

who was slain by Achilles, would not be an unlikely subject to be selected to go with Thetis's call on Hephaistos. In both the hero is Achilles by implication. But the circumstances of the scene, the presence of Memnon's relations—if such they are—is an entirely novel feature in such a representation.

From the point of view of style this vase presents many points of interest. The profuse use of colors, such as white and blue, is characteristic of the period. Especially

graphs on the excavations conducted by the archaeological expedition of the Museum in Egypt. The volume, written by Arthur C. Mace and Herbert E. Winlock, Assistant Curators of the Department of Egyptian Art, has for its subject the discovery of the tomb of a noble lady who was buried near the Pyramid of King Amenemhêt I at Lisht, between 2000 and 1950 B. C., in which were found the jewelry, cedar coffin, magic staves, Canopic jars, and pottery offering vessels which are one of the great-



FIG. 6. KRATER (MIXING VESSEL)
THETIS AND HEPHAISTOS?



FIG. 7.
KRATER (MIXING VESSEL)

noteworthy is the difference in the drawing between the Thetis scene, which is painted with great care and is quite Attic in feeling, and the Hypnos and Thanatos picture, where the foreign element is more noticeable. At all events, if the krater is the work of Greeks in South Italy, these must have worked under much more direct Athenian influence than the makers of the regular "Apulian" vases of the fourth and third centuries. G. M. A. R.

THE TOMB OF SENEPTISI¹

THE Trustees of the Metropolitan Museum announce the publication of the Tomb of Seneptisi at Lisht, the first of a series of mono-

¹The Tomb of Seneptisi at Lisht, by Arthur C. Mace and Herbert E. Winlock, Assistant Curators of the Department of Egyptian Art. Volume I of the Publications of The Metro-

politan Museum of Art Egyptian Expedition, edited by Albert M. Lythgoe, Curator of the Department of Egyptian Art. Quarto; xxii, 134 pages, 85 illustrations in text; 33 photogravure plates, and frontispiece and 2 plates by photogelatine color process. New York, 1916.

est attractions of the Egyptian Department of the Museum. Tombs more sumptuously equipped than that of Seneptisi have been found in Egypt, but rarely has one been opened which preserved so completely the equipment supplied to the members of the highest caste of the Middle Kingdom for their journeyings in the nether world. The enormous quantity of gold which was buried in the ancient cemeteries has ever been an irresistible temptation to the living Egyptians and it was not surprising to find that thieves had broken into Seneptisi's tomb shortly after her funeral. What was both surprising and gratifying, however, was to dis-

cover that the robbers had been interrupted before they had done any material damage and that the tomb furniture was practically intact. It seemed advisable therefore to make this grave the subject of an individual study which would serve as a basis for the publication of the rest of the work of the Museum on the cemeteries of Lisht. For this reason the objects discovered have been treated in considerable detail and every effort has been made to compare them with similar material from other excavations. The Tomb of Senebtisi is thus somewhat more than a simple report of the results of archaeological excavations. It is rather a study of the burial customs of the royal cemeteries of the Twelfth Egyptian Dynasty.

The first chapter describes the desert about the two ruined pyramids of Lisht and the location of the grave in the tomb courtyard of a Grand Vizier. It consisted of a well cut in the bed rock, descending to two small, unimposing chambers. In fact, when the excavators first went down into it they had no idea that they were about to discover so rich a treasure.

In the second chapter a narrative is given of the circumstances of the discovery and clearing of the tomb, describing the condition and the position of each object as it was found, and the means taken to preserve those which proved to be in a fragile con-

dition. Illustrating this chapter there are a number of photographs taken in the tomb at the end of each successive stage of the clearing. The intention in publishing so

full an account is threefold. Discoveries of tombs in anything like their original condition are all too rare in Egypt today—this was the only one found at Lisht out of several hundred which have been opened—and it is to the interest of the student of the future that there should be provided as circumstantial a description as possible of so unique an example. Secondly, for the reader unfamiliar with Egyptian excavations the chapter describes some of the conditions under which the objects in our museums have been found, and for the archaeologist and excavator a record of the actual methods of work which were used in this instance in an endeavor to retrieve all the information possible after the ravages of forty centuries. Finally, the narrative puts the reader in possession of all of the facts needful to test the conclusions and reconstructions advanced in the following chapters.

The coffins and Canopic box are described in the third chapter. Senebtisi had three coffins, nested one within the other. The outer coffin of soft wood had fallen almost entirely to dust; the second of cedar was practically intact; but of the third, fashioned in the traditional form of an Egyptian



RESTORATION OF THE ANTHROPOID COFFIN FROM THE FRONTISPIECE IN COLOR IN THE TOMB OF SENEBTISI

mummy, only the gold leaf with which it was covered had survived the dampness. A detailed description of each of these is given, and reconstructions of those which had been destroyed by dampness. The restored anthropoid coffin forms the colored frontispiece of the volume. Following these descriptions, there is a list of all the published coffins of contemporary date and similar form and on this material there is written an excursus on the classes of coffins in the Middle Kingdom. The coffins of Senebtisi are shown to be of a type which came into being with the newly established court of the Twelfth Dynasty and is characteristic of all of the royal cemeteries of the Middle Kingdom. The brilliantly colored coffins of the earlier period had now become the style of the provinces, while the great people of the court were interred in sober coffins of cedar decorated with gold and for their burials were invented the first of the human-shaped mummy cases which later became a part of every Egyptian's funerary paraphernalia.

In the fourth chapter the jewelry is described with equal fullness. The charming circlet that was found on the head of Senebtisi and the golden rosettes that adorned her wig; her necklaces with an ingenious clasp of gold that would be a credit to any modern jeweler; her broad collar of beads; two bead girdles, one of the most delicate workmanship and delightful materials; and her bracelets and anklets are here published in photograph, in color, and in sketches which illustrate the way in which they were constructed. To the archaeologist the value of this jewelry is enhanced by the definitive reconstruction that the painstaking removal from the body made possible, and moreover the catalogue given in this publication is of importance for the study of the famous jewelry from Dashur now in the Cairo Museum. With this object in view a list is given of all of the similar jewelry known and the names in

ancient Egyptian are collected from the painted coffins wherever they can be identified.

For her journey in the nether world Senebtisi was equipped with a set of magic weapons and staves to serve as talismans protecting her against supernatural dangers and giving her entry into the company of the gods. With the descriptions of these staves in the fifth chapter there are given again comparisons with those from other tombs, and the material thus collected is made the groundwork of a study on the sceptres and staves of the Middle Kingdom. The subject is one of unusual intricacy and involves the investigation of the early Pyramid Texts, the rubrics in the Middle Kingdom painted coffins, and many relief sculptures which are reproduced as illustrations in the text.

The miscellaneous objects found in the tomb—a dagger, two small wooden shrines, a stave box, the Canopic jars, and the pottery which contained food and drink for the dead Senebtisi are treated in the sixth chapter and compared with similar objects from other sites.

In the seventh chapter the principal thesis of the book is restated. The similarity existing between this tomb furniture and that from other royal cemeteries, so frequently noted in the descriptions of the individual objects, is adduced to prove the existence of a definite court practice distinct from the provincial custom which had originated in the preceding Heracleopolitan period.

An appendix by Dr. G. Elliott Smith, F.R.S., on the anatomical material, describes the mummy of Senebtisi already mentioned in other articles by the same author as one of the important evidences of the early stages of Egyptian embalming; and finally, in addition to a general index, there is one of the publications cited, and another of the hieroglyphic names of Egyptian funerary paraphernalia.