

- From the EDITOR.—American Eclectic Medical Review, Oct. 1871.
 From the EDITOR.—Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, No. 86, Jan.—July 1871.
 From the AUTHOR.—Ueber die Verschiedene Krümmung des Schädelrohres, etc. By Prof. A. Ecker.
 From the AUTHOR.—Nineteenth Annual Report of the Manchester Free Library, 1870-1. By Dr. Crestadoro.
 From the EDITOR.—Nature, to date.
 From the EDITOR.—Matériaux pour l'Histoire primitive et naturelle de l'Homme, Oct. 1871.
 From the AUTHOR.—Eastern (East African, etc.) Slave Trade. By J. A. Challice.
 From the EDITOR.—La Revue Scientifique, No. 20, Nov. 1871. M. Alglave.

The following paper was then read :

On ANTHROPOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS from the HOLY LAND. By RICHARD F. BURTON (late her Majesty's Consul at Damascus). *With NOTES on the HUMAN REMAINS.* By Dr. C. CARTER BLAKE, F.G.S.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,—Before proceeding to the business of the evening, I may perhaps be allowed a few words of personal explanation, and briefly render to you all an account of my stewardship as your representative during the last two years in Syria and Palestine, the so-called Holy Land. Firstly, allow me to express my satisfaction at finding myself again standing in this room,

“ Where, girt by friend or foe,
A man may speak the thing he will.”

But the two years have brought with them many a change. I miss an old familiar face and the cheery presence of the founder and president of the Anthropological Society, my energetic and indefatigable friend, the late Dr. James Hunt. The newspaper press throughout the world has borne such testimony to his efforts in the cause of anthropology, that nothing remains to add to his fame. Secondly, I must congratulate you upon what the *Court Journal*, when announcing a marriage *à la mode*, is apt to term the uniting of two ancient families—in other words, the amalgamation of two Societies, which always should have been one. This happy union has been successfully effected, and now it remains only for us, by extending and by maturing our system of establishing local secretaries and collectors over the globe, to take that position which the high importance of our studies claims. It is, perhaps, not generally known, even in this room, that the Brazilian coast, from Rio Janeiro to the Southern province, Rio Grande de Sul, is fringed with a mighty

line of "kitchen-middens". These have been found even in the Bay of Rio, upon the shores of the Ilha Grand; whilst from my pleasant and salubrious station, Santos, one of the S'a Leones of the Brazil, I sent home to this Society specimens of the hatchets used by the Tupy race for opening shell-fish, and mostly of the class denominated palæolithic or archaic. I use the words generally, not confining "palæolithic" to the Driit period, or "archaic", as has been proposed for the Cave implements; whilst "prehistoric" is limited to those of the Tumuli, and "neolithic" to the finished and polished specimens. A pluralist as regards employment, I can hardly find time at present for working up my long notes upon this subject; but I shall be most happy to place them in the hands of any brother member, who has leisure and inclination to attempt the task.

Since we last met in this room, I have had two years of service in Syria and Palestine; and I may assure you, gentlemen, that I have not found the Holy Land a bed of roses. Without entering into political or official matters, which would here be out of place, I may, in a few words, assure you that my post was one of great difficulty and of greater danger. I have been shot at by some forty men, who, fortunately, could not shoot straight; I have been seriously wounded on another occasion; and, lastly, my excellent friend and fellow-traveller, Charles F. Tyrwhitt Drake and I were pursued by a party of about three hundred Bedawin assassins, placed upon our track by a certain Rashid Pasha, late Wali or Governor-General of Syria. On the other hand, my friend and I have been able to explore the highly interesting volcanic region lying immediately to the east of Damascus, and to bring home a plan of the giant cave, which seems to have been mentioned by Strabo. We have also mapped the whole of the Anti-Libanus, a region far less known than the heart of the Andes, the best proof being that upon the best maps the name of only one peak is given, and even that is given incorrectly. Our notes upon the subject are reserved for the Royal Geographical Society, whose actual President, the world-famed Sir Henry Rawlinson, has, in his opening address of Monday, November 13th, made courteous allusion to our labours: it is sufficient for me here to state that our joint publication will alter the map of Northern Syria. And, neglecting all details concerning the peculiar circumstances which led to my leaving Syria, I may briefly assert, that the action taken by the authorities has led to a result which I hardly expected: it has made my name historical in the Holy Land. The Moslems of Damascus gathered in thousands at the great Amawi, or Cathedral Mosque, of that once imperial capital, and had public prayers for my return; whilst Mrs. Burton was

compelled to quit the city privately, in order to avoid a demonstration which might have been dangerous. You will excuse me if I have made these personal details too personal; but I feel it due to you and to myself that my unexpected appearance in this room should be honourably accounted for.

Before proceeding with the business of the evening, I will read a note addressed to me by my friend Mr. Fred. Collingwood.

“November 15th, 1871.

“My dear Capt. Burton,—I am directed, on behalf of the Publication Committee, to ask what illustrations you wish should accompany your papers on Collections from the Holy Land; and whether we can help you in the preparation of diagrams for our evening meetings.—I am, yours faithfully, J. FRED. COLLINGWOOD.”

The wishes of your Council should have been consulted upon this and other matters; and, indeed, without illustrations it is almost useless to describe a great variety of articles, especially silver implements. Unfortunately, however, time is wanting; and the delightful hospitalities of an English country-life have, I fear, considerably modified the rugged energy that results from wild travelling.

It has been suggested to me that a few words of explanation, concerning a report now made public by the press, may be desirable, as certain persons may be expecting me to lecture upon a man fourteen feet long. The fact is, that Capt. Murray, R.N., a Fellow of the Royal Society, lately informed me that, when excavating at Ramlah, near Alexandria, he came upon some ancient catacombs; that he found a skeleton measuring eleven feet long; that he carried off sundry ribs and vertebræ, and that he still possesses one of the latter. He has promised me the loan of it; and, should the article be forthcoming, its first appearance shall be in this room.

In offering you this instalment of a catalogue *raisonné* of an anthropological collection made in Syria and Palestine, between April 15th, 1870, and August 6th, 1871, I purpose, with your permission, to read out a list of the articles lying upon the table; to illustrate the position of the finds by certain topographical remarks, which I beg leave to say will not be found in the guide-or hand-books; and, finally, to refer the matter to Dr. C. Carter Blake. My friend has kindly volunteered to supply my deficiencies in comparative anatomy and zoology; and we shall both feel grateful for all suggestions and additional information, especially concerning the mummy cloths and the tesseræ, which may be offered by learned members of our Institute. In conclusion, we owe the loan of the map to the kindness and courtesy of Mr. Secretary Bates and Captain George, R.N., of the Royal Geographical Society. I may note in connection with it that,

strange to say, the position of Palmyra is yet undetermined. The following are those most generally adopted :

Lieut. Vigne's (Duc de Ligny's map) : N. lat., 34° 32' 30" ; E. long., 38° 14' 39".

Lieut.-Colonel Chesney's map (Walker) : N. lat., 34° 15' 00" ; E. long., 38° 35' 00".

Carl Ritter : N. lat., 34° 17' 30" ; E. long., 38° 32' 30".

Major Rennel : N. lat., 34° 24' 00" ; E. long., 38° 20' 00".

Murray's Handbook has adopted, from Rennel and Lieut. Vigne's : N. lat., 34° 35' ; E. long., 38° 14' 39".

I am informed by Mr. Stanford, R.G.S. (6 and 7, Charing-cross), that the position of Palmyra is not given in Ritter's *Erdkundr.*

Catalogue Raisonné of an Anthropological Collection made in Syria and Palestine, between Apr. 15, 1870, and Aug. 6, 1871.

No. 1 Lot.—The following is a list of the articles which were collected at Palmyra, during a tour which lasted between April 5th and April 21st, 1870.

7 skulls ; 3½ jaws, and sundry fragments ; 1 hand, perfect ; 1 ditto (minus thumb), and fragment ; 1 foot.

1 parcel of bones ; namely, 2 thigh-bones, a foot nearly perfect, a back and ilium of a mummied child, 3 spinal vertebræ ; various fragments of skulls, ribs, spine-bones, and tibiæ, with odds and ends of bone.

1 parcel of common mummy cloth, mostly cotton (?), including a hand.

1 parcel of coloured ditto, yellow with purple edging, being the most common ; a bit of blue stuff (linen ?)

2 fragments of bitumen cup (?), like those made at Kabr Músá (Moses' tomb, west of Jericho).

3½ mortuary lamps.

4 fragments of rough old stone pottery, like our greybeards.

A remnant of shoe-leather (?)

Specimen of mummied hair, stained yellow (raddled ?)

1 oblong tessera, with Palmyrene inscription.

9 circular tesserae, one inscribed.

7 oval and square tesserae.

2 pyramidal ditto.

1 circular pebble, apparently worked.

Miscellaneous.

25 coins of little importance. These we picked up everywhere at Palmyra : we never walked out without finding some.

1 glass coin, apparently of the same kind offered for sale at Tyre. None of the Palmyran collections which I have inspected

contained any glass coins. In the eighteenth century, glass money for local currency, like the Hebrew bank-notes of Tiberias and Safet, was made at Hebron.

26 slate stones, 1 peach (?) stone and 1 apricot-stone, taken from mummy heads. No skull was found without them. At Shakkah (*Saccæa*), in the Jebel Duruz Haurán, the succedaneum is an almond-shell with the sharp end cut off, and forming a diminutive cup.

1 coin, Leon and Castile.

6 fragments of pottery.

1 fibula.

1 bell.

1 mutilated figure (Virgin and Child ?)

1 bloodstone, engraved with figures of two horsemen.

1 scalloped bead.

1 Egyptian figure (?).

1 larger figure (Egyptian ?).

1 smaller figure.

2 seals.

1 scarabæus.

The skulls, bones, and mummy cloths, are evidently those of the ancient and pagan population of the Palmyrum. The tomb-towers, whose age is known to bear date 314—414 of the Seleucidan era, corresponding with our A.D. 2 and 102. It is highly probable that the heathen practice of mummification declined under Roman rule, or after A.D. 130, when the great half-way house between the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean became Adrianopolis. Still vestiges of the old custom are found extending far into the second century, when it is believed that the Himyarite Benú Ghassán (*Gassanides*) of Damascus had abandoned their old faith for Christianity.

Our short visit of five days allowed me only a day and a half to try the fortune of exploration at Palmyra. It is easy there to hire a considerable number of labourers at two and a half piastres a head per diem—say sixpence—when in other places the wages would be at least double.* I secured forty-five coolies, who had nothing but diminutive picks and hoes, grain-bags and cloaks, which they converted into baskets for removing sand and rubbish. Operations began (April 15th, 1870) at the group of tomb-towers marked "cemetery" in the Handbook, and bearing W.S.W. from the great temple of the Sun. It is one of the two *Viæ Appiæ*, which enter, or rather which entered, Palmyra :

* The labourer's wage throughout Palestine would now be five or six piastres, a little more than one shilling. In the days of the New Testament money must have been nearly as dear again ; for we find a denarius (sevenpence-halfpenny) paid as the established price of a day's work.

this is upon the high road to Damascus ; whilst the other, to the north-west of the official or monumental city, was doubtless the main approach from Hums and Hainah. Both are lined on each side with the monuments which here take the place of the Egyptian pyramids ; and their squat solid forms of gloomy and unsquared sandstone contrast remarkably with the bastard classical Roman architecture, meretricious in all its details, and glittering from afar in white limestone.

I chose the south-western group, because it appeared to be the oldest of the series. The Fellahs know it as Kusúr Abú Sayl, the Palaces of the Father of the Fiumara ; and they stare when told that these massive buildings are not kusúr but kubúr (tombs). "I dare say it is all one (kulloh wahid) to the owner", said a Voltairian hand, when the words of truth were announced to him. Here the loculi in the several stages were easily cleared out ; they had been ransacked before, and they supplied only a few bones and shreds of mummy cloth. A calvaria (No. 1), however, and the larger thigh-bone, with attachments of dried muscles, were found in the upper story by one of the Fellahs. From another and a neighbouring tomb-tower, they brought calvaria No. 2, which evidently belongs to an elderly and masculine person, of decidedly unpleasant propensities. He is, in fact, a fit companion for No. 1.

The rest of the collection came from the adjacent ruins. Calvaria No. 3, pierced near the suture, contained a greater number of olive-stones than the rest : can this peculiar process have been adopted in order to show the extent of the owners' possessions ? No. 4 is the head of a young girl, and displays all the peculiarities of the modern Syrian cranium—it can hardly have been buried many years ago. No. 5 looks as if it had been compressed behind after burial ; but it is distinctly of the old Syrian type, whilst even the solidity cannot be considered abnormal. As a rule, in these countries the oldest calvariæ are the thickest, and similarly the largest building stones are the oldest. No. 6 is also evidently distorted by pressure to the proper right. No. 7 is apparently modern, and its fragility contrasts with No. 5 ; the peculiarity in the orbits of the eyes is not to be noticed in other heads.

I then applied the hands to a plain mound, lying about a hundred yards to the south of the largest tomb-tower. It offered a tempting resemblance to the undulations of ground which cover the complicated chambered catacombs already laid open, and into one of which, some few years ago, a camel fell, the roof having given way. Three shafts were sunk in the slopes of the barrow, and four men were told off to each. The first four feet passed through hardened surface-soil, and a loose conglomerate

of pebbles rolled down from the *Jebel Mintár* (the Look-out Mountain) upon whose lowest folds we stood. Then came lumps of snow-white gypsum mortar, which gradually formed a stratum also four feet deep. It appeared to be artificial, but all the hands agreed that it was not. This *fouille* was abandoned, as time pressed us hard.

The third attempt was made at a spot to the north of, and next to the largest tomb-tower. Here a skeleton square of large blocks, containing an area that corresponded with the nearest building, and ranged in line with it, suggested something below. After three feet of the usual surface soil, the pick struck upon three large unworked stones, firmly embedded in mortar, and disposed in tripod shape. The labourers declared that we had come upon the foundations of a house: we persevered, however, to a total of nine feet six inches, and presently, on the west of the tripod, appeared a semicircle of cut stone, like the curb of a well. The contents were pure sand—in fact, the Desert drift, mixed with fragments of coarse and heavy pottery, some light brown, others yellowish, with lumps of gypsum lime and bits of well preserved charcoal. The colour of the arenacious matter was at first pale ruddy, as if affected by damp; but, after ten minutes' exposure to sun and air, it became dull white, and it was easily sprayed by the wind like that around us. The shape of the hollow below the half rim was that of a Florence flask—in fact, the Algerian silos and Morocco matamors, which are extensively found in this part of Syria, and which, in places like the Tell Shaykh Abdullah, near Hasyah and the Khan Shamsín,* between it and Hums, occupy the greater part of a hill. None, however, are equal to the immense excavations near Bayt Jibrin and Dary i Dubbân, which, despite their Greek crosses and Cufic inscriptions, were believed by many travellers to be "Horite dwellings". But, judging from its position, this was probably an old cistern, filled by the drainage of the roof. Ancient Palmyra, which I estimate to have been at least nine miles in circumference, without including the outlying tomb-towers extending in a broken line from the north-east to the south-west, could not have been adequately supplied by the two streamlets of a water resembling that of Harrogate, or by such an aqueduct as that whose ruins are still visible. The Wady-el-Sayl (Valley of the Fiumara), which separated the monumental from the popular city, is a mere nullah, generally bone-dry, sometimes a raging torrent; and the disforesting of the hills to the north and west has doubtless reduced it to its present state. The depressed site of the great depôt, upon the very threshold of the Dau, or Wilderness, upon the shore edge

* The maps are in the habit of calling this place "Shimsán".





BUST OF ZENOBIA (?)
in the collection of
M. PERETIÉ OF BAYRUT.

where the sandy sea breaks against the furthest headlands offsetting from the Anti-Libanus, suggests the extensive use of cisterns and wells. And these will be required again—the world has not yet heard the last of Palmyra as a half-way house between the Mediterranean and Hindostan.

My fourth and last attempt was to pierce into a heap to the west of No. 3. Here I directed the men to sink a shaft five feet deep, and then to tunnel under the loose stones which lay upon the surface. The dirt was, as usual, superficial alluvium and gypseous lime. Presently, however, during our absence, the workmen came upon two oval slabs of soft limestone, almost like chalk, each with its kit-cat in alt-relief. One was a man, with straight features, short curly beard, and hair disposed as appears to have been the fashion for both sexes, in three circular rolls; it might have been a priest had there been a sign of tonsure—I have, however, been unable to determine the period at which tonsure prevailed throughout these regions. The style of coiffure is frequently seen in heads brought from Palmyra. The other was a feminine bust, with features of a type so exaggerated as to resemble the negro; both being too debased to deserve transport, they were left upon the ground. A third and similar work of art was brought, but the head had been removed.

On the next day, the villagers exhibited a fourth slab of the same kind, but they would not show the place of their *trouvaille*. This specimen had a double inscription, the incised characters being stained with a red vivid as vermilion, and between them was a larger head, with a smaller on its proper left. This hideous work of art was secured for M. Peretié, Dragoman of the French Consulate-General, Bayrout. That well-known collector has a bust, which possibly represents Zenobia: the material is terra cotta; the ornaments are numerous and peculiar; and the general style of the workmanship will be understood from the illustration, the latter taken from a photograph.

The remnants of statuary which we found at Palmyra were of two styles: the one above described native and barbarous; the other classical, or rather subclassical. The type may be judged from the tesserae, and most of the tomb-towers probably had over the entrance, or in niches disposed at various altitudes, the full-length figure reclining upon a couch, and propped upon the left elbow. In all cases, the heads have been knocked off by the iconoclastic barbarians who conquered the land; but sufficient of the members and of the drapery remains to show that the workmanship was very far superior to the indigenous articles. Specimens of Palmyran art are to be found almost everywhere in Northern Syria. More than one figure is rare.

I have seen, however, several groups: the most remarkable was that of a woman carrying a well grown child upon the left shoulder. Both are clad in the plaited clothing, which also appears to have been *à la mode*, and the mother's front hair is dressed in three horizontal lines, with the rest pulled back. One of the most pleasing figures is an alt-relief in the house of my excellent friend, M. F. Bambino, Vice-Consul of France for Hums and Hamah. In the adjoining illustration, the hair is drawn off the face, and the features are somewhat Grecian.

This semi-barbarism of art seems to be the case in Syria and Palestine generally; Cyprus, on the other hand, as General Cesnola and Mr. Lang have proved, yields terra cottas, mostly heads, busts, and full-length figures, which in beauty and expression are purely Grecian. A marble Cupid, sent to Paris before the war, showed the finest chiseling. Unfortunately, the savage who disinterred it at Bayrout smashed the features; and, when told that he had spoilt his property, proposed to restore it by means of a stone-cutter from the bazaar. The gigantic marble statue of a woman, seated upon a chair, with a sphynx at her left, still lying in a back street of Ba'albek, is also Greek in style and dress, but the proportions are poor; in fact, the finest Greek art never seems to have strayed far from the shores of the Mediterranean.

Umar Bey, a Hungarian officer, who was stationed for some months at Palmyra, in command of the troops, made a large collection of clay tesserae, which here seem to represent our "tokens". He kindly allowed me to take notes of them. I did not, however, copy the inscriptions, knowing that he intended them for his father-in-law, M. Mordtmann, the archæologist.

The forms greatly vary, being square, round, oblong, crescent-shaped, semi-circular, triangular, pyriform, rhomboid, and jug-shaped. Some have three plain lines, and the fourth or uppermost, a waving outline. They are mostly of plain, yellowish clay; some bear traces of a purple colour, and a circular tessera is half red half black.

The characteristic obverse is the reclining woman before mentioned, raised in tolerable relief and facing to the left. Sometimes, there are two, three, and even four figures, resting upon a couch more or less solid. Those with inscriptions below are rare, and, of course, more valuable. On the proper right of the figure there is often a vine, realistically or conventionally treated, either with leaves or with mere whorls like exaggerated tendrils. Some have a bird placed above the figure; others a sacellum showing a human shape, in an oval raised upon a circle. That the figure enclosed in the sacellum represents the Yoni I have no doubt whatever. Let it be compared with Layard's



PALMYRENE FIGURE

From the Collection of Mr. F. Bambino.



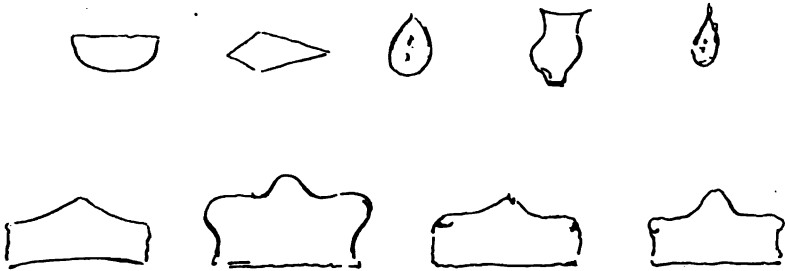
PALMYRENE MOTHER AND CHILD

from Ditto.



VARIOUS SHAPES OF TESSERÆ

From Collection of Umar Bey.



VARIOUS FIGURES ON TESSERÆ

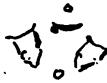
From Ditto.



Sacellum



*Sacellum
on pillar*



*Bull's head
Crescent & Stars*



*Trefoil shaped
Ornament*



*Head
like that at
Rakhlah.*



Crescent shaped Tesserae



*The latter contains
the word Bar,
son of.*



Egyptian seal ("Nineveh and Babylon", p. 156), representing the god Horus, by the Greeks mis-called Harpocrates, seated upon the mystic lotus, in adoration of "Havah", the Great Mother of all living.

The reverses of these tesserae are treated in many ways. The following are the principal:

Two persons reclining upon a couch (as in the obverse).

Two figures kneeling before a smaller, with a vase above the pair.

Two figures, one tall, the other short.

Two figures with a sacrificial altar between: there are many specimens of this reverse; sometimes there is a bust enclosed in an oval above them, at other times this is wanted.

Two figures, with one large and one small vase.

One figure standing.

Two or three busts with the tall head-dress: a very common form; sometimes two stars are disposed about the busts.

A head, with two sacella and Yoni, each inverted upon a column.

A wreath (of ghár or laurel?), a bust, and two sacella, like the above.

A spreading tree, not unlike the alphabet, called El Mushajjar, which resembles a palm branch more or less stripped, and planted upright.

A cup.

A wreath enclosing a sacellum.

A trefoil-shaped ornament.

The Baal figures are, of course, common, especially the following:

Head and spike-like rays. R. Couchant bull, facing to right.

Ditto, with crescent and star under it.

Head and wavy hair, like the sculptured head at Rakhleh ruin. R. Sacellum and standing figure.

Baal and Ashtarah, artistically treated. R. Head of woman.

Two bulls' heads meeting at an angle of 45°, with a star above and below, and a crescent opposite the horns.

Bull's head, and ball (sun or star?) between the horns. R. Eagle.

Bull's and horse's heads. R. Inscription.

Bull with high hump like the zebu. R. Wheel and eight spokes.*

Man facing right; head crowned with seven spike-like rays.

R. Bust.

* I found this emblem well carved on basalt at Sanamayn, south of Damascus, and believe it to allude to the local deity, Agathe Tykhe—in fact, the wheel of fortune.

Standing figure. R. Sun and stars (lozenge-shaped tessera).

Head and crown of rays facing right, under it eagle. R. Serpent (tessera half red and half black).

Two figures on throne and two standing. R. Three pine cones (?); eagle and star below.

Spread eagle. R. Umbo and inscription. N.B.—This umbo is a phallic emblem, which appears sometimes on one side, sometimes on both. It is, in fact, the Chemosh or Priapic idol of Moab, a "gerundert stein". This well known figure naturally leads me to notice the last work by my learned friend Dr. Beke ("The Idol in Horeb: Evidence that the Golden Image at Mount Sinai is a Cone and not a Calf." London: Tinsleys, 1871). Dr. Beke (p. 4) is distinctly of opinion that the golden cone was an image of the flame seen by Moses in the burning bush, and of the fire in which the Eternal had descended upon Sinai; and he rejects the allegations of a correspondent (p. 34), which makes him impute to the Israelities the "obscene phallic worship". I cannot, however, but believe that, like cannibalism, infanticism, and perhaps sati (suttee), the adoration of the Lingam-Yoni, has been, at various ages of the world, universal, typifying, by a gross material image, the reproductive powers of Nature. The subject is far too extensive for anything but casual mention in these pages; but no one will forget the Crux Ansata of Egypt, or the Lingam-Yoni of Ancient and Modern India; and upon this subject I venture to recommend an excellent work by Dr. Thomas Inman, "Ancient Faiths embodied in Ancient Names" (London: Trübner, 1868). It abounds in information of the highest interest; and, probably on account of its freedom from prejudice, it has been damned with faint praise by the many who reviewed it.

Eagle not spread. R. A tick resembling the Brazilian carrapato. N.B.—One of the leaden coins bears a bust and a carrapato on the reverse.

Human figures are, perhaps, the most common; *e. g.*,

Bust with tall coiffure, facing to right. R. Standing figure.

Head between two garlands on crescent-shaped tessera.

Bust. R. plain.

Bust. R. Sun (circle) and stars (lozenge-shaped tessera).

Head and two stars on quarter moon. R. plain.

Bust facing to front. R. Ladder of five rungs and stars. This R. also occurs on pyriform tesserae.

Vase and hand.* R. Flower-pot (?) and inscription.

Head. R. Head and sceptre.

* This might be Jewish; the hand and the manna cup, especially the former, are favourite emblems.

- Head. R. Head (pyriform tessera).
Head of Roman type facing left. R. Inscription.
Standing figure of man. R. plain.
Woman and vine. R. plain (pyriform).
Hand in square. R. Four cones joined at bases.
There are various figures of animals; *e. g.*,
Two horses. R. Two fishes.
Gazelle. R. Small Genius and two stars. N.B.—The gazelle often occurs upon the smaller Palmyran coinage.
Ibex. R. (?)
Lion pulling down gazelle. R. One figure sitting upon a chair, the other standing.
Lion. R. Bee on flower (?)
Winged griffin. R. Two bulls and inscription.
Scorpion on rhomboidal tessera. R. Lyre-shaped figure.
The other figures are chiefly:
Cornucopia. R. plain.
Vine-leaves. R. plain.
Large and small circles. R. plain.
Two vases and two stars. R. Inscription.
Two vases, one large, the other small. R. plain.
Eccentric figure found upon many. The inscribed character is a contraction of "bar", son of —. I presume that the object denotes an altar.
Depressed sacellum and figure inside. R. plain.
Two large stars and one small. R. Sacellum.
Semi-circle and star. R. Inscription.
Wheel on conical seal (Agathe Tykhe ?)
The principal beads are:
Long oval with eleven or twelve ribs; the colours, green, blue, and white, appear at both ends.
Coarse blue glazed china bead.
Glass, red on white ground.
Fine purple glass, like garnet.
Blue glass, bright and good.
Long oval black glass, with three lateral and deeply indented white bands.
Agate beads, small.
Bead of pink madrepore (unbored).
Imitation shell bead.
Bead in shape of phallic umbo.
The collection also contained a small stone weight, and many coins, some of them of lead. The most curious were those which bear Moslem inscriptions, with heads of men and of lions.
My friend and fellow traveller, Mr. Charles F. Tyrwhitt Drake, also made a collection of Palmyran antiquities, which he

will himself describe. There is no better field for inquiry than these grand old ruins. As has been shown, labour is plentiful and cheap; and I will answer for the civility and kindness of Shaykh Fâris, who now protects the British-Baghdad post. A month might be spent to great advantage at Tadmor. Future travellers are advised to carry with them a crowbar, a rope-ladder, a plank or two, and cords with hooks, so as to explore the upper stories of the tomb-towers which may hitherto have escaped ransacking; and I should advise them to dig, not at the south-west of the ruins where we did, but to the north-east, where a large blot of dark ashen ground, scattered over with dwarf tumuli, denotes, according to our Fellahin informants, the Siyaghah, or gold and silversmiths' bazar. When searching ruins, the explorer will do well to remember General Cesnola's rule; namely, to dig along the inner walls, not in the centre. The result, in Cyprus at least, left nothing to be desired.

I will now make way for my friend Dr. Carter Blake, who requires no introduction from me. And I have the honour to return my best thanks for the patience and perseverance with which you have listened to a somewhat dull paper.

NOTES on HUMAN REMAINS *from* PALMYRA. By C. CARTER BLAKE, Doct. Sci., F.G.S., Hon. Mem. A. I., Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy and Zoology, Westminster Hospital. With an Illustration by GEORGE BUSK, F.R.S., President of the Royal College of Surgeons.

CAPTAIN BURTON has done me the honour to place in my hands, for description, some of the valuable human remains which he has derived from Palmyra. The fact that these relics have only been in my possession since the 10th of the month will, I hope, induce the members of the Institute to grant me some indulgence in the description.

In order that the ancient skulls from Palmyra may be carefully considered, I shall commence my description with a short conspectus of the characters of the typical modern Syrian skull of the present day, marked No. 4 on the specimen.

Skull No. 4.—It is ovately orthocephalic, its greatest length being 16.5, and its greatest breadth 12.7, the cephalic index being consequently .76. With largely rounded parietal tubers, not so prominent, however, as in the young Hindû of the same age (about nine years), the frontal region is remarkably square, and well developed; the jaws are orthognathic, and the malar region is delicate. An equable curved line extends from a spot, at about one-third of the longitudinal diameter of the frontal bone, to the median portion of the supraoccipital. The lower