

# I N D E X

	PAGE
Printing Office...	1
Registry of Courts of Judicial Police ...	7
Tourist Bureau ...	9
Registry of His Majesty's Superior Courts ...	15
Civil Prisons ...	25
Libraries (Gozo) ...	31
Commissioner for Gozo ...	35
Court and Public Registry, Gozo ...	37
Water and Electricity Department ...	39
Libraries (Malta) ...	55
Telephone Department ...	67
Public Registry ...	77
Post Office ...	81
Reformatory ...	95
Customs and Port Department ...	101
Emigration ...	109
Public Works ...	135
Police ...	147
Labour Department ...	165
Charitable Institutions ...	189
Chief Government Medical Officer and Superintendent of Public Health ...	251
Museum ...	305
Secondary and Elementary Schools ...	341
University ...	359
Audit Office ...	371
Agriculture ...	495



## Report on the work of the Museum Department for 1935-36.

### THE MUSEUM.

Auberge d'Italie.

29th May, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Museum Department for the year 1935-36, together with reports A, B, and C, of the Curators in charge of the special Sections.

#### DEATH OF THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM.

It is with feelings of the deepest regret that I have to perform the sad duty of recording the death of the first Director of the Malta Museum, Professor the Honourable Sir Themistocles Zammit, Kt., C.M.G., M.D., D.Litt. (Oxon), which occurred on the 2nd of November last.

Sir T. Zammit was, for all practical purposes, the founder of the Museum of Malta, and it is entirely due to his great and untiring activity that the Museum has attained its present great scientific and historical importance both locally and abroad.

I need not here enlarge on his many merits in different fields; it will suffice, in this report, to record that all the local papers and many British and foreign papers and other publications as well, have paid ample tributes of praise and sympathy to the eminent Maltese Scientist whose erudition was only surpassed by his modesty; and that, in token of the services rendered by him to his country, the Empire and Humanity, the Government of Malta, on the initiative of His Excellency Sir Harry Luke, the Officer Administering the Government, erected a bronze bust of him, in a conspicuous place in the vestibule of the Valletta Museum.

The ceremony of the unveiling of the bust took place on the 28th February last, and was performed by His Excellency Sir Harry Luke, the Officer Administering the Government, who in the presence of a distinguished gathering delivered the following address:

"Lady Zammit, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is going to be a modest, simple little ceremony, as befits an occasion in remembrance of one of the most modest of men. No one hated fuss or advertisement more than the man we have come to honour, and I am sure that his own feeling would have been that, if anything of what we propose to do to-day was necessary, it should be done as simply and as briefly as possible.

I do not think I need enlarge on the career of Sir Temi to an audience such as this one. Suffice it to say here that having made one international reputation in the field of medical research and preventive medicine in connexion with undulant fever, he had the rare distinction of making another one in the totally unconnected field of Maltese Archaeology. In both of these fields he was the pioneer; in both of them he continued his fruitful labours till the day of his death.

When he received his honorary Doctorate of Letters from Oxford — and I suspect that he valued that honour as much as any of those he received — the Public Orator of the University described him as "this versatile man". This is an epithet that can justly be bestowed on few, but I venture to think that even greater than his gifts of scholarship were his gifts of character. He was the type of true scholar not only in depth of knowledge and range of accomplishments, but in the generosity with which he placed his knowledge at the disposal of

His Honour

The Lieutenant-Governor.



others. He had no selfishness, no ambition after personal kudos, he embodied the best traditions of the two sciences to which he devoted his life. He had no wish for personal credit, he only wished others to benefit by what he knew and had discovered, nor did he bear resentment when some who had profited by his work omitted to acknowledge their indebtedness.

Thus his triumph was not only a triumph of learning but a triumph of character and of loyalty. He was loyal to his native Island, and to its traditions and culture which he loved truly and helped greatly to make better known, he was loyal to the Empire, he was loyal to Humanity. And I am sure that he could have wished for himself no better tribute than that paid on his death by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who declared that 'his distinguished services to science and public welfare have added fame to Malta'."

#### APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM.

On the 4th November, 1935, Mr. C. Rizzo, was appointed Director of the Museum.

#### QUATERNARY DEPOSIT AT "TA' VNEZJA".

With reference to the district known as "Ta' Vnezja" within the limits of Mosta, whereon the Air Ministry are establishing an aerodrome, I wish briefly to record the discovery of an important geological feature consisting in a Quaternary alluvium, which had previously escaped notice, because it was entirely concealed from view by the cloak of vegetable soil which extends all over the district; whilst henceforth the investigation of the same geological feature will for ever be impossible for the simple reason that it is of necessity being completely destroyed.

It was indeed fortunate that this Department was informed, through the kindness of Major H.G. Gates, M.B.E., E.E. (Air), of the accidental discovery by the workmen of an ancient burial, and that I visited the spot, jointly with the Curator of the Archaeological Section, in connexion with this burial, just in the nick of time to notice the presence of the Quaternary deposit in question, which was being destroyed.

The tomb we were about to explore was not cut in the solid Tertiary rock, but in an old compact alluvium which, from its aspect, I judged to belong to Quaternary times; and this surmise was supported by an examination of the exposed vertical sections forming the sides of the deep trenches that were being dug across the same deposit.

A careful search for Pleistocene fossil remains, which I made there and then to confirm my theory, proved unsuccessful; but later on, after having instructed the workmen to look out for fossils, I obtained some Hippopotamus and Elephant bones, and the Quaternary nature of the alluvium was soon ascertained.

The Curator of the Natural History Section, was immediately informed of the occurrence, and directed to keep a vigilant eye on the deposit. Both he and I paid frequent visits to the spot, and with the assistance of the workmen, who soon became much interested in their search for fossils, we succeeded in obtaining ample information, and make a valuable collection of Pleistocene fossils, some of which are really good specimens.

From a thorough study of the peculiar features presented by the Quaternary alluvium several important geological deductions could be made respecting the morphology of this Island; but as this is not the proper place to enlarge on purely geological considerations I propose to leave this matter to be more extensively treated elsewhere; I shall therefore record, as briefly as possible, only one deduction which I consider of particular interest.

From the special features of the deposit under review it is easy to surmise that although at present it lies on the top of a prominence rising twenty-five feet or more above the general level of the district, yet at the time of its actual formation it was deposited by water, in successive thin layers, on the bed of a valley or a fairly deep depression of the ground.



These vast morphological changes in the land surface, due to the slow but unceasing disintegrating action of the weather, point to the very considerable length of time that must have elapsed between the original deposit of the alluvium and the present time. Considering, further, that its consistence and stratification are more or less identical with those of the well known Pleistocene deposit of Ghar Dalam (as pointed out in the accompanying report of the Curator of Natural History) and therefore, more or less of the same geological age, one at once realizes the great antiquity of the Maltese Neanderthal Man, whose molar teeth we have found intermixed with the fossilized remains of Hippopotami, Elephants and other contemporaneous animals in the Pleistocene deposit of that famous cave.

I take this opportunity to express the grateful thanks of this Department to the Air Ministry by whose kind permission several burial places were cleared and examined; and to Major H. G. Gates, M.B.E., and Mr. Arthur Sceberras, who very kindly did all in their power to facilitate our work, both in the clearing of the burial places and in the collection of fossil remains.

#### ADMISSION OF VISITORS TO VARIOUS SITES UNDER THIS DEPARTMENT

FROM 1ST APRIL 1935 TO THE 31ST MARCH 1936.

##### *Valletta Museum.*

Admission on payment at -/6d per head ...	...	...	...	...	1,910
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	4,905
					<hr/> 6,815

##### *Roman Villa Museum.*

Admission on payment at -/6d per head ...	...	...	...	...	537
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	1,100
					<hr/> 1,637

##### *St. Paul's Catacombs.*

Admission on payment at -/6d per head ...	...	...	...	...	730
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	456
					<hr/> 1,186

##### *Tarxien Neolithic Temples.*

Admission on payment at -/6d per head ...	...	...	...	...	1,004
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	1,452
					<hr/> 2,456

##### *Hal-Saflieni Hypogeum.*

Admission on payment at -/6d per head ...	...	...	...	...	3,427
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	970
					<hr/> 4,397

##### *Ghar Dalam Cave, Birżebbuġa.*

Admission on payment at -/6 per head ...	...	...	...	...	571
Free on special days and by Students tickets	...	...	...	...	304
					<hr/> 875



The following Books were presented by Sir T. Zammit, Kt., C.M.G., M.D., D.Litt. (Oxon) :

Bible or Babylons? by E. L. Bevir.

Facts and Opinion on the Malta Primary Schools. Malta, 1847.

Speech on the Use of the English Language in Malta. Rt. Hon. Jos. Chamberlain, M.P. — Malta, 1902.

University and Lyceum of Malta, 1860.

Statute of the University and the Lyceum of Malta in the year 1898. Reprinted with amendments, 1906.

Dead Languages and Living Interest, by the Rev. L. E. Bellanti, S.J., 1906.

Literary and Scientific Institute of Malta. — Malta, 1854.

Society of Archaeology History and Natural Sciences — Malta 1866.

The Marls and Clays of the Maltese Islands. Cooke — 1893.

Some Evidences of the occupation of the Maltese Islands by Prehistoric Man.— by John H. Cooke, B.Sc., F.G.S.

General Board of Health. Appendix V. Second Report on Quarantine in Malta, 1813. — London, 1854.

Report on the Collections of Mosquitoes — (Culicidea) by Fred. V. Theobald, M.A., British Museum — London, 1900.

Report on the Sewerage of Malta with Estimates by Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., C.E., — Malta, 1896.

Some Remarks on the Select Committee's Report on Education in Malta, 1897. By Father V. Hornyold, S.J.

Prevention of the spread of communicable diseases in Schools — Malta, 1911.

Programme of the Spring Show of Flowers, Vegetables and Fruits, Argotti Gardens — April, 1913.

Report on Filtering Water Supplies. By Osbert Chadwick, C.M.G., C.E., — Malta, 1894.

The cures of the diseased in Forraïne Attempts of the English Nation. (Reproduced in facsimile with introduction by Charles Singer) — London, 1915.

Progress in Wireless Telegraphy by Thomas Agius — 1902.

The Claims of the Maltese founded upon the principles of Justice — By George Mitrovich. — 1836.

Malta. A Neglected Outpost of Empire — By Augusto Bartolo, B.Lit., LL.D., Malta — 1911.

The Nobles of Malta — By Crispo Barbaro — Malta, 1887.

The Mediterranean Naturalist. Vol. I. No. 1 — 1st June, 1891.

The Mediterranean Naturalist. Vol. I. No. 5 — 1st October, 1891.

The Emigration Question in Malta — By L. Manchè, M.D., — Malta, 1910.

The Project of Edward Tonna, of Malta — Malta, 30th November, 1866.

Acute Yellow Atrophy of the Liver in Pregnancy. By Dr. A Portelli Carbone, M.D. — 1890.

In Her Majesty's Privy Council — On Appeal from the Court of Judicial Police of the Island of Malta as a Court of Criminal Judicature.

Medical Facts — Interesting Historical Chronological — U.S.A.

Story of a Visit to the "Dried Monks" of Floriana. By Col. N. R. Raven — Malta, 1887.

Nineveh and Its Remains. By Austen Henry Layard, D.C.L. (Paris, 1850).

The Hebrew Grammar of Gesenius (Translated from the 11th German Edition) by T. J. Conant. — London 1839.

Hebrew reading lessons by S. P. Tregelles, LL.D.

Paolo Debono. A Pen Picture by S. Flores. — 1906.

Colonial Annual Reports for 1904-5. — Malta No. 462. — London, 1905.

The Daily Malta Chronicle No. 1461 — Saturday, 24th April 1897.

The Nobles of Malta by George Crispo Barbaro — Malta, 1883.

L'Evangeliu Imkaddes ta Sidna Gesù Cristu min San Giuan. Rivedut u Collazionat fuk l'original Griec. — Londra, 1872.



- L'Evangelu Imkaddes to Sidna Gesù Cristu min San Giuan. Rivedut u Collazionat fuk l'original Griec — Londra, 1912.
- L'Evangelu Imkaddes ta Sidna Gesù Cristu min San Matteu. Rivedut u Collazionat fuk l'original Griec. — Londra 1895.
- L'Evangelu Imkaddes ta Sidna Gesù Cristu min San Marc. Min l'original Griec. — Londra, 1914.
- L'Atti tal Apostli. — Rivedut u Collazionat fuk l'original Griec. — Londra, 1871.
- L'Atti tal Apostli. — Rivedut u Collazionat fuk l'original Griec. — Londra, 1895.
- It-tieni Ctieb tal Kari Malti — "It-Testment il Kadim" — Malta, 1881.
- Dun Bosco, min Dun Aluig Galia, — Malta, 1903.
- Il Carità, f'Malta u Gaudex Nru. 121. — min Sir Richard Micallef, K.C.M.G. — Malta, 1912.
- Uard ihor jew poeziet bil Malti. — Dun Carm. Psaila — Malta, 1920.
- Chief il Gherf tal Kanaghnin tmissel fil Grieghi. Nru. 130 min F. Calleja. — Malta, 1913.
- It-Triek tal Genna. "Orazioni" min Richard Taylor. — Malta, 1842.
- Il-Talb tal Galenia. — Malta, 1845.
- Il Ctieb tal Hrejef mictub min D.G.S. — Malta 1905.
- Il Musbieh tal Muzew, Poesija. — Malta, 1920.
- Kari bil Malti, bl-Inglis u bit-Talian — Malta, 1882.
- Kelmtein fuk is-sahha tal ulied, tat-tabib Fabriz Borg. — Malta, 1885.
- Uhed Xem u Cam fil Gzejjer tal Inghilterra u ta Malta. — Malta 1902.
- Jrajja mill'Istoria tal Inghilterra min Annibale Preca — Malta 1886.
- Il Passioni tas-Signur taghna Gesù Cristu minn San Matteu. — Malta 1851.
- Twissiet Fuk il Mard tal Kollra. — Malta 1885.
- It-Tieni Ctieb tal Kari Malti ghat-tfal tal Ischejjel tal Gvern. — Malta 1899.
- Dutrina jew Taghlim Nisrani (Malti u Inglis) — Malta 1901.
- L'Istoria ta Malta tal Imhallet P. DeBono (2 Vols.) — Malta 1903.
- L'Esaminatur fis-sengha tal bahar, min S. L. Gauci. — Malta 1902.
- Taghlim tal Fotografia migbur min E. L. V. — Malta 1895.
- Grammatica jeu taghlim musicali mehud min diversi auturi gbar tal Musica; mis-surmast Gheitan Grech. — Napoli MCMVIII.
- Dottrina Nisrania ordnata mil Papa Pio X. — Malta 1907.
- L'Imkaddes Evangelu ta Gesù Cristu min San Matteu. — Malta 1895.
- Moghdija taz-Zmien "Aghmel il Gid u Nsih" Bertu u Nina mil Can. A. Hili. — Malta 1900.
- Moghdija taz-Zmien. "Il Mahdi" grajja tal Africa min G. Vassallo. — Malta 1901.
- Il biedja u il mard tal agrumi fil Gzejjer taghna min G. Borg, M.A., M.D., — Malta 1899.
- Il Habib Nru. 3., Il Hamis 15 ta Frar 1912.
- Chelmteja fuk "Il Biedja ta Malta" N. Tagliaferro. — Malta 1894.
- Compendio della Dottrina Cristiana — Malta 1809.
- Compendio della Dottrina Cristiana — Malta 1843.
- Compendio della Dottrina Cristiana. Corretto e ristampato per ordine di Sua Ecc. Rev. Mons. D. Francesco Saverio Caruana. — Bassano 1832.
- Il Santo Vangelo di N. S. Gesù Cristo Secondo Luka — Roma.
- Cenni sul Problema Linguistico nel Maltese. — A. Cremona. — Malta 1918.
- Il Vangelo di N. S. Gesù Cristo Secondo Matteo. — Roma.
- Grammatica della Lingua Maltese del Can. Fortunato Panzavecchia. — Malta 1845.
- Poesie Maltesi ad uso delle Scuole Primarie. — Malta 1864.
- Dottrina Cristiana. — Roma MDCCLXVIII.
- Il Vangelo di N. S. Gesù Cristo, Secondo San Giovanni. — Londra 1822.
- Norme d'Insegnamento e di Metodi etc. per le Scuole di Malta e Gozo. — Malta 1871.



- La Riconciliazione sulla Questione della Lingua, di Ant. Cini. — Malta 1903.  
Statuto Fondamentale dell'Università di Malta. — Malta, 1871.  
Discorso dell'Abate P. Pullicino. — Malta, 1851.  
Agl'Illmi. Signori Membri del Consiglio Generale dell'Università di Malta, in occasione del voto da essi dato ed annullato del Governo intorno ai candidati da ammettersi al concorso per la cattedra di eloquenza Latina e Italiana. — Tommaso Zauli Sajani — Malta, 1846.  
Confutazione del Discorso del Can. P. Pullicino. — Malta, 1863.  
Origine e Progresso della Lingua Italiana in Malta ossia La Lingua Nazionale dei Maltesi. — Antonio Cini. — Catania, 1904.  
Storia della Società Medica d'Incoraggiamento di Malta, Vol. I. Fasc. III.  
La Geologia ed i Fossili delle Isole Maltesi. — Malta, 1912.  
Statuto della Camera Medica di Malta. — Malta, 1885.  
Calendario dell'Agricoltore per l'anno 1849. In Italiano ed in Maltese.  
La nuova Stela Fenicia a Malta. — Roma, 1855.  
Memorie della Società Medica d'Incoraggiamento di Malta. Vol. I, 1843.  
Studi sulle Diverse Qualità delle Acque di Malta. — Dr. Caruana Scicluna, 1888.  
Dello Stato Presente delle nostre cognizioni sulla vegetazione Maltese. — Alfredo Caruana Gatto, B.A., LL.D. — Genova, 1892.  
Provvista di Acque per Malta — Malta, 1855.  
Discorso sulla Storia Fisica di Malta e Sue Adiacenze. Da S. Zerafa. — Malta, 1858.  
La Reazione agglutinante nelle capre dal punto di vista dell'igiene. — Dott. T. Zammit. — Roma 1910.  
Traduzione di una memoria sulla provvista dell'acqua in Malta e nel Gozo. — Malta, 1876.  
Effemeride Medica Maltese (Primo Trim.) Anno I. — Malta, 1885.  
Poche Nozioni D'Igiene Pratica compilate da P. P. Agius, M.D., — Malta, 1889.  
Alcune osservazioni di P. P. Agius, M.D., in risposta agli articoli pubblicati "Nell'Appello" intorno alla memoria pubblicata dal medesimo "Sulla Difterite". — Nov. 1869. — Malta, 1870.  
La quistione sanitaria in Malta. Cha. Casolani, M.D. — 1880.  
Biografia di S.E.Rev.ma. Mons. Franc. Sav. Caruana, Arcivescovo di Rodi e Vescovo di Malta. — Scritta da Can. Cap. V. Caruana dei Conti Gatto. — 1907.  
Discorsi Accademici del Dr. F. Zaverino Farrugia. — Malta, 1778.  
Monografia Critica della Lingua Maltese per cura del Can. Cap. V. Caruana dei Conti Gatto. — Malta 1906  
L'Ultimo assalto al Forte San Michele di Dr. Gaetano Gauci. — 1907.  
Alcune osservazioni economico-politiche sull'Isola di Malta di Gio. Antonio Micallef — 1825  
I due nuovi medaglioni a mosaico della Chiesa Cattedrale di Malta. — Canonico P. Pullicino — 1873.  
L'antico titolo della Chiesa Cattedrale di Malta, — Can. P. Pullicino — 1873.  
Flora Melitensis di G. C. Grech Delicata. — 1853.  
Altre antiche tavole appartenenti alla Chiesa Cattedrale di Malta, di Can. P. Pullicino. — 1872.  
Dei Libri corali antichi del Duomo di S. Giovanni di Malta, di Can. Isidoro Formosa. — 1902.  
Atti della Società Economica Agraria — Anno 1906 e 1907.  
Il Dialecto Maltese di Luigi Bonelli.  
Antiche tavole altre volte componenti il principale gran quadro della Chiesa Cattedrale di Malta. — Dr. Paolo Pullicino. — 1871.  
Memoria sullo stato politico di Malta per John Joseph Dillon. (Traduzione Italiana) 1897.



- Della eccezionale gravità dell'attuale controversia costituzionale pel Dr. Ernesto Manara. — 1890.
- Risposta al Sig. M.A.R. autore dell'opuscolo intitolato "Riflessioni sulla questione del Grano", 1898.
- Acroasis in Populi Melitensis Humanitatem per Archeologiam. Auctore, Sac. P.P. Borg, S.T.D.
- Poche Parole sui Grani in Malta — 1840.
- La Questione della Pensione fra l'Arciprete Parroco della Musta e il Vicario Curato oggi parroco all'Mgiarro — Roma, 1905.
- Indirizzo ai Maltesi da parte del loro amico Giorgio Mitrovich — London, 1835.
- Esclusione degli ecclesiastici dal consiglio del Governo di Malta. — G. B. Vella — Malta, 1857.
- Dopo La Laurea. — Discorso per Laurea in Medicina e Chirurgia dal Prof. A. Cuschieri, 5 Novembre, 1910. — Malta, 1910.
- Il Codice Melitense Dei Vangeli — Studi di Mons. S. Grech D.D. — Malta, 1897.
- Del senso velato nei primi nove versi del canto XXV del Paradiso — Prof. B. P. Roncali. — Roma, 1906.
- Al Rev. Can. Dr. Don V. Psaila Chapelle. — Malta, 1852.
- Francesca Pia e Piccarda (Conferenza Dantesca) Dott. V. Laurenza. — Malta, 1908.
- Discorso Inaugurale letto il 1mo. Dicembre, 1862, nello Istituto Letterario della Senglea, da Gavino Gulia. — Malta, 1863.
- Umanisti Vecchi e Nuovi (Conferenza letta nel Collegio Flores) da Alfredo Bartoli — Malta, 1907.
- Al Sommo Pontefice Pio Nono. Ode del Barone Giuseppe Maria De Piro.
- Risposta dell'Editore del Filologo a Camillo Mattei sull'Apologia di P. Ryllo — Malta, 1842.
- Storia Artistica di Malta. Discorso di Stefano Zerafa, M.D. — Malta, 1850.
- Notizia, Biografico-Necrologica di Giorgio Pullicino — Malta, 1852.
- "L'Asino" Foglietto Semiserio, Anno IX, Sabato 11 Giugno, 1904, No. 211.
- Discorso Commemorativo del Prof. S. Castaldi, LL.D., letto dal Prof. C. Caruana, LL.D., — 1904.
- La Legge e la Vita — Prolusione al corso di Legge 1888-92 — letta dal Prof. P. DeBono — 1888.
- Dio e la Scuola — Discorso Inaugurale all'anno Accademico 1881-82 — di N. Zammit.
- Orazione di Laurea 1888. Prof. Gavino Gulia.
- Orazione letta in occasione del conferimento dei Gradi Accademici il 20 Agosto, 1907 dal Dr. Salvatore Grech.
- Orazione letta in occasione del conferimento dei Gradi Accademici dal Prof. L. A. Randon — 1910.
- Descrizione della Chiesa di San Giovanni Battista di S.M. 1848.
- Elogio funebre del P. Emmanuele Magri S.J. letto da B. Giuseppe Grech S.J. — 1907.
- Carattere, Dignità e Doveri della Professione Legale (Discorso letto dal Prof. Ullo Xuereb) — 1898.
- Omaggio al fu Dr. Gio. Antonio Vassallo per Paolo Cesario. 1868.
- Prolusione al corso di Letteratura Italiana letta dal Prof. Luigi Farrugia, D.D.
- Prolusione al corso di Letteratura Italiana letta dal Prof. G. A. Vassallo, 1864
- Progresso delle idee di umanità e di civiltà nelle moderne leggi di guerra, di Salv. Castaldi, D.D. — 1895.
- De' Doveri degli Avvocati e de' Medici — Discorso letto dal Prof. P. DeBono — 1889.
- La Speranza della Patria di Alb. Cesareo — 1908.
- Orazione Inaugurale dal Sac. Dr. Ludovico Mifsud Tommasi — 1855.
- Discorso Inaugurale dal Prof. Cav: Nicolò Criscimanno, LL.D. — 1870.
- Orazione Inaugurale — Prof. Stefano Zerafa. — 1858.



- La Questione Romana al cospetto dei Cattolici. — 1862.  
Guida al Museo ovvero I Monumenti di Antichità Maltesi. — Dr. Cesare Vassallo—  
Malta, 1871.  
Malta Nobile Illustrata coi documenti e colla Storia, dal Can. Cap. Vincenzo  
Caruana dei Conti Gatto. — Malta, 1903.  
Varie Poesie di Carmelo Grocco. — Malta, 1843.  
Atti della Società Economico-Agraria 1903-4-6-7.  
Studii Critici della Chiesa di S. Giovanni, di Giuseppe Folliero de Luna. —  
Malta, 1868.  
Chi chiange e chi ride!... — 40 poesie Napoletane di R. Bracco. — S. di Giacomo —  
R. E. Pagliara — F. Russo. — Napoli.  
Atti della Società Economico-Agraria del Gruppo di Malta, 1903-1904.  
Les Antiquités Sémitiques par Ch. Clermont Ganneau. — Paris, 1890.  
Vibrons cholériques isolé de l'eau de mer. Tome. VI. No. 1. — Th. Zammit.  
— Paris, 1913.  
Inscriptions Latines Inédites de Constantine et des Environs. par M. J. Bosco. —  
Constantine, 1913.  
Notes et Deconvertes Mariales a Carthage — A. L. Delattre. — Tunis, 1912.  
Inscriptions Sémitiques. Inédites. Par Bosco. — Constantine, 1913.  
Revue Archéologique Les Dates et la Durée de L'Art Mycénien. Vol. I. 1903.  
— Paris, 1903.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- From the Director.  
Archives de L'Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tome XXIV. No. 1. 1935.  
From the Director.  
Archives de L'Institut Pasteur D'Algerie — Tome XIII. No. 1. 1935.  
From the Director.  
Bollettino della Società Piemontese di Archeologia e Belle Arti. Anno XIX No.  
1. — 2. — 1935.  
From the Chairman.  
Memoirs of the Ryojun College of Engineering. Vol. VII. 1934. — Vol. VIII.  
Nos. 1 and 2.  
From the Director.  
Notiziario dell'Istituto Vaccinogeno Antitubercolare.  
From the Author.  
Lyne-Regis in History — by C. Wanklyn.  
From the Director.  
Memorias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz. Anno 1934, Tomo 29, Fasc. 2.  
From the Author.  
Report on the supervision of Milk pasteurizing Plant, by Sir Weldon Dairymple-  
Champneys, Kt., M.A., D.M., F.R.C.P.  
From the Author.  
Monnaies Husseinites. W. de 1705 à 1782 par J. Farrugia de Candia. — 1936.  
From the Chairman.  
The Fitz William Museum, Cambridge — Annual Report for the year ending  
31st December 1934.  
From V. C. C. Collam, Esq.  
The Re-Excavation of the Dèhus Chambered Mound at Paradis, Vale Guernsey.  
By Sir Robert Mond, LL.D., F.S.A.  
From the Curator, Otago University Museum & Hocham Library.  
Annual Report for the year 1934.



From the Secretary.

First Annual Report of the Empire Grants Committee of the Museums Association, 1935.

From the Author.

Brucella Infection in Swine, by Axel Thomsen V. S.

From the Author.

Translatio Sancti Marci, by Cav. Nelson McCleary. (Estratto delle Memorie Storiche Forogiuliesi).

From the Director.

Annual Report of the Auckland Institute and Museum. 1934-35.

From the Director.

Archives de L'Institut Pasteur D'Algérie. Tome XIII. 1935. No. 2.

From the Author.

Two new mammals from the Pleistocene of Malta, by Miss D. M. A. Bate.

From the Director.

Memorias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz. 1935. Tomo 30 Fas. I-II.

From Prof. Dr. Goessler.

Sonderabdruck aus Wilhelm Dorpfeld Alt — Olympia.

From the Author.

El Arte en Espana. By Dr. Pedro Bosch Gimpera.

From Dr. Pedro Bosch Gimpera.

Les Monnaies Hispaniques, by Jose Ferrandis Torres.

Le Musée Archeologique de Barcellona (Two Vols.) 1929.

La Civilisation Iberique du Bas-Aragon.

Le Musée Archeologique National de Madrid.

Terragone, by J. M. Mavascues.

Les Isles Baléares, by J. de C. Serra — Rafols.

Emporium, by Dr. Pedro Bosch Gimpera.

Azaila, by J. Cabré Aguilo.

Merida, by J. R. Melida.

Numance, by B. T. Aguirre.

Altamira, by Prof. H. Obermaier.

From the Officer Administering the Government.

Abyssinia and Italy. Information Dept. Papers. (No. 16.).

From the Director.

Archives des Institute Pasteur D'Indochine. No. 19. Avril, 1934.

From the Chairman.

Memoirs of the Ryojun College of Engineering. Vol. VIII Nos. 4 to 6 — 1935.

From the Director.

Archives de L'Institut Pasteur D'Algerie. Tome XIII No. 3, 1935.

From the Director.

Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum. Vol. No. 6. — 1935.

From the Rector.

Calendar of the University, 1935-36.

From the Director.

Jahresbericht des Archäologischen Instituts des Deutschen Reiches für das Haushaltsjahr. 1934-35.

From the Author.

Monnaies Aghlabites du Musée du Bardo. — J. Farrugia de Candia.

From the Director.

Archives des Institute Pasteur D'Indochine. Oct. 1934.

Archives des Institute Pasteur de Tunis. Tome XXV. No. 1 — 1936.



### DONATIONS.

The following objects have been kindly presented to the Museum. The best thanks of the Government and of the Director are hereby tendered to the donors.

By Mr. V. Giordmaina.

An old decorated plane.

By Sir T. Zammit:

One old Egyptian lock.

By Mr. Emmanuele Xerri.

Three gilded copper medals of the King's Jubilee.

By Mrs. Alvarez.

*Greek vases*:— One Pelike, one Hydra, one hylix, one hylix (miniature), one oenochoe, one high handled flask. *Marble objects*:— One marble head, one architectural fragment, one plaque representing a youth with the owl of Athaena, one alabastron, one Greek lamp, one clay statuette, fragments of Roman glassware, one heavy globular glass jar.

By Mr. B. J. Formosa, L.P.

One book 'Ordinanza No. VII del 1868'.

By Mr. Emmanuele Zammit.

Two ancient earthenware pots.

By Mr. Thomas Vassallo.

One old earthenware pipe and 8 old policies (Nos. 1790, 1791, 1824, 25, 38) "Monte di Pietà e Redenzione".

By Mr. Giovanni Gatt.

One silver coin of Pope Pius IX (2 Lire, 1866).

By Lt. Col. B. C. Lake, D.S.O., K.O.S.B.

One old silver fork and one old silver spoon.

By Mr. Angelo Cauchi, N.P.

Thirty-five maps of the Franco-German War.

By Mr. O. F. Gollcher.

One Roman Coin, and 90 assorted Mineral specimens.

### ACCESSIONS.

The following objects and books were acquired during the year.

One print of Malta from the Illustrated London News — Jan. 7, 1865.

One Copper brazier, time of G. M. De Rohan.

One framed drawing of an old Phoenician vase.

One penny 1934.

One penny 1935.

One florin 1935.

One half-crown 1934.

Two silver Jubilee Medals.

One small telescope.

One print of Malta from the "Graphic" of February 9, 1889.

One framed engraving of G. M. Hompesch.

One glass unguentarium.

One silver rice spoon with coat of arms of Knight Camenzuli.

One small print "British Possessions in the Mediterranean".

One print from the "Graphic", November 17, 1888.

One small extract from a book "Troops and jobs in Malta".

One small extract from a book "A Race meeting at Malta".

Eight pieces of old Malta lace.

One half-penny 1852, and one half-penny 1860.



- One antique map of Malta and Gozo by Chev. Louis de Boisgelin.
- One old lantern bearing a cross of the Order.
- One Fan Folding Sunshade, converting into a fan given by the late Empress Eugenie of the French to "Queen Victoria" on the first visit to Paris with the Prince Consort.
- One Sunshade. Blue silk sunshade with Ivory and Lapis Lazuli handle mounted with pearls. Formerly the property of Queen Victoria, given by her daughter Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyle to Major Fraser (Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders killed at Le Cateau 1914).
- One wooden model of the Old Bakery in Str. Forni, Valletta.
- One copy "Vocabolario Siciliano-Italiano" by Traina.
- One copy "The Museum Association" (1935-36).
- One copy "More Moves on an Eastern Chequer Board" by Sir Harry Luke.
- One copy "Annuario della Diocesi di Malta — Anno III".
- One copy "Notes and queries on Anthropology" (V. Edt.).
- One copy "British Association — Anthropometric Investigation in the British Isles". (1909).
- One copy "Scientific Review".
- Two copies "The Story of Man in Malta" by A. V. Laferla.
- One copy "L'Anthropologie" (1935-36).
- One book with prints "Pen and Ink sketches of Malta" by Alf. B. Dresser.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. Rizzo,

Director of Museum.



APPENDIX A.

FINE ARTS SECTION.

THE MUSEUM,

Auberge d'Italie, Valletta.

29th May, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit a report on the working of the Fine Arts Section for the financial year 1935-36.

INQUISITOR'S PALACE.

VITTORIOSA.

The painted frieze of the room at the farther end of the suit of rooms on the first floor overlooking Strada Mezzodi, was restored; this frieze consists of rich monochrome scrolls with coat of arms at the centre of each panel; the escutcheons are those of the Inquisition, of the inquisitor Tommaso Ruffo (1686-1690 and again in 1694-1698) and of Pope Innocent XII, (Pignatelli) who reigned from 1691 to 1700. and in his early days, lived in this Palace, when he kept the Papal Delegation from 1646 to 1649. An irregularly cut Latin inscription, which has not yet been deciphered, was found on a stone used to patch up one of the walls just below the painted frieze; it was removed and replaced by new masonry. The restoration of this frieze was entrusted to Mr. Antonio Briffa.

The beamed ceiling of the room adjoining the Main Hall and overlooking Strada Porta Maggiore and Strada Mezzodi which was found partially destroyed and replaced by common stone work, was restored. The interesting frieze in the adjoining Main Hall bearing the double row of escutcheons of the Inquisitors, was first painted in this room, and it was only during Mgr. Stoppani's delegacy (1728-1731) that it was reproduced in the Main Hall where it was continued by his successors. Stoppani had a new decorative frieze painted over the original one; the upper edge of this original frieze has now reappeared and is extending beyond the more recent painting; the coat of arms of Mgr. Stoppani, which is conspicuous on the new frieze, is the last of the series in the old set and is followed by a number of empty spaces for coats of arms which, naturally, were never completed.

The Main Hall and the *Tabularium* have now been furnished; old period furniture, pictures and some works of art have been arranged in this apartment; the aim being not to have a mere exhibition of old furniture, but to restore to these apartments a dignified appearance and to recall to the mind of the visitor the golden days of the Palace.

RESTORATION OF VAULT IN ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

The apse and the portion covering the Choir have now been dealt with.

This vault, painted in oils by Mattia Preti, was restored by Ignazio C. Cortis, a Maltese painter, in the years 1867-1874. Unfortunately, this artist, who was brought up in an artistic environment that was bitterly opposed to the school of painting which had produced Mattia Preti, was certainly not the most suitable person to deal with such a work; nor perhaps, were the times, ripe for such a feat. These paintings, in fact, were not "restored" but completely reproduced with the free use of the brush. Nicola Consoni who was asked to draft a report on the state of preservation of the Vault and on the proper treatment of the paintings, suggested a complete "reproduction" and Cortis' work was afterwards styled *l'ardua impresa di riprodurre la volta di S. Giovanni*. (*Portafoglio Maltese*, 3rd April 1868). Only small portions escaped this harmful pictorial frenzy.



I first reported on the state of preservation of these paintings in 1920; a white efflorescence then covered large portions of the vault: the nature of these harmful white stains was duly described and a proper treatment suggested. I had, too, in the meantime solicited the opinion of world-wide experts and had also consulted, on the chemical side of the question, the late Sir Themi. Zammit, who then held the Chair of Chemistry at the University. In 1921 I proceeded with the cleaning of that portion of the vault that was deemed to have suffered most; the result has proved to be most satisfactory; the white stains were removed and the painting reappeared almost unhurt; in 1921 two other portions were dealt with with equal success. Fifteen years have elapsed since that first experiment and so far the white stains have not reappeared: hence I feel justified in concluding that the treatment has in no way proved faulty. I may be permitted perhaps to lay stress on the fact that this result was not achieved by the use of the brush: the white stains were removed and not concealed under a coat of new paint. The nature and process of removal of this harmful efflorescence (*nitrate of potassium*) together with the history of the abundant meddling of man in this vault, were described by me in a paper read in 1924 before the Malta Historical and Scientific Society.

In 1930 I proposed to tackle the question of these repairs *in toto*; and in March 1931 the work was resumed. It had necessarily to proceed very slowly; only a small portion could be dealt with at a time, and work was only possible for one or two hours a day, and at times could only be resumed after two days or more; good light was then only available in the mornings and on very clear days only. A more suitable scaffolding was however prepared by the Public Works Department in 1934 and a very powerful electric light installation helped us afterwards to expedite the work considerably.

The section dealt with and completed in December 1935 was the most damaged of the whole vault; in some places whole figures had almost disappeared under the chalky white stains; in the photographs taken before the restoration work was taken in hand, some of the figures hidden under the white efflorescence look as if they were completely destroyed. This section of the vault, especially the portion covered by the composition representing the Beheading of the Baptist, was also seriously damaged by the effects of subsidence due to seismic disturbances.

The repainting in the apse, executed by Cortis in thick, but poor, paint on a highly polished ground, has lost all cohesion and is now pulverising very badly; this portion of the Vault will I am sure give us further trouble in the future.

Photographs of every portion of this very important master-piece are being taken and a photographic survey showing the parts not tampered with by restorers is also being prepared.

#### RESTORATION OF SICULO-NORMAN WINDOWS IN NOTABILE.

The following Siculo-Norman windows were restored:

Two biforated windows in Gatto Murina Street,

One biforated window in Strada Santa Croce.

These windows had been deprived of their central support and turned into common rectangular windows; they were successfully restored to their original features. The architectural elements, such as capitals etc., found missing, were replaced by exact reproductions from coeval windows in Sicily. In the house at Gatto Murina Street (Palazzo Gatto-Murina) the repairs were extended to the arched cornice; this was partially destroyed when the old windows were walled up and other windows opened at a lower level; the cornice which has corbels enriched by excutcheons of the old Maltese family to whom the palace belonged and gothic ornamental foliage, was repaired and completed; a plain pointed window on the same level of the two larger biforated openings, also walled up, was not reopened but the stone work inside the opening was lowered by some inches.



## RESTORATION OF NAPOLEON'S BED-ROOM IN PALAZZO PARISIO.

Napoleon's bed-room in the Palazzo Parisio was restored on the instructions of the Government. All the mural decorations in the characteristic style of the late XVIIIth. Cent., in the Palace were painted in tempera by Antonaci Grech better known as *Naici*. They are much injured, but with only some slight exceptions have never been tampered with. When the work was taken in hand, a new set of decorations was discovered under the whitewash; these with the decorative paintings in the ceiling were properly restored, under my guidance, by Mr. Antonio Briffa.

## REPAIRS IN THE CITADEL — GOZO.

The restoration work in the church of St. Joseph was continued; the vault which was in a ruinous condition and was threatening to crumble down, had to be almost completely demolished and was rebuilt with the same original stones; the remains of the old Bishop's Palace were propped up; the outer works of the fortifications, turned into rubble walls, were also restored to their original conditions; this work was done by the Public Works Department under our supervision.

## RESTORATION OF COATS OF ARMS AND INSCRIPTION

### AT ST. PAUL'S BAY.

The three coats of arms and the inscription on the stone pillar at Dellia (St. Paul's Bay) were removed to the Museum and replaced by reproductions. These coats of arms originally on the entrance of the Dellia Redoubt, were placed on a stone pillar on some remains of that fortification when the redoubt was demolished. The coats of arms are those of the Order, of the Grand Master R. Perellos and of the Grand Prior of France Prince F. Philip de Vendosme (Vendome).

## OTHER RESTORATION WORK.

Nine pictures from the Palace and Museum Collections were repaired this year; amongst these are four very large portraits in the Palace and a huge painting in St. Antonio; the Altar-piece in the Ceppuna Church, Marsa, was also restored. In these works I was assisted by Mr. Carmelo Bonello.

## PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION.

The aims of this collection, started in 1930, is to provide a record of the chief and most important art treasures in the Island; with this object in mind the many architectural specimens scattered all over both islands, pictures and other works of art are being surveyed; when possible negatives of pictures in private collections are also obtained. The number of negatives is now 235 and the number of prints stands at over 600.

## MODERN ART EXHIBITION.

To vary the art interest and to awaken the appreciation of art a temporary exhibition of modern art is being held annually in the galleries. The Malta Amateur Art Association has this year held its XXII<sup>nd</sup> annual exhibition; three galleries and two corridors were used for the purpose; a display of Water Colours by Edward Lear (1812-1883) was also arranged in the retrospective section of the show. The Exhibition was inaugurated by His late Excellency the Governor and Lady Campbell on the 4th May 1935. Visitors to the temporary show thus had the opportunity to visit also a part of the Museum seldom seen by them.

## EXTENSION OF THE ART SECTION.

For many years past the contents of the Art Gallery have outgrown the accommodation provided by the existing premises; a great number of pictures and works of art are in fact not on show for want of space but stowed away in disused rooms



waiting for better accomodation; happily, the number of exhibits is increasing year by year; the extension of the art section, had become a crying necessity. A scheme for the extension of this section was prepared by the Public Works Department in 1933 and the work was taken in hand in 1934; a corridor linking the two side wings of the Auberge and two rooms have been constructed. One of the rooms, however, has not yet been roofed. To obtain this extension, the roof of the Coin Room in the Ground Floor had to be lowered and part of the Custodian's quarters removed and reconstructed on the top of the new building.

# WORKS OF ART ACQUIRED BY THE MUSEUM COLLECTION.

## PAINTINGS.

1. *Portrait of the Grand Hospitalier F. Pierre de Cullan.* Life size, seated wearing the Conventual robes of the Order; painted in oils on canvas; 213×135 cm. Italian school. The following inscription is painted on the background.

F. PIERRE DE CULLAN RECE... LE 6 SEPTEMBRE 1624  
COMMANDEUR DE LOVVIERS ET VAMION FUT FAIT GRAND  
HOSPITALIER LE 22 FEVRIE 1676 ET POURVE DU  
PRIEUR DE CHAMPAG..... LE 13 OCTOBRE 1677.

Purchased.

2. *Portrait of the Great Commander F. Antoine D'Albertas Dauphin.* Life size, standing in armour; French school; painted in oil on canvas; 213×149 cm. At the lower edge of the picture is the following inscription:

F.R ANTOINE D'ALBERTAS DAUPHIN ELU G.d C.r LE  
14 AVRIL 1751.

Purchased.

3. *Portrait of the Grand Prior of Toulouse F. P. René Dupré.* Life size, seated and wearing the Conventual robes of the Order. French school; painted in oils on canvas 213×151 cm. At the lower edge of the picture is the following inscription:

F. R. RENE DUPRE EST ENTRE GR. COM. LE JJ JUIN DE  
L'AN 1721 ET EST SORTI GR. PRIEUR DE TOULUZE LE  
16 SBRE 1730.

Purchased.

4. *Portrait of a Chaplain of the Order.* Maltese Art, late XVIIIth. Cent. painted in oils on canvas, 78×61 cm. Purchased.
5. *The Nativity of Our Lady.* Sketch in the style of Francesco de Mura; Neapolitan Art; painted in oils on canvas; 31.5×23 cm. Purchased.
- 6-17. *Portrait of the Roman Emperors;* after Titian. Twelve pictures painted in oils on canvas; 127×104 cm. Bequeathed to the Museum by the late Miss Fortunata Mizzi.

This set of pictures are copies after the originals painted by Titian for the Ducal Palace of Mantua; the originals were removed to Spain where they perished by fire in the Escorial; these copies are by a Florentine artist of the last decade of the XVIth. Cent.

## XIXth. CENT. AND CONTEMPORARY ART.

18. *Below Rabat, Gozo.* (20th March 1866) Water Colour by Edward Lear; 17×12 cm. Purchased.
19. *Rabbato* (sic) *Gozo.* (March 19, 1866) Water Colour by Edward Lear; 23.5×9 cm. Purchased.
20. *St. Antonio.* (7th Jan. 1866) Water Colour by Edward Lear; 17×5 cm. Purchased.
21. *Calatafimi* (14th Jan. 1847) Water Colour by Edward Lear; 24.5×15 cm. Purchased.
22. *Sliema. Gouche* by P. A. De Angelis (1844) 41×26 cm. Purchased.

P. A. De Angelis was an Italian political refugee; he worked in Malta in the fourth decade of the XIXth. Cent. This *gouche* has poor artistic



merits but is nevertheless interesting because it shows Sliema Wharf as it was in 1844.

23. *Strada Reale*. Water Colour by C. F. Brockdorff; 32×23 cm. Purchased in London.

C. F. Brockdorff, of German descent was a lithographer and painted Water Colours of the Island in the first half of the XIXth. Cent.

24. *The English Cemetery on the Misida Bastion*. Water Colour by Michele Bellanti; 37×25 cm. Purchased in London.

Michele Bellanti (1807-1883) A Maltese painter and engraver; he painted some beautiful altar-pieces.

Mr. O. F. Gollcher, who had already presented to the Museum a collection of modern paintings, has now supplemented his gift by a further collection of 9 pieces. Thanks to Mr. Gollcher's generosity, Italian contemporary art is now amply represented in our collections. Mr. Gollcher's most generous gift and the bequests of the late Miss Fortunata Mizzi and that of Mr. Salvatore Borg show that the Museum is steadily arousing public spirit.

Mr. Gollcher's new additions are :

25. *Lia*. Life size marble figure by Eugenio Maccagnani.

Eugenio Maccagnani, a very popular artist in his time, was born in Lecce in 1852 and died in Rome in 1930. He is the author of Garibaldi's monument in Brescia and of the equestrian statue erected to the same leader in Buenos Ayres; he worked also for the Monument to Victor Emmanuel II in Rome. He is represented in the *Galleria d'arte Moderna* in Rome and was awarded a gold medal in 1900 in Paris.

This statue of *Lia* is one of his most popular productions.

26. *Portrait of Mrs. G. Gollcher*; life size marble bust by Antonio Sciortino.

Antonio Sciortino is a very well known and distinguished Maltese artist; he works in Rome and is the Director of the British Academy of Arts in that city.

27. *Oxen*; Bronze group; by Corrado Corelli.  
28. *Italian Country Lane*; by Filiberto Corelli; painted in oils on canvas; 45×36 cm.  
29. *In the Roman Campagna*; by Raniero Aureli, painted in oils on canvas; 44×30 cm.  
30. *Donkey*; by Alberto Carosi; painted in oils on panel; 36×29 cm.  
31. *Seascape*; by R. Pulvirenti; painted in oils on canvas; 31×21 cm.  
32. *Buttero*; by E. Gallardo; painted in oils on canvas; 60×54 cm.  
33. *Campo di Fiori*. Etching by Antonio Carbonati; 45×31 cm.

#### WORKS OF ART.

34. *The Nativity of Our Lord*. Limoges Enamel in a hammered bronze gilt frame; early XVIth Cent. 16.5×14 cm. Purchased.  
35. *Crucifix*; carved in ivory; Italian School; early XVIIIth. Cent. 15.5 high. Bequeathed by the late Mr. Salvatore Borg.  
36. *Crucifix*; carved in ivory; French Art. (?) XVIIIth. Cent. 20 cm. high. Purchased.  
37. *Tortoiseshell snuff-box*; on the lid is painted in oils a portrait of a Grand Cross of the Order; late XVIIIth. Cent. Purchased.  
38. *Hammered silver cross and crucifix*; Sicilian work; XVIIIth. Cent. 37×25 cm. Purchased.  
39. *Hammered and chiselled silver Coffee Pot*; Maltese XVIIIth. Cent. Purchased.  
40. *Portrait of Giuseppe A. De Gennaro*. Engraved copper plate by A. Baldi after C. Amalfi; 18.5×12.5 cm. Purchased.  
41. *St. Paul's shipwreck*. Group in wax, coloured; with painted background; by Can. L. Polito (mid XIXth. Cent.). Purchased.



42. Eight small figures in wax, in natural colours (Maltese costumes; Knights of the Order, friars etc.). By Can. L. Polito. Purchased.
43. *The Nativity of Our Lord*. High relief in wax; Italian Art, XVIIth. Cent. Much injured. 77×64 cm. Purchased.
44. Two fragments of carved stone columns from the old Mosta Parish Church. Presented to the Museum by Mr. Tom Vassallo.

#### FURNITURE.

45. Writing desk with glass fronted book case; Maltese or Italian; late XVIIth. Cent. Purchased.
46. Chestnut chest of drawers; Maltese; mid. XVIIIth. Cent. Purchased.
47. Large mahogany inlaid glass fronted Bureau; Maltese or Italian; early XVIIIth. Cent. Purchased.
48. Large Renaissance Wardrobe in painted wood; Maltese or Italian; late XVIth. Cent. Purchased.
49. Two carved and gilt *Rococo* frames, originally meant as reliquaries Maltese or Italian. Purchased.
50. Jewel case; shaped as a miniature chest of drawers; painted in colours; Maltese or Italian; XVIIth. Cent. Purchased.
51. Portable writing desk and music stand; Maltese or Italian; mid. XVIIIth. Cent. Presented to the Museum by Mr. Tom. Vassallo.

#### PICTURE ON LOAN.

Mr. Robert Caruana Dingli has kindly presented a picture on loan to the Museum Collection; it is a portrait of *Dragut* ascribed to Rembrandt; painted on canvas, 81×65 cm.; sumptuously framed in original carved and gilt frame.

The portraits, so popular in the Island, of this famous Corsair, derives directly from this picture; the portrait of Rais Dragut in the Gioviana Collection at the Uffizi, Florence, is only a copy, and a poor one at that, of this painting which must have been widely known in the past.

The following inscription is written at the back of the stretcher :

Regalato da S. E. .... Fleury Generale delle Galere  
di Malta a ..... consolo della Nazione  
..... ncese  
l'anno 1755.

One is tempted to think of Rembrandt who is known to have so often portrayed himself under the disguise of different heroes, the more so when one ponders over the striking resemblance existing between other self-portraits of the famous Dutch master and the features of the hero portrayed in this painting as Dragut.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

VINCENZO BONELLO,  
Curator Works of Art.



APPENDIX B.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTION.

THE MUSEUM.

Auberge d'Italie, Valletta.

29th May, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report on the working of the Archaeological Section for the financial year 1935-36.

PREHISTORIC PERIOD.

*Excavations at "Ta Hammut" Kalet Marku.*

On the 1st June, 1935, the clearing of the Neolithic site at Kalet Marku, briefly described in the Museum Annual Report 1927-28, was taken in hand with the kind and valuable cooperation of Mr. Carmelo Rizzo, A. & C.E.

The megalithic remains are situated in the field known as "ta-Hammut", a quarter of a mile up the road "ta' l-ahfar" not far from Kalet Marku.

A trial trench was dug in the field at the back of one of the megaliths, and at about 3 feet below the level of the field, the remains of a megalithic wall were uncovered along with numerous sherds of the well known Neolithic type.

Further excavation revealed the foundations of a roughly circular enclosure, 13 ft. 8 in. long and 13 ft. wide, with a floor of beaten earth (torba) and an entrance 4 ft. 2 in. wide facing west northwest. The entrance was flanked by two well dressed blocks of stone measuring 2 ft. in length, 1 ft. 7 in. in width, 1 ft. 9 in. in height and 2 ft. 7 in. × 1 ft. 7 in. × 1 ft. 8 in. respectively and paved with a number of stone slabs.

Adjoining this enclosure, opposite the entrance, a second circular space was found enclosed by a wall of roughly dressed stones, measuring 8 ft. in length and 7 ft. 6 in. in width, with an entrance 3 ft. wide facing east.

The two chambers were connected by a doorway 3 ft. 9 in. in width of which the sill is still in situ.

The remains of a semicircular apse 10 ft. 10 in. in diameter, consisting of six slabs on end were uncovered to the south of the two chambers; the largest of these blocks measures 6 ft. 5 in. in height 3 ft. 5 in. in width and 2 ft. 6 in. in thickness.

The numerous sherds met with during the excavation were mainly of the Neolithic type both in material and in workmanship. The black ware was common but it was mostly plain and unornamented; a few Copper Age sherds were also collected. Flint implements were scarce; eight flint flakes were recovered of which two were scrapers. No obsidian flakes were found.

The most important find was a polished stalactitic amulet, oval in shape,  $1\frac{3}{8}$  in. long,  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. wide at its middle part and  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. thick, with a biconical hole,  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in diameter on the outside, drilled at its apex for threading.

The result of the excavation though not very striking added one more Neolithic site to the long list of discoveries which have been made during the last thirty years; it is hoped that more important finds will be made when the excavations are continued during next summer.

COVERED WAY AT MAGHTAB.

Mr. C. Rizzo A. & C.E. has called my attention to an interesting covered way existing at Maghtab half a mile up the road "ta' l-ahfar" to the south of the above described Neolithic remains.



A long narrow passage, having an east-west direction, 33ft. long, 2ft. 4in. wide and 3 ft. high, is built of roughly dressed stones and roofed over by slabs of stone. Access is gained to the passage by means of two low rectangular apertures, both facing north, situated at its western and eastern extremities measuring 1 ft 7 in in width, 1 ft. 10 in. in height, and 1 ft. 4 in. × 2 ft. 7 in. respectively.

The middle part of the passage is now in ruin; the eastern and western ends, however, are in a good state of preservation so that the ruined part may easily be restored.

#### *A Prehistoric Cave-dwelling at "Wied il Mixta".*

On the 19th January 1936 it was reported to the Museum that human bones were noticed in a cave at "Wied il Mixta". This ravine, running in a north-south direction, is situated along the southern coast of the Island, about half a mile to the west of Binghisa Fort. The cave known locally as "Ghar in Nghag", meaning "Sheep's Cave", opens on the northern end of the ravine, and is sheltered from above by a ledge of rock projecting out horizontally for a length of about 15 ft. The entrance of the cave, having a maximum height of 5 ft. and a maximum width of 10 ft., was obstructed by big boulders of Coralline Limestone which rendered access rather difficult. After the removal of these boulders, numerous others, which were loosely packed along the sides of the cave to the height of about 2 ft., had to be cleared and thus the floor-deposit was exposed.

The cave runs in the same direction as the ravine for a length of 35 ft. The height of the roof from the surface of the floor-deposit varies from 4 ft. to 7 ft., and the width from 7 ft. to 10 ft. A rope-hole, probably of recent date, is cut on the right hand side of the entrance.

A few fragmentary remains of an adult human skeleton were found lying along the north eastern side of the cave, in proximity to a natural recess 15 ft. from the entrance. No signs of a proper burial could be traced, but probably the body was disturbed recently. No ceramics of the type usually accompanying the old burials in the Island were met with.

As the result of this preliminary investigation proved to be of little importance, it was decided to cut a trial trench across the whole width of the cave at a distance of about 21 ft. from the entrance, to examine the nature of the floor-deposit.

At a depth of 12 in. from the surface, prehistoric potsherds and a carefully worked bone point, perforated at its base, were unearthed. These finds were enough to justify a thorough investigation of the deposits and accordingly systematic excavations were commenced on the 21st January.

The sequence of layers met with during the work, in descending order, are the following: the superficial layer, 2 ft. 6 in. in thickness, consisted of a dark red soil in which were embedded numerous angular stones varying in diameter from 8 to 26 inches. In this layer numerous sherds of pottery ranging from Punic to recent times, were found including a fragment of a Phoenician oil lamp and broken earthenware plates very similar to the type met with in our rock-cut tombs. The collection also includes a very interesting specimen, hitherto unknown from the Maltese Islands; it consists of a carefully baked, earthenware cone, 2½ in. in height having its apex replaced by an everted circular lip; it is perforated throughout its length, the perforation widening regularly at the base. The diameters of both the base and the lip are 1 9/16 in.

The next layer consisted of a greyish red earth containing a few angular fragments, of Coralline Limestone, some of which bore evidence of the action of fire. It attained a maximum thickness of 12 inches. Numerous potsherds, very similar to those obtained from the well known Prehistoric sites in the Island were found. A few of these are beautifully decorated and are by no means inferior to those recovered from the Neolithic Temples. Prehistoric bone implements, including three bone points, besides the implement already mentioned which was found during the trial excavations, were recovered from this layer. Two fragments of long bones rubbed



down to half their thickness were also obtained; the purpose of these objects is not clear but identical specimens have been already discovered, in association with Pre-historic artifacts, by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino in the superficial layers of Għar Dalam. Fragments of charcoal were present throughout the layer and at a distance of about 3 ft. from the entrance the remains of a hearth were observed. Charred bones of a goat or sheep and fragments of the mandibular rami of immature pigs, besides edible seashells, were obtained from the ashes.

The third layer, 3 ft. 8 in. in thickness, consisted of yellowish white, friable, calcareous sand, interstratified by thin laminae of stalagmite; it contained neither artifacts nor animal remains and rested on the rock floor of the cave which is extensively fissured.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Dr. J. G. Baldacchino for his valuable collaboration and interest in the above work.

#### *Neolithic Trench-tomb at "Ta' Vnezja".*

On the 27th March 1936 a Prehistoric burial was accidentally met with at "Ta' Vnezja" to the south west of the group of rock-tombs described on pages XXI to XXIV in this report.

The burial was almost completely destroyed and only the bottom of the grave could be examined. The workmen who were removing soil from the site stated that a number of stone slabs had been removed but no information as to their position could be gathered.

The grave consisted of a shallow rectangular trench, with rounded corners, 5 ft. long and 2 ft. 6 in. wide and 6 in. deep cut in the friable rock about 2 ft. below the level of the field and was probably covered with stone slabs. The fragments of the human skeletal remains were in a very friable state and no cranial measurements could be taken; they represented two individuals; an adult and a child; the bones of the child bore traces of a characteristic red pigment.

Besides the human remains, small fragments of Neolithic pottery, tiny lumps of red pigment and an elongated bead  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. long and  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. in diameter, were recovered from the debris which filled the trench.

The bead is made of the same material as those found in the Hypogeum at C. Pawla which, according to Mr. T. E. Peet, are made of the semifossilized shell of the *Spondylus gaedareopus*.

#### ROCK-TOMBS.

Twelve burials were accidentally met with during the year under review, ten of which were found unripped. They will be briefly dealt with in the order of the dates of their discovery.

##### *Rock-tomb at Żurrieq.*

On the 3rd September 1935 the Żurrieq Police reported that a tomb had been broken into while digging was in progress for the foundations of a garage in Strada S. Andrea, Żurrieq, in the field "Ta Farrat" close to the Hal Safi wind-mill.

The burial chamber was roughly circular in shape, 5 ft. long, 4 ft. wide and 3 ft. 6 in. high, with a flat ceiling and was filled up to about half its height with water. The following objects were recovered from the muddy floor of the chamber:— One feeding bottle (beżżula) in the shape of an aryballos, (common in Carthage in connection with burials of children); fragments of a cinerary urn; fragments of an oenochoe; one small amphora; two small clay unguentaria; one long glass unguentarium; one glass unguentarium with globular body; four circular clay dishes; one early Phoenician lamp; one bowl; one bowl with vertical handle; one aryballos and one Roman lamp.

All the above mentioned pottery, except the Phoenician lamp which in Malta remained in use for a long time in connection with burials, are of the Roman period.

The bones of an adult male and those of a child were also found in the chamber.



*Rock-tomb at Mqabba.*

On the 16th September 1935 the Mqabba Police reported the discovery of a rock-tomb in Sda. S. Caterina in the field "Ta-Safira" whilst the foundations of a house were being dug.

On inspection it was found that the tomb had been rifled long ago; its shaft had been destroyed and the chamber encumbered with stones and field soil. Fragments of human bones and a broken oenochoe were the only objects obtained from the débris filling the chamber.

As it was not thought worth while to clear the chamber the building of the house was allowed to proceed and the tomb was subsequently destroyed.

*Rock-tomb at Hal Mula.*

On the 20th September, 1935, Inspector Saliba of the Qormi Police reported that a tomb had been uncovered in a field at Hal Mula within the limits of Żebbuġ.

Accompanied by Inspector Saliba I inspected the tomb on the 24th and found it to consist of a double chambered rock-tomb.

The two chambers were cut on the opposite sides of a rectangular shaft, 8 ft. 3 in. long, 2 ft. 3 in. wide and 7 ft. deep, with its long axis in a north east — south western direction. The shaft was originally covered with eight stones slabs tightly wedged with small stones; one of these slabs was, however, found at the bottom of the shaft.

Both chambers were found rifled; the north eastern chamber was rectangular in plan with a flat ceiling, 7 ft. 6 in. long, 5 ft. wide and 3 ft. 6 in. high. A trench 7 ft. long, 1 ft. 3 in. wide and 2 ft. deep was cut in the middle of the floor starting near the entrance of the chamber and ending against the back wall.

In the wall opposite the entrance a niche was cut with a circular concave bottom 1 ft. 6 in. in diameter and an oval vertical section 2 ft. 6 in. high; above this niche was a small lamp hole. Heaped in the northern corner of the chamber were the fragmentary remains of human skeletons together with a few copper coffin clamps.

The south western chamber was not so well cut as the one previously described and was found empty. It was 5 ft. long, 3 ft. 4 in. wide and 2 ft. 9 in. high.

One of the slabs covering the shaft, when removed, was found to be decorated with a shallow line drawing representing in rough outlines a kind of a boat flying four flags at the top of as many masts.

*Rock-tombs at "Ta' Vnezja".*

Six rock-tombs and one burial in halves of an amphora were uncovered whilst levelling the ground for the establishment of a new aerodrome in the lands known as "Ta' Vnezja" to the north of Notabile, within the limits of Mosta.

*Rock-tomb No. 1.*

Discovered on the 19th November, 1935.

This was a single chambered grave excavated partly in compact red earth and partly in the soft clayey rock, with rectangular shaft 4 ft. long, 3 ft. wide, 5 ft. deep, having its long axis in a north west — south east direction. The entrance to the burial chamber was cut in the south eastern side of the shaft and was blocked by a sealing slab 3 ft. high, 3 ft. wide and 5 in. thick.

The burial chamber was found completely filled with soil, carried in by the seasonal rains, out of which the following clay objects were dug out:—One cracked amphora; one cinerary urn, found empty but for a single human vertebra in a fragmentary state without any signs of having been charred; two bowls; one patina; fragments of a small unguentarium.



At the bottom of the chamber the remains of two human skeletons, in a fragmentary state, were found embedded in a layer of mud. No lamps, personal ornaments or glass vessels were found.

The chamber was rectangular in plan, 6 ft. long, 4 ft. 6 in. wide and 5 ft. high. A long narrow trench, 5 ft. long, 1 ft. 3 in. wide 1 ft. deep, cut in the floor of the chamber, divided the same into two platforms on which the skeletons rested with heads to the south east and feet towards the entrance.

An interesting find in this burial was a potter's mark, stamped in relief on the underside of one of the handles of the amphora, representing a pentagram with a stud at its centre. The pentagram is a well known sign on Punic pottery of the III—II Century B.C.

#### *Rock-tomb No. 2.*

Discovered on the 5th December 1935, 100 ft. to the north of rock-tomb No. 1.

Only the chamber of this burial was cleared; the shaft having been destroyed by the workmen who only reported the find when bones and fragments of pottery were detected in the débris of the chamber.

It appears that the ceiling of the chamber had given way long ago completely burying its contents and smashing the skeletons and some of the clay objects.

The following objects were recovered from the chamber:—One amphora with covering flat plate; one oenochoe with broken neck and handle; one patina; one bilychnis lamp; two unguentaria with globular body.

The amphora had a potter's mark stamped on the underside of one of its handles representing, in relief, an arm, a face and the Phœnician letter YOD. (III—II Century B.C.)

The burial chamber was rectangular in plan, 6 ft. long, 4 ft. wide and probably 3 ft. high, with its long axis in a north-south direction. The entrance was cut in the southern side of the chamber and was blocked by a slab 3 ft. high, 2 ft. wide and 3 in. thick. The remains of two human skulls were found at the western side of the chamber.

#### *Rock-tomb No. 3.*

Discovered on the 7th December, 1935, 18 ft. to the west of rock-tomb No. 2.

This tomb was found in the same condition as tomb No. 2. The burial chamber was full of débris and the shaft completely destroyed.

The following objects were recovered: One cinerary urn (found empty) with covering plate; one clay unguentarium with globular body; fragments of a small aryballos; one plain copper ring 1 in. in diameter.

The shape, size and direction of this tomb were practically similar to those of tomb No. 2.

#### *Rock-tomb No. 4.*

Discovered on the 27th December 1935, 54 ft. to the north east of rock-tomb No. 3.

The features of the tomb were somewhat different to those of the above mentioned burials. Whilst clearing the shaft, a narrow cavity 6 ft. 6 in. long, 2 ft. wide, and 4 ft. deep, it was observed that at about 2 ft. from the bottom, a number of cobbles had been layed on the compact filling throughout the whole length and width of the shaft forming a kind of a rough paving which proved very hard to remove.

This particular way of filling the shaft of a tomb has been noted in several burials in Malta and shows the pains taken by the early Maltese to ensure the safety of their dead.

The following objects were recovered from the shaft: one broken shallow plate; one patina; one clay unguentarium with globular body.



The entrance to the burial chamber was cut on the north western side of the shaft and was blocked by a slab 2 ft. 6 in. high, 2 ft. wide and 5 in. thick.

The chamber measured 6 ft. in length, 3 ft. in width and 4 ft. in height; a trench 4 ft. 8 in. long, 1 ft. 6 in. wide and 4 in. deep was cut in the floor starting from the entrance and ending at a distance of 1 ft. 8 in. from the back wall. The skeletons of two adult males were found lying on the floor of the chamber both with skulls towards the entrance. The following objects were found in the chamber:—

Two bilychnis lamps; four clay unguentaria with globular body; one spindle shaped unguentarium; two patinae; two plates; one calix; fragments of two or three copper needles; one copper finger ring  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. in diameter with oval bezel badly corroded.

#### *Burial No. 5.*

Discovered on the 4th January, 1936, 33 ft. to the east of rock-tomb No. 4.

This burial consisted of a cylindrical jar 3 ft. long and 1 ft. in diameter purposely broken lengthwise, in two halves, thus forming a kind of a coffin. When the upper half of the jar was removed the lower half was found to contain the skeletal remains of two children aged about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years and 9 years respectively. The jar was found deposited in a cavity dug in the field soil 3 ft. below the level of the field and covered up with loose soil.

No pottery was found in the jar itself, but one small jug with long neck and handle, one small unguentarium with globular body and a tiny flat plate were found close to it.

Burial in jars are not frequently met with in Malta; a burial in two doliola found in a cave on the slope of "il hodba tal Giżwiti" in 1861 and others discovered near the Gas Works at Marsa are mentioned by Dr. A. A. Caruana in his book *Ancient Pagan Tombs and Christian Cemeteries in Malta*; other burials in halves of jars have been discovered at Comino and at Gebel Majin. (Annual Report 1911-12, 1933-34).

#### *Rock-tomb No. 6.*

Discovered on the 22nd February, 1936, 10 ft. to the north east of rock-tomb No. 4.

This tomb was the only one, so far discovered at "Ta' Vnezja" which had the burial chamber in a good state of preservation. As the tomb was cut entirely in the compact Globigerina the ceiling of the chamber had not given way under the pressure of the earth above it and save for the presence of some red earth, its contents were undisturbed.

The shaft was 4 ft. long, 2 ft. 8 in. wide, and 6 ft. deep; the slab sealing the burial chamber was found firmly wedged against the sides of the rectangular entrance and measured 2 ft. 5 in. in height, 1 ft. 8 in. in width and 4 in. in thickness.

The chamber was rectangular in plan with a flat ceiling, cut about 5 ft. below the level of the field with its long axis in a north west—south east direction; it was 7 ft. 6 in. long, 6 ft. wide and 2 ft. 4 in. high.

A narrow trench 8 ft. long, 1 ft. 8 in. wide and 1 ft. 6 in. deep was cut in the floor starting from the shaft and ending 3 ft. beyond the entrance.

The osteological material contained in this tomb was kindly examined by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino, Curator of the Natural History Section, who reported as follows:—

#### *Examination of human remains from a tomb at "Ta' Vnezja".*

The human skeletal remains include the following:— Five almost complete crania and fragments from two others; fragments of eight mandibles; fragments of six sacral bones; eleven broken femora; and three incomplete tibiae.



The measurements, in millimetres, of the better preserved skulls are the following:—

Measurements	Index number of skulls				
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5
Maximum length ... ..	192	182	180	169	177
Maximum breadth ... ..	145	136	134	138	129
Basi-bregmatic height ... ..	142	126	135	135	127
Bizygomatic breadth ... ..	133	125	122	111	116
Upper facial height ... ..	71	62	66	55	68
Orbital height ... ..	32	33	25	31	32
Orbital breadth ... ..	39	40	37	35	37
Nasal height ... ..	51	44	49	39	51
Nasal breadth ... ..	23	20	22	22	22
Minimum frontal diameter ... ..	104	97	100	91	93
Maximum frontal diameter ... ..	122	115	109	119	101

The following clay objects were grouped round the skeletons:—One cinerary urn with covering plate, containing the cremated remains of an adult; two bilychnis lamps; one small oenochoe; three patinae; one amphora with covering plate; one spindle shaped unguentarium; three small unguentaria with globular body; two plates; one deep cup and one small jug.

Copper objects; one needle  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. long and fragments from another needle.

#### *Rock-tomb No. 7.*

Discovered on the 23rd February, 1936, 15 ft. to the south west of rock-tomb No. 6.

This tomb consisted of a shaft, 5 ft. long 2 ft. 8 in. wide and 5 ft. deep with its long axis in a north east — south west direction and a chamber 5 ft. long 4 ft. wide and about 3 ft. 6 in. high. The entrance to the chamber was cut on the south western side of the shaft and was sealed by a slab 3 ft. square and 4 in. thick. The ceiling of the chamber was found destroyed.

The following objects were found buried in the débris filling the chamber:—one bowl; three patinae; one circular dish; fragments of a plate; one copper needle  $3\frac{3}{4}$  in. long; two circular unornamented copper earrings; one polished bone disc 1 in. in diameter and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick perforated at its centre and two Carthaginian coins.

#### *Rock-tomb at Misrah Sinjura.*

On the 26th February, 1936, a tomb was accidentally broken into a quarry of Globigerina Limestone at Misrah Sinjura to the south west of Siggiewi on the road leading from Siggiewi to Qrendi, 45 ft. to the north west of the Dolmen known as "il-ġebbla msaqqa".

The tomb had a shaft 9 ft. 6 in. long, 4 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep, its long axis having a north east — south west direction. Nine steps, each 10 in. wide and 10 in. high are cut on the south eastern side of the shaft, starting from the north eastern side and ending at the bottom against the south western side. The shaft was found filled with soft stone chippings and field soil from which no pottery or other objects were recovered.

The entrance to the burial chamber was cut on the north eastern side of the shaft and was blocked by a well dressed slab of stone 4 ft. 2 in. high, 2 ft. 10 in. wide, and 8 in. thick. The chamber measured 8 ft. 7 in. in length, 4 ft. 10 in. in width and 5 ft. in height; on the left hand side of the chamber the skeletal remains of an old man was found lying on a raised platform built against the north western side of the chamber.

The platform consisted of two well dressed blocks of stone each 3 ft. 6 in. long 2 ft. wide and 8 in. thick, supported on three smaller blocks each 1 ft. 6 in. high, 2 ft. wide and 7 in. thick.



Underneath the platform, between the supports, a well formed oenochoe decorated with thin red lines, one deep bowl with horizontal handles and a black varnished cotyle, were found in a perfect state of preservation.

Two amphorae, both decorated with thin red lines and originally deposited against the wall opposite the entrance, were unfortunately crushed by a part of the ceiling which had fallen into the chamber when the tomb was broken into; both amphorae have been subsequently restored.

One bilychnis lamp was found deposited in a lamp hole in the south eastern side of the chamber at a distance of 4 ft. from the floor.

The furniture of this rock-tomb, save the cotyle, is similar to that found in a tomb at San Niclau (Annual Report 1927-28, p. 7) which has been dated about 500 B.C.

#### *Rock-tomb at Marsalforn, Gozo.*

On the 26th March 1936, whilst widening a path-way, Sda. Passaggio, joining Strada S. Maria with Strada Forno, the workmen of the Public Works Department discovered a number of stone slabs which afforded cover to a cavity containing human bones.

On inspection it was found that the slabs were three in number each 3ft. 3in. long, 2 ft. 4 in. wide and 3 in. thick resting on a rebate cut round the the edge of the grave.

The grave, rectangular in plan, 7 ft. long, 2 ft. 4 in. wide and 1 ft. 3 in. deep, with its long axis in a north west — south east direction, was hollowed in the rock and contained the skeletal remains of three individuals, namely: an old man, a youth of about 15 years and a child aged about four years.

A complete aryballos was found deposited close to the skulls at the north western end of the grave; fragments of a Roman amphora and three pebbles were also recovered.

Cut in the floor of the grave was a roughly circular cavity 2 ft. long, 1 ft. 8 in. wide and 10 in. deep which was found covered with a flat stone slab; and filled with silt.

The necessary photographs and measurements having been taken the destruction of the tomb was allowed.

### ROMAN PERIOD.

#### *Roman paving at Gozo.*

On the 23rd September, 1935, the Public Works Department reported the discovery of a monolith whilst digging for the foundations of a wall in Via Kir'cem, Victoria, Gozo, in the field situated between the "tad-Dawwara" Government Nursery and house No. 23.

The monolith in question is a dressed block of Globigerina Limestone 14 ft. 6 in. in length, 2 ft. 2 in. in width and 2 ft. in thickness and was found lying lengthwise covered with about 9 ft. of soil.

On the 25th September a trial trench was directed to be cut at the back of the block whereupon a rough paving was uncovered on which the block was lying.

The paving consisted of soft stone cobbles carelessly laid in the clayey soil forming a very rough surface covering an area of about 330 square yards.

A stretch of paving 32 ft. long and 20 ft. wide was carefully cleared and photographed and a number of trenches were cut in various directions so as to ascertain, as far as possible, the extent of the paved area.



Contrary to all expectations no foundations of buildings were met with and the only objects recovered were fragments of Roman amphorae of no archaeological importance and two copper coins: 1) a grano of G.M. Adrian de Wignacourt dated 1629; 2) a semis of Antoninus Aug. Pius P.P. Imp. II (155-156 A.D.).

Though all the trenches have been refilled steps have been taken to ensure the preservation of the monolith and of a small stretch of the paving for future reference.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. ZAMMIT,

Curator Archaeological Section.

The Director  
Valletta Museum.



APPENDIX C.

NATURAL HISTORY SECTION.

THE MUSEUM,

Auberge d'Italie, Valletta.

15th May, 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the working of the Natural History Section for the financial year 1935-36.

The majority of the exhibited specimens have been carefully cleaned; special attention being given to those which are more susceptible to deterioration. The collection of land Molluscs of the Maltese Islands has been classified, remounted, and labelled. A large number of specimens of Fishes, preserved in glass jars, had their preserving solution changed, and were also relabelled. The collection of local Reptiles was re-arranged, and some of the specimens were replaced. Over 260 specimens of Birds were determined and labelled.

The principal new additions to the exhibits include an articulated human skeleton, and two mounted skeletons of *Canis lupus* and *Canis vulpes*, besides a most interesting collection of Pleistocene animal remains yielded by the excavations conducted at "Tal Gnien" Fissure. A plan and two photographs of the fissure are also displayed together with the remains.

GHAR DALAM MUSEUM.

During the year under review, substantial progress was made in the classification, mounting and labelling of archaeological and palaeontological material which has been accumulated from various excavations conducted in the cave. For the display of remains of *Hippopotamus sp.* and *Cervus sp.* nine show-cases have been provided in one of the rooms which will shortly be accessible to the visitor. Typical prehistoric potsherds from the superficial layers of the cave deposit have also been exhibited in the entrance-hall. A number of specimens belonging to pigmy Elephants and to Carnivora, including *Ursus arctos* and *Canis sp.* (size of a Wolf), have been added to the collections.

EXCAVATIONS AT GHAR DALAM.

Further excavations were conducted in Ghar Dalam during the months of April and May, 1935. The part selected for examination was situated at a distance of 12.8 m. from the entrance, and provided an area of work 8.2 m. by 3.05 m. The cave deposit in this area was lacking entirely in the superficial layers which were the result of an almost continuous human occupation from the Neolithic to Recent times, and of the upper portion of the subjacent Red Earth stratum; unfortunately, no record was left of this incomplete investigation. The present operations were thus started in the lower part of the Red Earth layer, at a level of 1.09 m. below the original surface of the cave-deposit, and no signs of disturbance were met with further down.

The remaining portion of the Red Earth layer, very similar in character to the red vegetable soil of the Island, extended downwards to a depth of 1.37 m. It was practically free from stones, but contained a few small stems of stalactite which must have been detached from the roof of the cave.

The vertebrate remains collected from this layer included the following animals: *Cervus sp.* (small Deer), *Hippopotamus pentlandi*, *Sus sp.* (Pig), *Ursus arctos*, *Canis sp.* (size of a Wolf), *Vulpes sp.* (small Fox), and *Pitymys sp.* (Vole).

The small Deer was represented by numerous teeth, bones, and antlers, showing evidence of animals varying greatly in age and size. A few proximal portions of antlers were still attached to the skull. Some vertebrae were found embedded in natural juxta-



position. The majority of the specimens were extracted in a fine state of preservation. It is interesting to note that the remains of Deer did not exhibit any signs of having been rolled along beds of streams before reaching their underground destination. *Hippopotamus pentlandi* was represented by a very few decayed and rolled fragments of bones. A third lower molar and a second upper molar were all the remains of Pig obtained. Two phalanges and a fragment of the left maxilla indicated the presence of *Ursus arctos*. The *Canis sp.* (size of a Wolf) was represented by several foot bones and isolated teeth. A tibia and a femur belonged to a small Fox. The Vole (*Pitymys sp.*) was represented by a few mandibular rami.

The fragment of the left maxilla of *Ursus arctos* extends from the anterior border of the first true molar to a short distance beyond the second. These teeth are in a perfect state of preservation, but they are considerably worn. The maximum antero-posterior length of  $M^1$  is 22 mm., and its maximum width is 17 mm. The corresponding measurements of  $M^2$  are 36 mm. by 18 mm. A similar portion of the right side, also containing both molars in situ, obtained from the Genista Cave, Gibraltar, is preserved in the British Museum Nat. Hist. (No. 47676); the dimensions of its molars are:  $M^1$  24 mm. by 17 mm., and  $M^2$  37 mm. by 21 mm. The measurements of the left upper molars in a skull belonging to a Recent Transylvanian Bear (Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 78.16.2) are:  $M^1$  21 mm. by 15.5 mm., and  $M^2$  33 mm. by 17 mm.

The extreme rarity of the remains of Carnivora in the Maltese Pleistocene deposits has attracted the attention of palaeontologists since the first recorded excavations were undertaken, and this interesting feature has been fully confirmed by all the later investigators of our ossiferous caves, fissures, and other alluvial deposits. The recording of new discoveries of remains of carnivorous animals from these deposits is, therefore, of special interest.

The next layer, about .28 m. in thickness, consisted of water-worn boulders and pebbles of Coralline Limestone embedded rather loosely in a clayey red earth. Rolled fragments of molars of pigmy Elephants and broken bones of Hippopotami were scattered throughout this stratum. Two specimens of permanent tusks of *Elephas melitensis* Falconer were found lying on the surface of this layer. Owing to the extreme friability of one of the tusks, which is almost complete, much difficulty was encountered in its extraction. At first the tip was exposed in the matrix, that was carefully cleaned and covered with a plaster coating; a further section was uncovered, cleaned and plastered, until the complete specimen could be lifted and transferred to the Museum for further treatment. The extreme length of this tusk, measured along the outer curve, is .905 m., and .747 m. in a straight line from its tip to the proximal end; the diameters at distances of .300 m. and .600 m. from the distal extremity are .059 m. by .052 m. and .067 m. by .060 m. respectively, and the circumferences of the corresponding sections are .177 m. and .202 m. It curves gently downwards, forwards, and inwards. The other specimen, having both its proximal and distal segments missing, is .325 m. in extreme length; the diameters at its extremities are .072 m. by .065 m. and .064 m. by .059 m., and the circumferences at the corresponding points are .218 m. and .195 m.

The three tusks discovered in the Luparello Cave in Sicily, and attributed by Prof. Vaufrey to *Elephas melitensis*, measure respectively .8 m., .1 m., and .75 m. in a straight line, and 1 m., 1.15 m., and 1 m. along the external curve. The maximum circumference in these specimens is .285 m., .3 m., and .25 m.

The next layer, attaining an average thickness of .76 m., consisted of an enormous quantity of bones associated with small pebbles and gravel embedded in a clayey red earth, the whole firmly cemented together by stalagmitic infiltration. The majority of the bones were broken, and in the case of the limb bones not a single specimen was found split longitudinally. The animal remains were deposited in utter disorder. Bones showing evidence of having been rolled were lying side by side with specimens in a perfect state of preservation. Only remains of pigmy Elephants and Hippopotami



were present in this layer, but the latter were much more numerous represented than the former. No bones of Deer were obtained from this layer.

The deepest layer, which rested on the rock floor of the cave, consisted of a plastic finely laminated yellowish blue clay. Its maximum thickness was .79 m. No traces of organic remains were met with in this stratum. Ferruginous films, containing traces of manganese, were disclosed by splitting lumps of clay along their bedding planes.

The human remains obtained from Ghar Dalam, during the course of excavations a S.W.-N.E. direction.

#### HUMAN REMAINS FROM GHAR DALAM.

The human remains obtained from Ghar Dalam, during the course of excavations conducted from April to June of 1934 (Annual Report, 1934-35), were very kindly examined by Sir Arthur Keith, who reported as follows :

(1) Lower and upper jaw of a child aged about four months. The left ramus is missing from the lower jaw, the right half, from the upper jaw. In the lower jaw, the crowns of the central incisors have fallen from their alveoli, the other teeth are still in their alveoli; the crown of the second molar is thin. The depth at the symphysis is 16 mm., and its thickness there is 9 mm. The minimal width of the ascending ramus is 18.5 mm., and its height, from the sigmoid notch to the lower border, is 23 mm. The angle of the jaw is  $142^{\circ}$ . These fragments are of a light brown colour and are but slightly mineralized. Their characters are those of *Homo sapiens*; there is no feature which serves to distinguish them from Maltese remains of the Neolithic or later date.

(2) Lower jaw and fragment of the right parietal bone of a child aged about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. The parietal bone, representing the posterior superior quadrant, is 2 mm. in thickness. All the milk teeth have dropped from their sockets, except the first and second milk molars on the left side. The right half is missing from the canine socket backwards. The minimal width of the ascending ramus is 23 mm. The height at the symphysis is 19.5 mm. and its thickness there is 9 mm. The angle of the jaw is  $132^{\circ}$ . The crown of the second milk molar measures 9.5 mm. in length and 8 mm. in width. Both fragments are of a straw colour and are not heavily mineralized, not more so than if they were Neolithic or even Mediaeval in date. All their characters are those of modern man (*Homo sapiens*); indeed the characters of chin and teeth suggest that they may be Bronze age or later.

#### AN OSSIFEROUS FISSURE AT BURMEGHEZ.

On the 16th July, 1935, during quarrying operations in the Globigerina Limestone quarry known as "Tan-Naxxiari", at Burmeghez, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to the N.E. of Mgabba, the workmen broke into one of the rock fissures which are occasionally met with in that locality, thus exposing a cross section facing W.S.W. This section was more or less triangular in shape, having its apex pointing upwards; a hardly perceptible rent on the surface of the rock dilated gradually downwards to a width of 6 feet, at a depth of 10 feet. It was situated at a distance of 110 feet to the west of Burmeghez Cave which was discovered and partially excavated by Professor N. Tagliaferro in 1911, and again in 1922, when Mr. G. G. Sinclair conducted further archaeological investigations.

The fissure, running in a W.S.W.-E.N.E. direction, could be traced on the surface of the rock for a distance of 39 feet, beyond which it was covered by vegetable soil. In following its course in this direction, the sides of the rent were in very close apposition for a length of 22 feet, and then they gradually dilated to a maximum width of 5 feet, thus forming a cavity packed with stones and vegetable earth, and presumably also containing animal remains.

The exposed cross section of the fissure was completely filled up with a loose, unstratified, clayey red earth in which were embedded numerous angular fragments of Globigerina Limestone, varying in diameter from 2 to 15 inches. Only a comparatively



small portion of the deposit was excavated, but the importance of the animal remains obtained and their close association with Punic potsherds justify a further thorough investigation of this fissure. Some of the bones represent animals which are quite distinct from those of the island at the present day.

The collection of animal remains obtained during the work is not a very large one and includes remains of only a small number of species which are listed below. The fauna represented is of more recent geological age than that which includes *Elephas* and *Hippopotamus*, but at the same time it is possible that extinct species may be present and there are certainly animals such as the small Deer and Fox which are no longer found in the Island.

*Equus sp.* A small species of *Equus* is represented by a number of remains including upper and lower cheek teeth, some of which represent the milk dentition.

Two proximal phalanges are very small and slender, and the absence of a "pli Caballin" in the pattern of the cheek teeth suggests that it is not a true horse that is represented. A large amount of material would be required to enable a definite specific identification to be made.

*Cervus sp.* A small Deer is represented by a dozen isolated cheek teeth and by the proximal portions of two antlers still attached to the skull.

Sheep or Goat. There are a few teeth and foot bones of a Sheep or Goat.

*Sus sp.* Two incomplete mandibular rami of very young animals and a few isolated teeth also of very young or immature specimens are all the remains of Pig included in the collection.

*Vulpes sp.* There are a few isolated teeth which almost certainly represent a small Fox.

*Testudo sp.* A few limb bones and some bones of the carapace indicate the presence of a small Tortoise.

Besides these vertebrate remains, the following species of Mollusca were found throughout the deposit: *Mastus pupa* Brug., *Papillifera bidens circinata* Paul., *Eobania vermiculata* Mull., *Helix aspersa* Mull., and *Helix aperta* Born.

Typically Punic potsherds were found associated with the above mentioned organic remains. As the fissure was not completely excavated, it is yet premature to ascertain if the animal and ceramic remains were deposited contemporaneously.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Miss Dorothea M. A. Bate for her valuable help in the determination of the vertebrate remains.

#### A FOSSILIFEROUS PLEISTOCENE DEPOSIT AT "TA' VNEZJA".

In levelling the ground for the establishment of an aerodrome at "Ta' Vnezja", about 1.6 km. to the N.E. of Notabile, remains of pigmy Elephants and Hippopotami were met with. An examination of the deposit which yielded these fossils revealed a sequence of layers which, in a descending order, are the following:

- (1) A brownish red vegetable soil, about .600 m. in thickness.
- (2) Red earth, very similar in character to the Red Earth layer in Ghar Dalam. It was about .800 m. deep.
- (3) A non-plastic whitish earthy clay in which were embedded a few water-worn boulders, and numerous pebbles and gravel. Nodules of chert and subangular fragments of black crystalline limestone were relatively numerous. It attained a thickness of 1.200 m.
- (4) A layer similar to No. 3, but free from stones. Its average thickness was .900 m.

The deepest layer rested on one of the beds of the middle sub-group of the Globigerina limestone consisting of a soft very fine-grained rock of a soapy and uniform texture, and of a very perishable nature.



All the animal remains were embedded in layer No. 3. Most of the specimens were broken and very much rolled, but others were extracted in a very good state of preservation.

*Elephas Falconeri* Busk was represented by the right and left upper fifth molars which, probably, belonged to the same jaw. Both molars are alike, and show eleven plates with an anterior and a posterior talon. They are 79 mm. in length and 27 mm. in breadth. The laminar frequency (in 25 mm.) is three.

The remaining part of another molar shows five plates with a posterior talon. It is 70 mm. long, and 35 mm. in breadth. The laminar frequency (in 50 mm.) is four. It is probably the left lower fifth of *Elephas melitensis* Falconer.

Another portion of an elephantine molar is too much incomplete to be determined.

Numerous fragments of elephantine tusks were also obtained; the biggest specimen, which is broken off at each end, measures .300 m. in length. The diameters of the fragments vary from 32 to 91 mm. at the thickest parts.

*Hippopotamus pentlandi* is represented by several broken bones, tusks and teeth, and show evidence of animals varying greatly in age.

#### A QUATERNARY DEPOSIT AT "PONTA TAL MARFA".

Several specimens of marine shells representing many different species, and also a collection of terrestrial shells, some of which are distinct from these of the Island at the present day, have been obtained from a calcareous sandstone layer lying along the coast of Ponta tal-Marfa, facing Ir-Ramla ta' Ċirkewwa.

This layer consists principally of coarse calcareous sand with which are intermixed fragments of finely comminuted shells, the whole firmly consolidated by a calcareous cement; it is reddish yellow in colour, and its upper surface is extremely hard. In places, it is interstratified with irregular laminae which are joined together by vertical branching stems; both laminae and stems are composed of semi-crystallized carbonate of lime, and resist weathering much better than the matrix.

The above layer rests on a stratum of conglomerate consisting of gravel, pebbles, and water-worn rounded or sub-angular boulders of local rocks, the whole embedded in a brick-red earth and hardened by stalagmitic infiltration. Rounded pebbles and angular fragments of a black crystalline limestone, at present occurring only in very limited patches on the surface of the Lower Coralline limestone, are also present throughout the conglomerate. Most of the stones, on fracture, disclose a hard crystalline cortex enclosing a nucleus identical in characters to the parent rock. The difference in structure, hardness, and colour of the external zone from that of the inner one is apparently determined by the partial infiltration of the stones by limewater which deposits the lime after evaporation. No organic remains were obtained from this layer. The conglomerate rests immediately and unconformably on the Upper Coralline limestone.

The detailed examination of the remains of Mollusca collected from the Sandstone layer is not yet complete; it is hoped that a description of these important specimens will be given in due time.

#### A NEW MAMMAL FROM "TAL-ĠNIEN" FISSURE.

During the work of excavations conducted at "Tal-Ġnien" fissure, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to the S.W. of Mqabba, besides remains of *Elephas mnaidriensis*, *Leithia melitensis*, *Crociodura* cf. *russula*, *Testudo robustissima*, *Testudo robusta*, *Testudo spratti*, Frog or Toad, *Palaeocygnus falconeri*, and other species of extinct birds, bones which proved to belong to a large Mustelid, hitherto unknown from Malta, were obtained (Annual Report, 1933-34).

The specimens pertaining to this Mustelid include an upper lateral incisor and an upper canine, an immature right humerus lacking the proximal epiphysis, the distal end of a right humerus, a radius of a young animal lacking the distal epiphysis, the



proximal end of a left ulna broken off very shortly below the sigmoid notch, a right second metacarpal, the proximal end of a right tibia, and a right second metatarsal. These specimens were studied and described by Miss Dorothea M. A. Bate, F.Z.S., who proposed to distinguish the new Maltese Lutrine as *Nesolutra euzena*, gen. et sp. nov. (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1935). The limb-bones of *Nesolutra euzena* are in some respects more specialized for swimming than those of the Recent Otter, which seems to preclude any possibility of the Maltese Lutrine being directly ancestral to the present day genus. Since, however, in their general morphology the Maltese bones more nearly resemble those of *Lutra* than of *Latax*, the Sea Otter, it may be supposed that it was not a marine species, but was a dweller in rivers and lakes and probably also frequented coastal waters. This discovery, like that of the giant Swan, emphasizes a climate with a heavier rainfall than that of Malta at the present day.

Hitherto only four species of Mustelids had been recorded from Pleistocene deposits of the Mediterranean islands. These are:

(1) *Genetta plesictoides* Bate, known from a few remains from a cave deposit in Cyprus. These include the proximal portions of two humeri which are quite different in type from the Maltese specimens.

(2) *Mustela arzilla* de Gregorio, from a Pleistocene deposit near Palermo, Sicily, which was associated with remains of a large extinct rodent, for which the genus *Pellegrina* was instituted. This was a large species, but it is not yet known with what forms it was most closely allied.

(3) *Enhydriticus galictoides* Major, from the Pleistocene of Sardinia. This was also a large species, but it was not specialized for an aquatic mode of life.

(4) *Lutra* sp. from Corsica. Some remains, including two teeth, are being studied by Dr. Helbing of Basle, who intends shortly to publish a full description. As the Pleistocene faunal assemblages of Malta and Corsica are markedly different, it is unlikely that the Lutrines from these two islands represent a single form.

#### ACQUISITIONS.

*Birds.* — An important addition to the collection of Birds of Malta is a specimen of Herring-Gull (*Larus argentatus argentatus* Pontopp) which was found entangled in the barbed wire at Mellieha Bay, on the 24th December, 1935, and presented to the Museum by Major A. Falzon Sant Manduca. Both Schembri and Wright included *Larus argentatus* in their lists of Birds of the Maltese Islands, but from their notes it appears quite evident that they alluded to the Yellow-legged Herring-Gull (*Larus argentatus cachinnans* Pal.) which is one of our breeding birds and frequently seen in our harbours during the winter.

The following four specimens were presented by Mr. M. Soler: Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax* L.); Mallard (*Anas boschas boschas* L.); Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus* L.); and Razorbill (*Alca torda* L.).

The Night-Heron occurs on passage during both spring and autumn, when big numbers often pass, generally at night-time. The Mallard, though a regular migrant during both winter and spring, is a rather scarce bird; specimens have been taken in autumn and exceptionally also in summer. The Great Crested Grebe is a fairly common visitor during the autumn; it is generally noticed by the middle of October and remains throughout the winter with us. The Razorbill is of casual and rare occurrence, though we have some records when it has visited us in relatively large numbers.

One specimen of Crane (*Megalongis grus grus* L.) was purchased. It was shot at "Ras il Wied", in the limits of Gudja, on the 1st November, 1935. The Crane is of almost annual occurrence, but generally rare. It is met with at almost all seasons, but is more frequently seen during spring and autumn.

Our specimen of Black Redstart (*Phoenicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis* Gm.) was presented by Mr. Carmelo Falzon. This species is scarce and almost of rare occurrence, but at times it is exceptionally common; it is usually seen during spring and autumn, and occasionally during the winter.



*Reptiles.* — Various specimens of the Ocellated Skink (*Chalcides ocellatus* Forsk.) were accessioned during the year. One of these animals, whilst in captivity, produced a litter of eight.

Many varieties of the Wall-Lizard (*Lacerta filfolensis* var. *maltensis* Mertens) were presented by Mr. Joseph Inglott.

An interesting double-tailed specimen of the Wall-Lizard, caught from Fort St. Angelo, Malta, was presented by Mrs. E. R. Corson. Radiographs of it disclosed that both tails were regenerated. It very often happens that a regenerated tail itself becomes damaged but not entirely detached, and a fresh one grows out of the wound, producing a double tail. In the present instance both regenerated tails spring from a single point, but whether this indicates that the two arose simultaneously when the original tail was broken off, or whether a second accident caused a wound on the same site, from which a new secondary tail developed, cannot be determined. The radiographs were kindly taken by Dr. Salv. Debono.

Specimens of the Dark-green Snake (*Zamenis gemonesis* Wagl.) and its variety (*Zamenis gemonensis* var. *carbonaria* Bonap.), besides other specimens of the Leopard Snake (*Coluber leopardinus* Bonap.), were presented by Mr. Joseph Inglott.

One specimen of *Coluber* (*Zamenis*) *algerius* Jan., caught at Ghirghenti, was presented by Mr. Carmelo Penza; only seven other specimens have been recorded from Malta.

*Fishes.* — The more important additions to this collection are the following :

One specimen of *Trachypterus cristatus* Bonelli, which was taken at l'Abjad l'Gholi, Wied il Ghajn, on the 16th December, 1935. Gulia reports this species under the name of *T. spinolae*. He asserts to have seen a specimen caught in Marsaxlokk harbour on the 6th March, 1871, and Despott mentions another young specimen caught in the sein-net in Marsamxett harbour, in 1912.

One specimen of *Scomberesox saurus* Flem. was purchased on the 28th December 1935 from the Valletta Market. It was reported by Prof. Gulia under the name of *S. Camperi*. It is by no means frequent in our waters.

One specimen of *Lophotes cepedianus* Giorna, caught at Birżebbuġa on the 8th March, 1936, was presented by Mr. Salvatore Portelli. A dead specimen of this species was cast ashore at Kala San Giorgio in the autumn of 1909. I have seen another young specimen caught at Marsamxett harbour on the 6th March, 1936.

One specimen of *Cepola rubescens* Lin. was purchased from the Valletta Market. It was caught on the 25th March, 1936, about 1½ mile off the entrance to the Grand Harbour. Prof. Gulia reported this species as rare. Despott mentions another specimen caught by a fisherman of Marsaxlokk in the autumn of 1910.

One specimen of *Rhinobatus rhinobatus* Lin. was purchased. It was caught in Marsaxlokk Bay on the 27th March, 1936. Probably this is the first record of this species in our sea.

One specimen of *Chimera monstrosa* Lin. was purchased from the Valletta Market, on the 30th March, 1936. Prof. Gulia records the capture of a specimen in 1889. This species is of occasional occurrence in our sea.

*Corals.* — The only corals accessioned during the year are the following :

One specimen of *Caligorgia verticillata* Pall. presented by Capt. J. A. Semini. It was found attached to a fishing line, about 25 miles to the north of Gozo.

One specimen of *Cladocera caespitosa* in association with a branched gorgonian (*Eunicella verrucosa*) and a reticulate polyzoan (*Sertella septentrionalis*). It was brought up from a depth of 12 fathoms, about one mile off Xgħeġra Tower, Żabbar.

#### THE PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION.

This collection has been greatly increased during the year under review. Endeavours are being made to secure photographs of Natural History specimens from



the Maltese Islands, which are not represented in our Museum. Photographs of two specimens of the Maltese Dog were kindly presented by the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The list of donations to the Library include, among others, the following works:—

"Bulletin de la Société des Amis de l'Institut Océanographique du Havre", No. 48.

"A transplanted coral reef", by Roy Waldo Miner, American Museum of Natural History, 1935.

"The Netsuke of Japan", by Herbert P. Whitlock, American Museum of Natural History, 1935.

"Artists and Craftsmen in Ancient Central America", by George C. Vaillant, American Museum of Natural History, 1935.

"Alphabetical guide to the bird exhibits in the American Museum of Natural History", American Museum of Natural History, 1935.

"Report of the Danish Biological Station to the Ministry of Shipping and Fisheries", by H. Blegvad, Ph.D., 1934.

"Report of the Danish Biological Station to the Ministry of Shipping and Fisheries", by H. Blegvad, Ph.D., 1935.

"American Museum Novitates", 56 numbers.

"Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History", Vol. 66, Articles 4-7.

"Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History", Vol. 68, Articles 1-4.

"Aquila", 38-41, Budapest, 1931-34.

"A sárga billegető magyarországon Előforduló fajtái", by Dr. Kleiner Endre, 1935.

"A kisbalatoni kőcsagtelep multja és jövője", by Warga Kálmán.

"Madàrvèdelem a kertben", by Dr. Csörgey Titus, 1935.

"Cenni riguardanti una escursione in Tripolitania a scopo di osservazioni e raccolte ornitologiche", by Dott. Edgardo Moltoni, 1935.

"Uccelli riportati dal Prof. Giuseppe Scortecchi dal Fezzan (Missione R. Società Geografica 1934)", by Dott. E. Moltoni, 1934.

"A proposito di un recente contributo alla conoscenza dell'Avifauna del Monte Gargano", by Dott. E. Moltoni, 1935.

"Brevi note", Estratto dalla Rivista Italiana di Ornitologia, Anno 5to., Serie 2da., by Dott. E. Moltoni, 1935.

"Quarta cattura dello Stercorario maggiore (*Stercorarius skua skua*) notificata per l'Italia", by Dott. E. Moltoni, 1935.

"Ulteriori notizie su catture di uccelli inanellati" by Dott. E. Moltoni, Estratto dalla Rivista Italiana di Ornitologia, Anno 3zo., Serie 2da., 1933.

"Escursione Ornitologica in Tripolitania (11-23 Aprile 1935)", by Dott. E. Moltoni, Estratto dalla Rivista Italiana di Ornitologia, Anno 5to., Serie 2da., 1933.

"Bulletin de la Société des Amis de l'Institut Océanographique du Havre", No. 50-51.

"Contributo alla conoscenza di uova, stadi embrionali e post-embrionali in *Macrorhamphosus scolopax* L.", by Prof. A. Spartà, 1936.



In conclusion my best thanks are due to Miss Dorothea M. A. Bate, F.Z.S., M. Burton, M.Sc., W. Campbell Smith, M.C., T.D., M.A., Prof. J. Cottreau, Sir Arthur Keith, F.R.S., N. B. Kinneear, Esq., J. R. Norman, Esq., Kenneth P. Oakley, Esq., B. W. Parker, B.A., Col. A. J. Peile, Prof L. Soós, W. E. Swinton, B.Sc., Ph.D., A. K. Totton, Esq. Dr. C. T. Trechmanu, Prof. M. F. Vaufrey, and T. H. Withers, Esq. for the kind and unstinted help which they have given to my Section during this period.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. G. BALDACCHINO,  
Curator Nat. Hist. Section.

The Director,  
Valletta Museum.