonika (Zeionises), but it may be possessive, implying, as in nos. 7, 10, etc., that the *askos* was the property of Jihonika. Cf. *A.S.R.* (1926), Pl. XXVII, 1 and p. 114, no. 3; and for inscription, *C.I.I.* II, pt. 1, p. 82, and Pl. XVI, *a, b, c, d*. For inscriptions on Graeco-Roman silverware, cf. Schreiber, *op. cit.* pp. 380-400. (Pls. 187, no. 2; 188, no. 2.)

CLASS II. *Aryballoi or scent-flasks* (nos. 3, 4). Cf. 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class III; 'Stone', ch. 25, Class XII; 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Class VI

3. Sk. '29-2,278/1; Block F'; sq. 96.81'; stratum II. Long-necked scent-flasks or *aryballoi* of silver, provided with a lid. Height 4.75 in. The lid is fastened to a ring round the neck by means of a chain, some of the links of which are missing. The bottom is decorated with incised concentric circles. For this and other articles found with it in Block F', see p. 182 *supra*. (Pls. 187, no. 3; 188, no. 3.)

4, *a, b*. Sk. '26-4,081/17. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Two *aryballoi* of silver: height 2.5 in. The lids are attached to the neck by a chain and ring. Cf. p. 157 (18) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 114, no. 4 and Pl. XXVII, 2. (Pls. 187, no. 4; 188, no. 4.)

CLASS III. *Goblets* (no. 5, *a-c*). Cf. 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XIV, *c*; 'Stone', ch. 25, Class XIII; 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Class XIV

5, *a-c*. Sk. '26-4,081/15. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Three silver goblets with carinated and fluted bodies. Heights 5.25, 6.12 and 7 in. Cf. p. 157 (19) *supra*.

Many examples of this type of goblet, made of copper, bronze, and earthenware, have been found at Taxila. ('Copper and Bronze', nos. 272, 273, Pl. 174; 'Pottery', no. 91, Pl. 124.) The shape may have been affected by the Hellenistic *kantharos*, though without the handles; but it seems rather to have been derived from the prehistoric earthenware beaker with pointed bottom.

In all these metal goblets the bases are much too small for the size and weight of the vessel. Seemingly, the beverage was meant to be drunk at one draught. For the horizontal fluting, cf. the gold bowl from the Oxus treasure figured in Dalton, *The Treasure of the Oxus*, no. 17, Pl. VII, and the *rhyton* from Erzinjan in Armenia (*ibid.* no. 178, Pl. XXII). (Pls. 187, no. 5, *a, b*; 188, no. 5, *a, b*.)

CLASS IV. *Bowls and cups* (nos. 6-9). Cf. 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XV, *d*; 'Stone', ch. 25, Class X; 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Class XII

Type *a*. *Bowls with rounded bottoms and with or without flared mouths*.

6. Sk. '30-382/1; Block E; sq. 67.66'; stratum III. From same find as no. 15 *infra*. Silver bowl with round bottom, flared mouth and cordon moulding round middle. Diam. 4.56 in. Thick metal. For the shape, cf. 'Pottery', nos. 105, 106; Dalton, *The Treasure of the Oxus*, no. 18 (p. 82) and no. 180 (p. 120) and *Compte Rendu* (1880), p. 223; Atlas, Pl. III, fig. 5. See also p. 162, nos. 19, 20 *supra*. (Pl. 187, no. 6.)

7, *a-e*. Sk. '26-4,081/24. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Five shallow bowls of silver with round bottoms. Two of them bear the same inscription in Kharoshthī, viz.: *Theūtara(y)a Thavaraputras(y)a* = 'Of Theodorus, the son of Thavara.' Cf. p. 157 (20) *supra*; *C.I.I.* II, pt. I, p. 97 (nos. 1, 2) and Pl. XIX, nos. 1, 2; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 13. (Pls. 187, no. 7, *a, b*; 188, no. 7, *a, b*.)

Type *b*. *Bowls with low standard bases*. Of the Greek *kylix* pattern, but without handles.

8, *a-c*. Sk. '26-4,081/23; stratum III. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Three circular silver bowls with shallow trumpet base soldered to bottom. Diam. 7.75 and 7.87 in. Cf. p. 157 (21) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 11; Pl. XXVII, 9. (Pls. 187, no. 8; 188, no. 8.)

9, *a, b*. Sk. '26-4,081/26; stratum III. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Two silver cups with shallow base. Diam. 3.87 in. Cf. p. 157 (22) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 114, no. 6 and Pl. XXVII, 4. (Pls. 187, no. 9; 188, no. 9.)

CLASS V. *Dishes and plates* (nos. 10-12). Cf. 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XVI; 'Stone', ch. 25, Classes VII, VIII; 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Class XVII

10. Sk. '26-4,081/21. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Round silver dish with raised boss in centre, terminating in knob and surrounded by six incised concentric circles. Diam. 8.75 in.; weight 7505.3 gr. Inscription in Kharoshthī on body: *Mimjukritasa sa 20 10 dha 2* = '(Property) of Mimjukrita: 30 staters, 2 drachms.' Cf. p. 157 (23) *supra*. This vessel is a much stylised version of the familiar Greek *phiale mesomphalos*, which was most popular in the third and second centuries B.C. Two similar dishes of silver (10, *b, c*) were found in Block G', House III in Sirkap (Sk. '28-2,068; sq. 101.86'; diam. 12.5 and 12.75 in. respectively) along with a coin of Zeionises, but without any inscription. Cf. *A.S.R.* (1928), p. 58, no. 71 and Pl. XXII, 6. Three similar dishes of copper, and others of terra-cotta and stone have also been unearthed on

the same site. Cf. 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, no. 289; 'Pottery', ch. 23, no. 109; and 'Stone Objects', ch. 25, nos. 39, 40. See *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 12 and Pl. xxvii, 10; and, for the inscriptions, *C.I.I.* vol. II, pt. 1, pp. 99 (4) and Pl. xix-4. (Pls. 187, no. 10; 188, no. 10.)

11. Sk. '29-1,362/4; Block D'; sq. 62.113'; stratum III. Silver saucer with flat base, carinated sides and everted rim. Diam. 6.12 in.; weight 2603.7 gr.; on base, concentric countersunk circles and between them inscription in Kharoshthī: *Aśpavarmasa strategasa Sa* 10. 1. *Dra* 2. *O* 2. = 'Of Aśpavarma, the *strategos*. 11 staters, 2 drachms, 2 obols.' For the shape, cf. 'Pottery', no. 107. Aśpavarma, son of Indravarma, was '*strategos*' during the reigns of Azes II and Gondophares. He was succeeded by his 'nephew' Sasas, but not in the office of *strategos*. The title *strategos* was inherited by the Śakas and Parthians from the Seleucid Empire. What precisely the title implied is uncertain. In the *Cambridge History of India* it is translated 'commander-in-chief'; by others it has been interpreted as the equivalent of satrap. That it implied something more than 'commander-in-chief' seems probable from the fact that Aśpavarma struck coins in his own name as *strategos*. On the other hand, it is evident that there was a distinction at Taxila between *kshatrapa* and *strategos*. Cf. ch. 2, p. 62 *supra*. For deposit D of Block D', with which this saucer (no. 4) and other articles of gold and silver were found, see ch. 6, p. 188 *supra*. (Pl. 187, no. 11.)

12, a-e. Sk. '26-4,081/25. From the same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Five circular saucers of silver with flat bases, slightly concave underneath, and everted sides and lip. Diam. 5.62-8.25 in. Cf. p. 157 (24) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 114, no. 5, and Pl. xxvii, 3. Other silver saucers of the same type have been found in Sirkap, e.g. no. 12, f=Sk. '29-1,362/5, which came from the same deposit as no. 11 *supra*. (Pls. 187, no. 12; 189, no. 12.)

CLASS VI. Rectangular plate on legs (no. 13)

13. Sk. '26-4,081/20. From the same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Rectangular plate of silver, with curved rim, on four legs, one of which is missing. Size 8.8 × 6.12 in.; weight 5,378 gr. The legs, like the bases of the goblets, are an alloy of silver and copper, the copper being added probably to assist the soldering or welding of the metal. On the back is a short inscription in Kharoshthī, which reads: *Mumjukritas(y)a sa 20 dra* 1 = '(Property) of Mumjukrita, 20 staters, 1 drachm.' Cf. p. 157 (25) *supra*; *C.I.I.* II, pt. 1, p. 98 (3) and Pl. xix, 3. For another example of a rectangular dish (*lanx quadrata*), cf. *B.M. Cat. of Silver Plate*, no. 87, and Odobesco, *Le Trésor de Petrossa*, p. III, fig. 42. (Pls. 187, no. 13; 188, no. 13.)

CLASS VII. Paterae of repoussé and incrustated silver (no. 14, a, b)

14, a, b. Sk. '19-933/8; Block D'; deposit E; sq. 59.114'; stratum II. Two dishes or *paterae* of silver repoussé, once incrustated with gems or paste. Diam. 6.5 in. The repoussé decoration is disposed in concentric circles—a small ring in the middle surrounded by pear-shaped cloisons; then a wreath divided into six sections, with varying patterns; and round this, again, a swag border followed by a beaded edging. The incrustation was in the central ring, the pear-shaped cloisons and the swag border. For the pear-shaped cloisons, see Dalton, *Treasure of the Oxus*, no. 18, Pl. VIII. Parthian period. *A.S.R.* (1919), p. 19 and Pl. VIII, 5. For details of the hoard in which these two *paterae* (no. 5) were found, see pp. 188-9 *supra*. (Pls. 187, no. 14; 189, no. 14, a, b.)

CLASS VIII. Ladles and spoons (nos. 15-17). Cf. 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, Classes XX and XXI, nos. 306-18, and 'Iron', ch. 27, Class VI, no. 24

15. Sk. '30-382/2; Block E; sq. 67.66'; stratum III. Ladle of silver with ring-handle, similar to the copper ladles nos. 306-8. Length 7.12 in. On the outside of the bowl is a short

Kharoshthi inscription of six letters, of which three only are legible, viz.: *ma ya .sa*. From same findspot as no. 6 (*q.v.*). Cf. p. 162 (20) *supra*. (Pl. 187, no. 15.)

16. Sk. '13-194/2; Block E; sq. 77·66'; stratum II. From the same hoard as the Dionysus head no. 21. Silver spoon with handle terminating in cloven hoof and attached to the spoon by a rat-tail ridge. Length 6·37 in. This pattern of spoon was fashionable in the Hellenistic world from about 300 B.C. onwards, and a favourite one in Italy in the first century A.D. This one may either have been imported from the Mediterranean or copied from a Graeco-Roman model. Cf. the copper spoons nos. 312, 313; *A.S.R.* (1912), p. 26, no. 2 and Pl. xx, i. For other objects from the same hoard, see pp. 159-60 *supra*. (Pls. 187, no. 16; 189, no. 16.)

17. Sk. '26-4,081/16. From the same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Silver spoon with plain straight handle terminating in knob. The bowl of the spoon is shovel-shaped and very shallow. Length 6·25 in. Cf. p. 157 (26) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 16. In the same hoard was also found the broken handle of another silver spoon terminating in a leaf (length 2·87 in.). (Pls. 187, no. 17; 189, no. 17, *a, b*.)

CLASS IX. *Strainers* (nos. 18, 19)

18. Sk. '26-4,081/18. From same hoard as no. 1 (*q.v.*). Circular strainer, with broad flat rim furnished with ring-handle. Diam. 6·75 in. Cf. p. 157 (27) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 9 and Pl. xxvii, 7. For earthenware strainers, see 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XVIII, type *b*, and for examples in silver, *Dar. et Sag.* 1, p. 1331, *s.v.* 'Colum', and *B.M. Cat. of Silver Plate*, nos. 129, 146. (Pls. 187, no. 18; 189, no. 18.)

19. Sk. '26-4,081/19. From same hoard as preceding. Basket-like strainer of silver, fitted with ring-handle on either side. Height 5·12 in. On the outside, just below the rim, is a Kharoshthi inscription: *Gomanada-putras(y)a Jhamdanamas(y)a* = '(Property) of Jhamdanama, son of Gomanada.' Cf. p. 157 (28) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 7 and Pl. xxvii, 5; and for the inscription, *C.I.I.* II, pt. I, p. 99 (5) and Pl. xix, 5. The strainer is evidently a silver imitation of the *kalathos* or basket used in Greece and elsewhere for the straining of milk, etc. Also known as ἡθμός, σχοίνινος, or ὑλιστήρ. Observe, however, that the plaiting is merely imitation in thin silver relief. Cf. *Dar. et Sag. s.v.* 'Calathus', fig. 1003. (Pls. 187, no. 19; 189, no. 19.)

CLASS X. *Lids for large open-mouthed vessels* (no. 20, *a, b*).

Cf. 'Pottery', ch. 23, Class XXVII, *b*

20, *a, b*. Sk. '26-4,081/22; stratum III. From same hoard as preceding. Two circular concave lids of silver. Diam. 8·5 in. In the middle of the concave upper side is a looped handle in the form of a fish soldered, apparently with copper, to the lid. Cf. p. 157 (29) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1926), p. 115, no. 10 and Pl. xxvii, 8. For concave lids of earthenware, see 'Pottery', nos. 186-92, types *a-c*. (Pls. 187, no. 20; 189, nos. 20, *a, b*.)

CLASS XI. *Miscellaneous* (nos. 21, 22)

21. Sk. '13-194/1; Block E; sq. 77·66'; stratum II. From same hoard as no. 16 (*q.v.*). Head of Dionysus or Silenus, in silver repoussé, with stand beneath. Height 3·75 in. The relief of the head is 1·25 in. deep; the metal is extremely thin and brittle, and there is a break near the right ear and at the base of the rim. The head of the god is bald on top and wreathed with a grape-vine. His ears are pointed. In his right hand he holds a two-handled wine-cup (*kantharos*). Behind his head passes the curved staff (*thyrsos*), with a bell suspended at its end. The front of the stand is adorned with a conventional palmette, and a rosette beneath; behind, is a curved 'thumb-piece' which enabled the head to be set in a slanting position on the table. The stand closely resembles the handle of a *kylix* and was probably made for that purpose. For the form of the stand, cf. Schreiber, *Alexandrinische Toreutik*, figs. 52-4, 60, 61, 71, etc.

and Taf. 1-3; *B.M. Cat. of Jewellery*, p. 240, no. 2112. For the bearded type of Dionysus holding a *kantharos*, cf. Dar. et Sag. s.v. 'Bacchus', pp. 627 ff. and figs. 709, 710, and s.v. 'Cantharus', p. 893, n. 8, where numerous examples are cited. The *kantharos* is of a type which was in fashion about 300 B.C., but the relief may be a first century copy of older work. Cf. p. 159 (1) *supra*; *A.S.R.* (1912), p. 26, no. 1 and Pl. xx, a. (Pl. 209, a.)

22. Sk. '13-194; Block E; sq. 77·66'; stratum II. Circular boss of shield (Gr. δμφοῶλος) composed of two thin plates, an iron one on the inside, a silver one on the outside, riveted together at the edge with six silver nails. Diam. 4·69 in. At the back were three looped cross-pieces for the attachment of the handle. Compare the shield bosses in 'Iron Objects', ch. 27, nos. 93-5 and Pl. 45, and 'Copper and Bronze', ch. 28, nos. 388, 389. This shield-boss was used to close the mouth of the earthen jar containing nos. 16 and 21 *supra* and a quantity of gold jewellery. Cf. pp. 159-60 *supra*. (Pl. 187, no. 22.)