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ON THE WORKING OF THE

MUSEUM DEPARTMENT

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Report on the work of the Museum Department for 1938-39.

THE MUSEUM.
Valletta.
6th June, 1939.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Museum Department for the year 1938-39, together with reports by Professor R. V. Galea, O.B.E., A. & C.E., — who very kindly undertook to act as Director of the Museum during my absence from the Island — and by the Curators in charge of the Archaeological, Natural History, and the Fine Arts Sections respectively. These will be found in appendices A., B., C. and D.

2. Mr. Charles G. Zammit, Curator of the Archaeological Section having proceeded to England, Italy and Greece on study leave, for a period of one year from the 1st August, 1938, his duties were performed by Professor Galea, (whilst acting as Director of the Museum), and by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino.

3. Admission of visitors to the Museum and other places of interest, as well as donations and acquisitions to this Department, are shown in appendices E., F. and G.

4. It is my pleasant duty to place on record the valuable donations made by the Most Noble Count and Countess Sant Fournier, of a collection of 18th and early 19th century costumes, as well as of the "Mamo's Conchological Collection", of which a detailed list will appear in our next annual report; as well as the gift of a most interesting collection of "Birds of Malta", presented by Mrs. J. L. Francia, this last being fully described in the report of the Curator of the Natural History Section in Appendix C.

5. I wish also to thank Mr. Edgar M. Grech for the valuable work he has compiled, in his 'Catalogue and English Précis' of all the works forming the collection of the Museum Library; a work done during his leisure time, and which he has kindly presented to the Museum. This Catalogue will no doubt be of much help to the student of Archaeology.

6. Finally, I also wish to thank Mr. Costanzo Busuttil for the valuable work he has done in the compilation of the catalogue of the coins and medals forming the Numismatic Collection of the Museum.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

HAN. P. SCICLUNA.
Acting Director of the Museum.

His Honour
The Lieutenant-Governor.

APPENDIX A.

Report by the Hon. Professor R. V. Galea, O.B.E., A. & C.E., on the Archaeological Section from May to September, 1938.

This report on the work of the Museum covers the period from May 24th, 1938, to the 7th September, 1938, that is to say the time during which the undersigned acted as Director of the Museum in the place of Chev. H. P. Scicluna, M.A. (Oxon), M.B.E., who was absent from the island on vacation leave.

2. The main activities of the Museum in the Archaeological field, during the above period, are hereunder described in detail.

3. "*Remains of an ancient building at Żurrieq*". On the 13th June, 1938, the Rev., John Farrugia of Żejtun kindly accompanied me and Mr. Charles Zammit, the Curator of the Archaeological Section of the Museum, to inspect the remains of an ancient building at Żurrieq, which was known to exist within the parish priest's residence on one side of its back garden towards Carmel Street.

4. These remains were described in 1785 by J. Houel in his elaborate work Voyage Pittoresque de Sicile, Malte & Lipari, wherein they are referred to as remains of a house of the Greek Period. Bird's eye view illustrations, which are very important as showing the state of the ruins at the time, accompany their general description by the author at page 96 of Vol. 1. It is known that other archaeologists have more recently inspected the remains, but no publications regarding the same have, as far as it is known, come to light.

5. As it was clear that the great importance of the ruins demanded a closer and more detailed investigation than any hitherto effected it was decided to conduct further researches in the place with the kind permission and co-operation of the Very Reverend Archpriest G. B. Ghigo. The researches showed that the ruins now consist of a small tower, two walls of the same old building, and a covered cutting below the street level whose importance has just been discovered.

6. The tower has a square plan of nearly seven feet interior side and is so oriented as to have the diagonals of its plan approximately in the direction of the cardinal points of the compass. It is 18′ 6″ in height from the ground level to the upper edge of the cornice, and originally it had only one entrance in the centre of that wall which looks North East towards what must have been the inside of the building. Its walls are solidly constructed with large blocks of limestone laid without mortar, their surfaces made perfectly smooth by rubbing, and their joints fitting with great accuracy. No traces of mortices for metal cramps to hold the adjacent stones together, as was at times used by the Greeks, were discovered. The thickness of the walls, single all round, is of 1′ 7″, while the height of the courses varied round two feet two inches and the length of the blocks in some cases exceeded 6′. The walls comprising the tower which are of typically Greek construction are curiously enough crowned on the outside by the so called "gorge" cornice of roll and hollow moulding generally characteristic of the Egyptian style of architecture. The tower is roofed by six slabs covered by an impermeable stratum of fine hydraulic substance. The thickness of the roofing slabs and the system of roof covering are suggestive of a much more recent construction, and it is likely that the roof has replaced an original covering of thicker and wider slabs as were discovered in other parts of the remains hereinafter described.

7. The doorway now 3′ 6″ in width of opening consists of a trilithon made up of two standing stones about 7′ in height and 2′ in width, supporting a lintel 6′ 6″ in length and 1′ 10″ in width. Channels in the jambs and in the lintel show the position and size of the wooden door posts and head. One of the jambs must have been cut flush in a later date to widen the entrance. Mortices in the jambs to receive a wooden locking bar are a clear proof that the door was locked from the interior, a curious arrangement when one considers that the other openings now existing in the tower for light and

ventilation were evidently all effected at a much later date. Besides the original entrance another doorway now exists in the wall looking North West. This opening must have been cut at a comparatively recent date by unskilled workmen so much so that the work disturbed a great part of the structure. The remaining two walls of the tower have one small window each. These small openings as well as other holes or cuttings in the walls were all due to subsequent uses of the tower for domestic purposes.

8. One feature which may have been original is a splayed cutting of part of the lower surface of the lintel in such a way that the person inside before opening, could see through a narrow slit who was knocking at the door.

9. Excavations on the outside and on the inside of the tower revealed that the solid rock on which the tower was built was some 2′ below floor level and that it was stepped on the outside.

10. Other remains of the old structure consist of a prolongation of the wall of the tower which contains the original doorway for a distance of 6′, and another wall which starting from the extremity of this one extends for a distance of about 25′ in a direction at right angles to it along Carmel Street. These walls are built in exactly the same style of construction as the walls of the tower and in parts rise to a height of 14′. According to Houel they are the remains of the outside walls of two rooms which formed part of a private building. When inspected by him they were surmounted in the interior by a Greek cornice of which he gives the profile. All traces of this cornice have to-day vanished as the said walls are now built upon and form part of modern buildings.

11. Entrances into these new buildings were provided by cutting doorways of the required size into the old walls.

12. It was at first thought that nothing but the tower remained of the ancient building but scrapings in various places revealed that the said two walls shown in Houel's illustrations were still in position, covered by many layers of whitewash. A third wall dividing the space in two rooms has however disappeared.

13. The faces of the walls towards the exterior have been carefully scraped, cleaned and lightly oiled, so that the outside wall in Carmel Street can now be seen in its original surface showing to all passers-by the large size of the blocks which compose it.

14. During the time these researches were being conducted reports reached me that old workmen living in the village knew that in a cellar of a house near-by there existed large blocks of stone which evidently formed part of the remains of the old structure under examination. Access to this cellar was easily obtained by making an opening in the entrance hall of house No. 120 of Carmel Street. The cellar was found to be a rectangular cutting 19′ × 15′ 6″ and about 22′ deep, which may well have served as a quarry for the stones of the ancient building, and which may afterwards have been turned into a cistern or a closed space for some other purpose.

15. The system of roofing here met with is most interesting from its structural point of view. Two roughly built flat arches divide the roof of the cutting into approximately three equal bays, in the direction of the width, and support a floor of large slabs having their edges closely fitting one another. Each of the arches is made up of ten voussoirs 1′ 7″ in thickness, of a length from 2′ 2″ to 2′ 9″ and of varying width. Some of the voussoirs are tapering in form, others have their sides parallel or almost so and are kept in position by the thrust caused by the tapering blocks and the overlying weight. The end voussoirs have their outer bed joints resting in rock-cut imposts. The upper and lower surfaces of the voussoirs are more or less at right angles to the bed joints and consequently inclined to the horizontal. Part of the upper surfaces, however, were cut horizontal, evidently after that the vossoirs had been laid in position, in order to provide level bearing surfaces for the slabs to rest upon. The lower surfaces were left untouched and form a series of inclined surfaces in two directions each resembling the cutting edge of a saw. The even number of vossoirs in each of the arches, the unscientific shape

of the same, and the way they are laid in position, convey at once the impression that the arches must have been built by people to whom the true principle of the arch was not familiar. Their rough structure in a position not exposed to the eye forms also a striking contrast with the neat and perfect workmanship of the remains met with above ground level.

16. The floor slabs supported by these arches are made of large rectangular blocks 1′2″ in thickness, of varying width and of a length of about 6′. The largest of the slabs measures 4′ in width and 6′ 6″ in length, which is about fifty times the volume of a roofing slab used in modern buildings.

17. A circular hole roughly cut out of two adjacent slabs shows where a well head must have existed, or perhaps how access into the interior was gained. The cutting is now almost filled with débris shot therein during the construction of modern buildings, and this material proved a great obstacle to the detailed survey of this part of the remains.

18. Plans, elevations and sections showing all details of the remains, as well as their exact position in the village, and their correlation to buildings in the vicinity were carefully prepared and deposited in the Museum, along with several photographs.

19. In the same back garden of the parish priest's residence at Żurrieq there exists another building which although not as ancient as the tower and the other remains already described, yet is several centuries old and belongs to a category of structures which are deserving of consideration and of full record before modern exigencies cause them to disappear altogether.

20. The said building consists of one room 35′ in length and about 9′ in breadth, and rises to a height of about 16′ in the front. The two parallel longitudinal walls rise vertical to a certain height in the inside and then curve slightly inwards so as to diminish the distance between them. On the top of each of these walls, also towards the inside, a row of adjacent corbels project for about a foot, thus decreasing further the span; over these corbels, in the direction of the width of the room, rest ceiling slabs a little over 7′ in length and about 1′ in width which in turn support a roof covering of hydraulic lime substance having its upper surface perceptibly inclined towards the front and so shaped as to lead all rain water into the spout.

21. In the structure and in the measure of the blocks of stone with which the walls are built, there exists hardly any difference from modern walls, but the arch over the entrance is characteristic of the sixteenth and seventeenth century local architecture, while the few decorative features are in style reminiscent of mediaeval times.

22. The arch above mentioned is roughly semicircular and is made up of an even number of voussoirs not all the same in size, one especially being much narrower as if it were cut to fit the resulting space after that all the other radiating blocks, not all cut to the same shape, had been placed in position. Several of such arches are observed especially in towers or fortifications, generally of the sixteenth century; they all have one of the bedjoints in an almost vertical position.

23. On either side of the arch at a distance of about one foot from its extrados and about one foot above the springing line a corbel projects from the façade, meant probably to support flower-pots. Symmetrically with the axis of the doorway and a few feet above the arch there exist six loopholes with chamfered edges nearly at equal horizontal distances from one another, but so placed that the upper edge of the second one from each side corresponds nearly to the lower edge of the remaining four, which are in one level. At the eaves of the roof the one remaining gargoyle out of the two that there must have been, is long and tapering and polygonal in cross section.

24. Other very old small buildings of great importance were seen at Qrendi Tarxien and elsewhere. Some of them were ornamented in the façade by two or more paterae or projecting circular ornaments of about 2′ in diameter, placed in judicious positions and carved in geometrical patterns identical in designs to the carvings on the triangles of the Norman fringed cornice still not very scarce in this Island.

25. In the building at Tarxien above mentioned the arched doorway is characteristic in having one of the circular carved ornaments, usually found on each triangular element of the Norman cornice, on every one of its fourteen voussoirs, and a projecting patera on one of its two keystones with a vertical bedjoint. Another projecting 'patera' with four smaller ornaments at the angles is placed over each of two rectangular doorways in the façade of the same buildings. My attention to this building was drawn by Dr. Louis Galea, LL.D.

26. *Silos Tomb*. Mr. Alfred Zammit, A. & C.E. who was directing excavations for the laying of the foundations of a new building at Mosta Road, Attard, reported to the Museum Authorities in June last, that two bell-shaped cuttings were met with in the course of the works. The undersigned and Mr. C. Zammit the Curator of the Archaeological Section, inspected the cuttings which were found to be rockcut tombs known as Silos Tombs, and which were first reported upon locally by Dr. A. Caruana in 1898 in his 'Ancient Pagan Tombs and Christian Cemeteries in the Island of Malta'. When not previously rifled an urn containing ashes and charred bones is usually found in them. There have been instances however when such tombs must have served as an ossuary judging from the number of skulls and bones found in them. The Silos Tombs are generally found isolated but sometimes form rows of communicating single tombs.

27. As the work in the Mosta Road proceeded four other silos tombs were discovered two of which had been turned into wells. All of these were of the isolated kind and must have been rifled long before, for their contents consisted of loose material and casual pieces of broken pottery of no importance. Three of the silos tombs were surveyed in detail and their plans and sections prepared for the Museum along with a site plan, and a plan showing their relative positions. Although the three of them were roughly bell-shaped and with a flat bottom, they were of different sizes. The smallest had about 2′ 6″ diameter of roughly circular orifice, 5′ 7″ maximum depth, and 5′ 10″ maximum diameter at bottom. The corresponding dimensions of the second silos were 4′, 8′ 2″, and 12′ 8″; and those of the third and largest were 5', 11' and 11' 8″. This last silos tomb was fitted with hand and foot holds. One of them had a rebated cutting round the orifice to receive the sealing slab. It is possible that the field in which the said silos were discovered contains other similar tombs but if so it is unlikely that any of them are unrifled.

28. *Tombs at Rabat, Malta*. On the 7th June, 1938, a report reached the Museum Authorities that men engaged in Public Works at Rabat had accidentally broken into an ancient tomb at Via Casal Dingli opposite the wall which divides Count Messina's garden from house No. 1 in the said street.

29. The undersigned and the Curator of the Archaelogical Section on inspection of the site found that it was a Punic tomb of the third period which had been rifled. The funeral chamber which was rectangular in plan 7′ 8″ × 4′8″ was 2′8″ high and had a pit in the centre 1′ deep extending lengthwise from the entrance to 2′ from the opposite internal side. On the left hand side on entering and at a height of 1′ 4″ a lamp hole was cut in the rock. The entrance was 1′ 7″ wide and 2′ 8″ high and faced North.

30. In this grave which was evidently meant for two corpses nothing of importance was found with the exception of a few disintegrated human bones mixed with the débris which had been shot therein. It was not thought worth while to excavate the shaft which led into the chamber. The tomb was carefully surveyed and its exact position marked on the site plan.

31. *Tomb at Żejtun*. On the 15th July, 1938, some workmen while engaged in cutting the ground for the construction of more graves at the cemetery attached to the church known as Ta San Girgor il Qadim, came across some human bones and pottery. The undersigned and the Curator of the Archaeological Section when informed, at once repaired to the place and found that an ancient tomb, not previously opened, had accidentally been broken into. The rock in which it was cut was rather soft and clayey and the material which during the passing of centuries had found its way into the grave and filled it up had so much consolidated that it formed one compact mass hardly distinguishable from the rocks around it. This circumstance accounts for the fact that

the workmen did not realize for some time that they were cutting across a tomb chamber. Such conditions rendered the excavation of the tomb on scientific lines and the saving of the furniture therein very difficult but the skill and patience of Mr. Charles Zammit overcame all obstacles and an unusually abundant harvest of pottery articles was extracted by him in the majority of cases intact. The articles discovered detailed hereafter, denoted that the tomb must have been a Punic one of the third period but the shape was entirely unusual due probably to the softness of the rock. The chamber which had a flat bottom without trench or raised floor for the deposition of the body was roughly elliptical in plan, with the axes measuring 8′ and 5′6″, the latter being in the direction of the entrance which was 2′ wide and faced South East. The roof was domical. On the right side of the entrance there was a lamp hole and on the outside an oblong quadrangular shaft about 5′ 3″ and with curved sides.

32. The tombs which are cut in the solid rock and which are found to contain similar pottery as discovered herein are as a rule rectangular in plan and have their sides vertical and the roof slightly concave. It is probable that the people who excavated this grave thought that if the customary rectangular chamber were attempted in the kind of rock at their disposal the roof would easily have fallen in and so preference was given to the more stable oval plan and domical roof.

33. While a grave dug in soft rock usually denotes that the person buried in it was of a poor extraction, the great number of pottery and glass articles discovered in this one with the remains of one single person is on the other hand indicative that such a person must have been influential and probably rich. These two conflicting conditions may perhaps be reconciled by supposing that the dead person may have met his end long before he was expecting it and had to be buried in a tomb hastily constructed in a single day which was quite possible in the kind of rock it was dug in.

34. The following is a list of the articles found in the tomb : 7 small bilychnes oil-lamps, 4 oenochoe of different sizes, 4 aryballi, 6 cups (of which one is furnished with a handle), 1 calyx, 16 bowls, 7 plates, 2 lagenae, 2 egg-shaped amphorae, 3 small terra-cotta unguentaria with a globular body and 2 glass unguentaria. The other objects recovered from the tomb include two bronze nails and a *Cypraea spurca*, besides some small sherds derived from funerary pottery. I take this opportunity for thanking the Very Rev. Archpriest of Żejtun for the facilities accorded to the Museum Authorities in carrying out their work.

35. *A Prehistoric Site at Qortin l-Mdawwar at Concezzione near Fomm Ir-Rih.* In August, 1938, Mr. W. A. Griffiths, Cashier, H. M. Dockyard, was kind enough to conduct the undersigned to a site in the vicinity of Fomm Ir-Rih, where he had discovered a number of large sized stones and numerous potsherds scattered in their vicinity. It became manifest on inspection that the ruins were the remains of a Neolithic Station which atmospheric agencies and man's vandalism had almost altogether obliterated. They are situated on a rocky plateau known as Il Qortin, between l'Wied tal-Baħrija and Wied Gerżuma, in a patch of ground called Il Hamrija tal-Qortin l-Mdawwar, which commands a fine view including Fomm Ir-Rih Bay and lies in the vicinity of clay beds, of fresh water springs, and of chert nodules in the Globigerina Limestone formations. In those times chert was very useful for the production of implements.

36. Preliminary excavations were at once taken in hand and in the absence of Mr. Charles Zammit, the Curator of the Archaeological Section, their supervision was entrusted to Dr. Baldacchino, who conducted the work in a scientific manner and kept very useful notes of everything that was observed as it came to light.

37. In a preliminary trial trench a torba floor was discovered at a dept of 18″, over this rested what may be called an archaeological layer which in turn was covered by about 1′ of ordinary soil. The cutting was then extended in all directions, taking care not to injure the torba floor and to sift all the material that was being removed. After a forthnight's excavation there remained no doubt that the ruins were those of a small prehistoric place of worship typical in plan of the well-known Maltese Neolithic Temples. What remained of the walls showed that the building though composed of

fairly large stones did not possess the pretensions of the larger temples either in the style of construction or in the finish of its work. A concave frontage which must have limited the usual forecourt led through its centre into the interior composed of two adjacent elliptical spaces having their major axes parallel with a straight passage along their minor axes leading from the entrance to a central front apse at the other extremity.

38. The exterior of the building as far as could be ascertained was straight on the sides and back thus showing on the outside when complete a rectangular block with a concave façade. The inner elliptical space somewhat smaller in size than the outer had a low stone bench round one of its apses ; a similar bench may have run round the corresponding apse which was not yet cleared when the excavations had to be ended for lack of funds.

39. The archaeological material recovered during the excavations is described by Dr. Baldacchino in his report. Other remains of the same period have been detected in the surrounding land and it is hoped that as soon as funds become available the Museum Authorities will continue the excavations and extend the researches to other places in the vicinity.

R. V. Galea.

APPENDIX B.

Report by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino on the Archaeological Section from August 1938 to March 1939.

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the archaeological work entrusted to me, from August 1938 to March 1939.

A PREHISTORIC SITE AT KORTIN L'IMDAWWAR.

2. Preliminary excavations were conducted in August 1938 with a view to gaining some information about this newly discovered prehistoric site. From the investigations made, it could be ascertained that the remains belong mainly to an apsidal building, analogous to the Maltese prehistoric sanctuaries which have a distinct and typical plan. A more detailed description of the site has been given by Professor Galea.

3. The archaeological material, recovered from the ashy layer which rested directly on the torba floor, consists of the following :—

Objects of stone. A large number of pebbles of various size and shape were collected. The majority are rounded and quite smooth but in some cases the roughness of their surface seems to indicate that they were used as hammers, crushers, or grinders. A few of them are chipped. A discoidal pebble, about five inches in diameter, is dressed on both sides in such a manner as to have been fashioned into an axe. A roughly circular stone, with a depression in its upper surface, is probably a mortar. This depression is about four inches in diameter and one and a half inches deep at its centre.

A flat slab of hard stone used for grinding on, and a number of roughly circular stones, flat on one surface and convex on the other, used for grinding with.

Two stones of no fixed shape, having a diameter of 1½ inches and 1 foot respectively, each pierced with a hole.

A fragment of a circular slab of limestone, 8 inches in diameter, with smooth circular cavities on either side of its centre.

Objects of flint, chert, and obsidian. The only implements of flint obtained are :— (1) A roughly triangular scraper worked nearly all round. Its undersurface shows the bulb of percussion and is entirely unworked ; the upper surface is the outside core. The work is limited to fine retouching on the edges. (2) A long thin flake, unworked, with three facets on the upper face. (3) A scraper with a single worked edge, shaped like a big segment of a circle, the part representing the chord being formed by a plane at right angles to the plane of the flat core. Numerous shapeless flakes, quite unworked, were also found.

The chert implements are by far more numerous than the flint ones. The unworked flakes form the bulk of the material ; they include : (a) Roughly triangular flakes with one sharp point, (b) long flakes with three facets on the upper surface, and (c) flakes of different size and shape, with one sharp cutting edge. The chert scrapers are either worked all round or nearly so, or present only a single worked edge.

Only one unworked flake of obsidian was met with.

Objects of bone. Three small bone points were found; one of these, made from an ulna, is broken at the tapering end.

Carbonized wood. Small quantities of carbonized wood was found everywhere in the archaeological deposit.

Tertiary fossils. An interesting small collection of Tertiary fossils was obtained from the sifting of the material. It includes three different species of *Pecten*, a *Cardium*, three specimens of *Lithodomus*, a *Conus*, a tooth of *Carcharodon megalodon*, and a fossil verterbra of a shark.

Personal ornaments. Of personal ornaments only a shell of *Cypraea lurida*, perforated for suspension, was met with.

Pottery. The whole of the pottery found during the excavations is in a fragmentary state. This material is classified as follows :—

(a) *Rough faced ware.* These are generally coarse and thick, with or without a slip, and either quite plain or very roughly decorated with scales.

(b) *Maltese slip ware.* In these the clay is refined, and baked at a high temperature. The slip is thick enough to take a good polish and to adhere firmly; its colour is generally grey, brown, or yellowish red. The sherds are either smooth and dull, or rather well polished; a few are very highly polished. When decorated, they exhibit various patterns made by rectilinear or curved incisions, and occasionally also hatchings.

(c) *Painted ware.* The painted potsherds, obtained from this site, are all of the Maltese slip type, and the pigment used consisted of some kind of size with which red ochre was incorporated. Some of the sherds had no specially prepared or specially chosen light surface to receive the paint. The decorations include simple designs of wide or narrow bands, and also the painting of rims, handles, and the inner side of vases. The rest of the painted pottery was first decorated by different patterns of finely incised lines after firing, and subsequently the pigment was applied either over the incisions or between them so as to heighten the effect of the designs.

Animal bones. The animal remains found are in a fragmentary condition, and some of them are incenerated. All belong to domestic animals, viz : the horse, the ox, the pig, and the goat or sheep.

Shells of Mollusca. Both marine and land shells were collected. The following species of marine shells were determined : *Pyrene rustica* Linn., *Osilinus turbinatus* Bon., *Murex trunculus* Linn., *Euthria cornea* Linn., *Thais haemastoma* Linn., *Patella tarentina* Lamk., *Patella lusitanica* Gml., *Cypraea spurca* Linn., *Tellina planata* Linn., and *Tapes decussata* Forb. and Han. The land shells are represented by the following species : *Pomatias melitensis* Sow., *Mastus pupa* Brug., *Papillifera bidens* Paul., *Rumina decollata* Linn., *Helicella caruanae* Kob., *Iberus melitensis* Fer., *Eobania vermiculata* Mull., *Helix* aperta Born., and *Euparypha pisana* Mull.

A PREHISTORIC SITE AT GOZO.

4. On the 15th December, 1938, the Rev. Francesco Mercieca reported to the Museum authorities that potsherds and osseous remains were met with during the digging of trenches for agricultural purposes in his property at Il Qortin tas-Sruc, in the limits of Xahra, Gozo.

5. The examination of the site revealed the presence of an archaeological deposit, lying beneath and extending beyond a low rock shelter, but its thickness and extent was not ascertained. Numerous Neolithic potsherds of the Maltese slip type, some of which decorated with incised lines, were collected. Fragmets of bones of sheep or goats, showing evidence of the action of fire, were also present. As it was not possible to properly investigate the site, a plan showing the exact spot of the discovery, and to serve as a guide for future reference, was kindly provided by the Public Works of Gozo.

ROCK-TOMB AT IL-KLIGHA IL-KBIRA.

6. On the 12th October, 1938, a farmer reported to the Museum authorities the accidental discovery of a rock-tomb in the field known as Ta' l-Iżball, at Il-Kligha il-Gbira which lies to the north of Gebel Gharab. Numerous similar discoveries have been made in this district during the last thirty years and records giving accurate details concerning the finds have been duly published in the different annual reports on the working of the Museum Department. The scarcity of the field soil, averaging only about two feet in depth, greatly contributes towards the localization of these interesting monuments, as the rock bed is often struck and uncovered during agricultural operations. Many of these tombs have been preserved, and a few others we now being utilised by the industrious farmers as tanks for collecting rain water.

7. This tomb is cut in the Middle Globigerina Limestone which consists of a white, soft, very fine-grained rock of a soapy and uniform texture. As this bed is of a very perishable nature it is exceptional to discover a tomb in it which had not suffered a certain amount of damage usually by the collapse of the roof of the burial chamber.

8. The entrance of the tomb is through a shaft, 10 feet in length, 2 feet 9 inches in width, and a maximum depth of 5 feet. Its long axis lies in a N.-S. direction. From the S. side of the shaft a flight of six steps, cut in the rock and running across the whole breadth of the shaft, leads down to a landing, 4 feet in length.

9. Access to the burial chamber is gained by stepping down a height of 2 feet on the E. side of the landing. This entrance is 4 feet in height, and its width corresponds to the length of the landing. The dimensions of the chamber, which is rectangular in plan with somewhat rounded corners and presenting a domed ceiling, are as follows: 10 feet 6 inches in length, 7 feet in breadth, and a maximum height of 6 feet.

10. The shaft was completely filled with red earth and angular fragments of the parent rock. The same material also found its way into the chamber, forming a layer averaging 2½ feet in thickness. This dumping probably took place a long time ago, when the covering stone slabs of the shaft were removed and the tomb rifled. From the débris only a few thick Roman potsherds were obtained. Owing to their scarcity and fragmentary condition it was not possible to ascertain if these originally belonged to funerary furniture so common in our tombs, or if they were introduced with the dumping at a later date. Only two other objects were found: (1) A semi-circular slab of soft stone, 2 inches thick with a radius of 5½ inches, (2) A fragment of a lava grinder, triangular in section, measuring 4 inches in length, 4½ inches in breadth, and 2½ inches high.

11. In the south wall of the burial chamber, at a height of 3 feet from the floor level and at a distance of 2 feet from the S.-E. corner, a rectangular niche is cut, having the following measurements: Height 1 foot 10 inches, breadth 2 feet 6 inches, and 1 foot deep. All along the whole width of the bottom of this recess a roughly rectangular cavity, 7 inches in breadth and 7 inches in depth, is hollowed out. Somewhat similar niches are occasionally met with in the Maltese rock-tombs, and in certain cases were found to have served as depositories of funerary pottery. In the present instance it appears that the object of the niche was so far unprecedented. The cavity in the bottom of this recess was completely filled with red earth in which were carefully and firmly embedded teeth and bones representing a horse.

12. The association of animal bones with human skeletal remains in old Maltese burials has been definitely ascertained only once, in 1907, when the charred bones of a cock were discovered in a rock-tomb which forms part of an extensive burial ground on the east of Tac-cghaki hill, near Rabat. In 1910, whilst digging a trench for the iron pipes of the aqueduct at Wied tal-Kligha, a few human bones and a large amount of bovine and equine remains, mixed with fragments of Punic pottery, were also met with. In view of the fact that this ossiferous deposit was lying in a sort of cave in the bed of a deep valley which becomes flooded in winter, the possibility of an accidental admixture could not be excluded.

13. Another interesting feature of this tomb, also hitherto unrecorded, is the presence of a silos excavated at the S.-W. corner of the burial chamber. Its mouth, somewhat oval in shape, measuring 4 feet 4 inches by 2 feet 3 inches, lies at a height of 2 feet above the floor level. A carefully cut rabbet surrounds this opening and was originally intended to hold tightly in place the sealing stone slab which was found missing. The silos is more or less bell-shaped with a slightly concave bottom; it attains a maximum depth of 4 feet 8 inches, and its diameter at the deepest part varies from 4 to 5 feet. It was completely filled with a sterile silt.

14. The silos type of rock-tomb is pretty common in the Maltese Islands. They occur either singly or in groups communicating by vertical and lateral passages. In the latter case they are cut either at the same level or form several rows underlying one another. Their entrance is through a circular, rectangular, or oval opening flush with the rock surface, and originally covered by a slab of stone.

15. This tomb was very roughly cut by tools having a broad cutting edge, as evidenced by the numerous impressions still clearly visible on the walls and on the ceiling. It is noteworthy that not even traces of human bones were found in this tomb. The usual head-rests, rock-ledges, or stone benches intended to receive the corpse, lamp-holes cut in the walls, and shallow trenches dug in the floor of the burial chambers were conspicuously absent.

AN OLD SILOS AT ŻEJTUN.

16. On the 7th November, 1938, when some alterations were being effected in the grounds of the Jesus of Nazareth Institute, a bell-shaped pit, excavated in the Globigerina bed-rock, was discovered.

17. A layer of field-soil, about 2 feet in thickness, covered its mouth which consisted of a rectangular shaft, 5 feet 9 inches in length, 1 foot 9 inches in breadth, and 2 feet 3 inches deep. Two rectangular blocks of limestone, of equal dimensions, perfectly and firmly plugged the shaft, and they were so depressed as to have their upper face flush with the adjacent rock surface. The shaft led down to a roughly cut bell-shaped cavity, attaining a depth of 12 feet, and having a flat, horizontal, and more or less circular bottom with a maximum diameter of 8 feet 3 inches. A deposit, exhibiting no signs of stratification, completely filled up the silos. It consisted of red earth in which were embedded, without any regular disposition, angular fragments of limestone, pottery, and animal bones.

18. All the pottery was in a fragmentary state, but it was possible to ascertain that the majority of the sherds were derived from amphorae, lagenae, caccabi, plates, cups, and saucers. The amphorae had a tapering lower extremity, a long neck, and a pair of handles reaching from the shoulders to the rim. The lagenae were of medium size, with a somewhat globular body, a flat base, and two handles joining the shoulders to the middle of the rather long neck. The caccabus type of pot was also commonly represented. The remains of an oenochoe were also found. The plates, cups, and saucers were not dissimilar from those met with in the old Maltese rock-cut tombs.

19. The osseous remains, which were very numerous, belonged to domestic animals, viz: horse, dog, pig, ox, sheep or goat.

ROCK-TOMB AT IL-MIŻIEP.

20. On the 16th November, 1938, the Mellieha Police reported to the Museum that a jar was delivered to them by workmen who said that it had been discovered at Il-Miżiep, to the South East of Mellieha, when a trench was being cut for the laying of a cable. It was also mentioned that numerous bones were met with, in the same spot, during the digging operations.

21. The examination of the site in question revealed that a burial chamber was cut through at a depth of 1 foot 6 inches below the surface of the road. Owing to the friable condition of the rock, presenting the characters of sub-soil, the roof must have fallen in a long time ago, thus allowing the introduction in the chamber and its complete filling with fragments of stone and soil. This débris damaged and disturbed the contents of the tomb, and the percolation of water consolidated the deposit to the consistency of hard breccia.

22. On account of the urgent nature of the works which were being conducted, it was not possible to examine the site with the necessary meticulous care. It could only be ascertained that the rectangular entrance to the burial chamber was facing N., and that the dimensions of the latter were as follows: 3 feet 6 inches in length, 3 feet in breadth, and 2 feet 6 inches high.

23. The skeletal human remains were comminuted, and from the material available for examination it was possible to determine the internment of two corpses, one belonging to an old man and another one to an individual aged about 24 years.

24. Some small fragments of funerary pottery were met with but, unfortunately, the type of vases from which they are derived could not be determined with certainty. The jar, above referred to, is an amphora, 2 feet high, with a cylindrical body and a rounded lower extremity, short necked and armed with two lateral and vertical handles attached to the upper part of the body. The only other object of pottery recovered is a bowl with an everted rim, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

ROMAN POTTERY AT LUQA AERODROME.

25. On the 28th March, 1939, during levelling operations at Luqa Aerodrome, after clearing away a layer of field soil, about 2 feet thick, the bed-rock of Globigerina Limestone was laid bare. Cut in the rock was found a trench, 5 feet in length, 1 foot 4 inches in breadth, and 4 feet deep. From this cavity, an amphora and a terra-cotta bowl were recovered. No traces of human or animal skeletal remains were detected. The amphora, 28 inches high, presents a cylindrical body with a tapering lower extremity. Its neck is very short and supports a thick rim. Two strong lateral and vertical handles rise from the body to the shoulders of the jar. The bowl is 3 inches in diameter at the rim.

TOMBS AT MTARFA.

26. Professor J. B. Ward Perkins was entrusted with the excavation of the tombs met with at Mtarfa. He reports as follows :—

"During the construction of air-raid shelters at Mtarfa during February and March, 1939, a number of prehistoric tombs were discovered. The majority had been previously rifled, but two of them contained the remains of their former contents, and with the corteous permission and assistance of the Military authorities these were fully examined. Thanks are in particular due to Major and Mrs. T. F. M. Woods for the help which they gave.

"Both tombs proved to be of unusual interest. The first, situated near the east end of M. Block, Married Quarters, Mtarfa Barracks, was of silo form, about 14 feet deep with a narrow bottle-neck mouth. The cap-stone had been displaced and the tomb was found to be full of red earth, liberally mixed with charcoal, and stones. It had evidently been rifled in antiquity, but in the lowest levels were found a great quantity of broken pottery and a number of animal bones. The pottery formed a homogeneous group, and it will ultimately be possible to reconstruct a number of vessels. These are of characteristic late Branze Age fabric and include the remains of two large cinerary urns with handles and a number of smaller vessels decorated with white incrustation. The most important find from the lowest levels of the deposit was a lamp of characteristically Punic form which in the absence of any other trace of intrusive material must undoubtly belong to the original tomb furniture. The existence of fabrics transitional from the Bronze Age to the Punic period has already been recognized by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino but this is the first case in which the transition has been archaelogically demonstrated.

"The second tomb found to the west of Group 3, Married Officers' Quarters, Military Hospital, was unusual in a number of respects. It consisted of a slightly undercut, circular depression, about 5 feet in diameter and 4 feet 6 inches in depth. In it were the disarticulated remains of at least twenty individuals, including children and adults, which had evidently been deposited a considerable time after death. There were also numerous osseous remains belonging to domestic animals. The present form of the tomb has no parallel in Malta, and there were in fact indications to show that it had originally been a tomb of normal silo-form of which the upper half had been removed by later quarrying. With the bones were found many sherds of pottery, including fragments of cinerary urns, two-handled cups, plates and jugs with trefoil mouth, all of Punic type, and a number of interesting small objects of bronze and glass. These include over a dozen small beads, the more elaborate of them yellow or green with inset blue whorls, a bronze buckle, a bronze finger ring, an illegible bronze coin pierced as a pendant and two small Egyptian amulet figures. These suggest a date in 7th or 6th century B.C. for the deposit, but further examination is needed.

"Of the remaining tombs found at Mtarfa, two require brief notice. One of these was a typical Punic tomb with a low rectangular chamber leading from a shaft. It had been completely rifled. The second was more elaborate, a large roughly circular chamber, with probably eight small radiating apsidal cells. The original entrance was through a small, central shaft, of which the cap-stone is still in place, but the tomb had been exposed from the side by quarrying, and had evidently stood open until the construction of the Military Hospital about 1921."

A further account of the two main tombs will be published in due course.

J. G. Baldacchino,
Curator, Natural History Section.

APPENDIX C.

Report by Dr. J. G. Baldacchino on the Natural History Section, 1938-39.

I have the honour to submit the following Report on the working of the Natural History Section, for the financial year 1938-39.

COLLECTION OF BIRDS.

The following specimens of Birds of the Maltese Islands, collected by the late Col. J. L. Francia, M.V.O., were presented to the Museum by Mrs. Francia :—

One specimen of *Corvus corax corax* Linn. Raven; Cawlun or Corvu. Very rare; generally occurs in autumn.

One specimen of *Corvus frugilegus frugilegus* Linn. Rook; Corvu, Cawlun, or Gharab. Usually a rare visitor in autumn and spring.

One specimen of *Corvus monedula spermolegus* Vieillot. Jackdaw; Cawla. Becoming very scarce. Resident and nests.

One specimen of *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* Linn. Starling; Sturnell. Common in autumn and winter.

Two specimens of *Oriolus oriolus oriolus* Linn. Golden Oriole; Tajra safra (male), Tajra hadra (female). A spring and autumn migrant; usually abundant during the former season and scarce in the latter.

Three specimens of *Loxia curvirostra curvirostra* Linn. Crossbill; Mkass, or Crucier. An accidental and irregular visitor. Occasionally plentiful.

Two specimens of *Fringilla coelebs coelebs* Linn. Chaffinch; Spunsun. Of regular passage during the autumn. Very common in some years, scarce in others.

One specimen of *Fringilla montifringilla* Linn. Brambling; Spunsun salvagg. A rather rare and irregular visitor in autumn.

One specimen of *Emberiza calandra calandra* Linn. Corn Bunting; Durraisa. Very common; resident and nests.

One specimen of *Emberiza hortulana* Linn. Ortolan; Ortulan. Usually a fairly common spring migrant.

One specimen of *Melanocorypha calandra calandra* Linn. Calandra Lark; Calandra. An irregular autumn visitor; generally scarce.

One specimen of *Melanocorypha siberica* Gmelin. White-winged Lark; Calandra salvaggia. Very rare and irregular visitor.

Two specimens of *Calandrella brachydactyla brachydactila* Leisler. Short-toed Lark; Bilbla. Common in spring and autumn; nests.

One specimen of *Lullula arborea arborea* Linn. Wood-Lark; Cuklajta. A scarce and irregular spring and autumn migrant.

Two specimens of *Anthus campestris campestris* Linn. Tawny Pipit; Bilblun. A fairly common spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Motacilla cinerea cinerea* Tunstall. Grey Wagtail; Zacak taddell. Fairly common in autumn and winter. A few nest.

Two specimens of *Motacilla alba alba* Linn. White Wagtail; Zacak. Very common in autumn and winter.

One specimen of *Regulus regulus regulus* Linn. Continental Golden-crested Wren; Ziemel. A rare and irregular late autumn and winter visitor.

One specimen of *Lanius senator senator* Linn. Woodchat Shrike; Cacciamendula. A partial resident and breeding species. Fairly common in spring, summer and autumn.

One specimen of *Lanius excubitor excubitor* Linn. Great Grey Shrike; Bughajjat. Recorded only three times.

One specimen of *Muscicapa hypoleuca hypoleuca* Pallas. Pied Flycatcher; Zanzarell iswed. A fairly common spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Muscicapa albicollis* Temminck. Collared Flycather. A rare spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Hypolais polyglotta* Vieillot. Melodious Warbler; Beccafik isfar. A rare and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Sylvia atricapilla atricapilla* Linn. Blackcap; Capinera. Scarce in winter, spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Sylvia corruca corruca* Linn. Lesser Whitethroat; Beccafik irmiedi. A scarce and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Sylvia subalpina subalpina* Temminck. Subalpine Warbler; Ghasfur il harrub. Generally scarce, occuring in spring and autumn; sometimes nests.

Three specimens of *Turdus pilaris* Linn. Fieldfare; Malvizzun. Usually of annual occurrence in autumn and winter; more common in January and February.

One specimen of *Turdus viscivorus viscivorus* Linn. Mistle Thrush; Malvizzun rar. A rather rare visitor in autumn and winter.

Two specimens of *Turdus musicus musicus* Linn. Continental Song Thrush; Malvizz. Of regular occurrence in autumn and winter. Common in some years, scarce in others.

One specimen of *Turdus torquatus torquatus* Linn. Ring Ouzel; Malvizz tas-sidra rar. Occurs on passage in autumn and winter. Rather rare.

One specimen of *Turdus torquatus alpestris* Brehm. Alpine Ring Ouzel; Malvizz tas-sidra bajda. Occurs in autumn and winter; not very common.

One specimen of *Turdus merula merula* Linn. Blackbird; Malvizz iswed. Fairly common in autumn and winter.

One specimen of *Monticola saxatilis* Linn. Rock Thrush; Gianbublu. Rather common in both seasons; more frequent in spring.

Two specimens of *Monticola solitarius solitarius* Linn. Blue Rock Thrush; Merill. A fairly common and breeding species.

Two specimens of *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe* Linn. Wheatear; Cuda bianca. Common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Oenanthe hispanica hispanica* Linn. Western black-eared Wheatear; Cuda bianca. Fairly common in spring and autumn.

Two sipecimens of *Oenanthe hispanica melanoleuca* Guldenstadt. Eastern black-eared Wheater; Soru, or Dumnicana. A rare spring visitor.

Two specimens of *Saxicola rubetra rubetra* Linn. Winchat; Buciak tal cudi. Common in spring and autumn.

Two specimens of *Saxicola torquata rubicola* Linn. Stonechat; Buzafzaf. Very common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Phaenicurus phaenicurus phaenicurus* Linn. Redstart; Fiamma, Cudiross, or Beccafik ta dembu. A common spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Phaenicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis* Gmelin. Black Redstart; Fiamma sewda. Becoming rather scarce.

One specimen of *Luscinia suecica cyanecula* Wolf. Blue throat; Cudiross sidirtu kahla. Very rare and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Prunella modularis modularis* Linn. Hedge Sparrow; Zerzur. A rather scarce and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Hirundo rustica rustica* Linn. Swallow; Huttafa. Very common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Delichon urbica urbica* Linn. Martin; Hawwiefa. Fairly commn in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Caprimulgus europaeus europaeus* Linn. Nightjar; Bukrajk. Very common in spring and autumn.

Three specimens of *Caprimulgus aegyptius aegyptius* Lichtenstein. Egyptian Nightjar; Bukrajk abjad. Of rather rare occurrence in spring.

Two specimens of *Merops apiaster* Linn. Bee-eater; Kird in-nahal. A fairly common visitor in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Upupa epops epops* Linn. Hoopoe; Dakkuka, or Dakkuka tal pinnac. Occurs on passage during both seasons, but more common in spring.

Four specimens of *Coracias garrulus garrulus* Linn. Roller; Farrug, or Tajra cahla. Occurs on passage in both seasons, but more common in spring.

Three specimens of *Alcedo atthis ispida* Linn. Kingfisher; Ghasfur ta San Martin. Occurs in all seasons; at times fairly common, and in others rather scarce.

One specimen of *Jynx torquilla tschusii* Kleinschm. Wryneck; Sultan is-summien, or Bulibbiet. Very common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Cuculus canorus canorus* Linn. Cuckoo; Dakkuka cahla, or Sultan il gamiem. A fairly common migrant in both seasons; more frequent in spring.

One specimen of *Asio otus otus* Linn. Long-eared Owl; Kattus, or Omm is-subien. Generally scarce and irregular.

Two specimens of *Asio flammeus flammeus* Pontoppidan. Short-eared Owl; Omm is-subien. Fairly common in spring and autumn; nested.

One specimen of *Tyto alba alba* Scopoli. White-breasted Barn Owl; Barbagianni. Becoming very scarce; nests.

Two specimens of *Falco peregrinus peregrinus* Tunstall. Peregrine Falcon; Bies prim. Occasional and rare; formerly resident and nested.

One specimen of *Falco peregrinus brookei* Sharpe. Lesser Falcon; Bies second. Fairly common and resident.

Three specimens of *Falco subbuteo subbuteo* Linn. Hobby; Seker tal hannieka. Generally a fairly common spring and autumn migrant; nests.

One specimen of *Falco columbarius aesalon* Tunstall. Merlin; Seker ta dembu. Very scarce in both seasons, but more frequent in autumn.

Two specimens of *Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus* Linn. Kestrel; Spaniulett. Common in spring and autumn. A few reside. Occasionally nests.

One specimen of *Falco naumanni naumanni* Fleischer. Lesser Kestrel; Spaniulett second. Generally fairly common in spring.

Four specimens of *Falco vespertinus vespertinus* Linn. Red-footed Falcon; Zumbrell, Spanjulett ichal, or Vespertin. Usually a regular visitor in spring and autumn. As a rule more common in spring.

One specimen of *Buteo buteo buteo* Linn. Common Buzzard; Cucciarda prima. Very rare in autumn.

Two specimens of *Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus* Linn. Marsh-Harrier; Bughadam ahmar. Occurs on passage during both seasons, but it is more common in spring.

One specimen of *Circus macrourus* Gmelin. Pale Harrier; Bughadam abjad. Usually fairly common in spring.

Three specimens of *Circus cyaneus cyaneus* Linn. Hen-Harrier; Bughadam abjad prim. Generally common in spring; scarce in autumn.

Two specimens of *Circus pygargus* Linn. Montagu's Harrier; Bughadam. Fairly common in spring; scarce in autumn.

One specimen of *Accipiter gentilis gentilis* Linn. Goshawk; Bies tal hamiem. A rare visitor, usually in spring.

One specimen of *Accipeter nisu nisu*. Linn. Sparraw-Hawk; Sparvier. Fairly common in both seasons.

Two specimens of *Pernis apivorus apivorus* Linn. Honey-Buzzard; Cucciarda. Fairly common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Pandion haliaetus haliaetus* Linn. Osprey; Arpa. Rather rare; occurs usually in summer.

One specimen of *Neophron percnopterus percnopterus* Linn. Egyptian Vulture; Avultun. A rare and accidental autumn visitor.

One specimen of *Ciconia ciconia ciconia* Linn. White Stork; Ciconja bajda. Only about twelve specimens are recorded in spring.

One specimen of *Ciconia nigra* Linn. Black Stork. Ciconia sewda. A very rare visitor; occurred in spring and winter.

One specimen of *Platalea leucorodia leucorodia* Linn. Spoonbill; Paletta. A rare and irregular visitor.

Three specimens of *Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus* Linn. Glossy Ibis; Velleran, Serduk or Hasi tal bahar. A scarce but regular visitor in spring and autumn.

Two specimens of *Ardea cinerea cinerea* Linn. Common Heron; Russett griz, Russett irmiedi, or Russett imperial. A scarce visitor generally in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Ardea purpurea purpurea* Linn. Purple Heron; Russett, or Russett culur cannella. Generally very common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Egretta alba alba* Linn. Great White Heron; Russett imperial. A very rare and irregular visitor.

Two specimens of *Ardeola ralloides* Scopoli. Squacco Heron; Agrett isfar. Usually a common spring and autumn migrant; at times very scarce.

Two specimens of *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax* Linn. Night-Heron; Cuacca. Common in spring and autumn.

Three specimens of *Ixobrychus minutus minutus* Linn. Little Bittern; Russett tas-sigiar, Russett tas-silla, or Blongios. A common spring and autumn migrant; more abundant in spring.

One specimen of *Botaurus stellaris stellaris* Linn. Bittern; Cappun imperial. Of rather rare occurrence in spring.

One specimen of *Cygnus olor* Gmelin. Mute Swan; Cinju mutu. A very rare visitor in December and January.

One specimen of *Anser anser* Linn. Grey Lag-Goose; Wizza griza. A rare winter visitor.

One specimen of *Anser albifrons* Scopoli. White-fronted Goose; Wizza tal mascra bajda. A rare winter visitor.

One specimen of *Anser fabalis fabalis* Latham. Bean-Goose; Wizza salvaggia. A rare winter visitor.

Two specimens of *Tadorna tadorna* Linn. Sheldrake; Culuvert ta Barbarja. A scarce and irregular visitor.

Two specimens of *Anas boschas boschas* Linn. Mallard; Culuvert (male), Borca (female). Fairly common in spring and winter; occasionally also seen in summer and autumn.

One specimen of *Anas strepera* Linn. Gadwall; Culuvert second. A fairly common visitor generally in winter.

Two specimens of *Anas crecca crecca* Linn. Teal; Sarsella. Generally fairly common in all seasons, but more frequent in winter and spring.

One specimen of *Anas querquedula* Linn. Gargany; Sarsella hamra. Occurs in all seasons, but more frequent in spring.

One specimen of *Anas penelope* Linn. Wigeon; Silfiun second. A scarce and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Anas angustirostris* Menetries. Marbled Duck; Brajmla ghed-duma rkik. A rare visitor in spring.

One specimen of *Netta rufina* Pallas Red-crested Pochard; Brajmla tat-toppu ahmar. A rare and irregular visitor.

Two specimens of *Nyroca nyroca nyroca* Guldenstadt. White-eyed Pochard; Brajmla. Fairly common in winter; also occurs in autumn and spring.

One specimen of *Nyroca fuligula* Linn. Tufted Duck; Brajmla tat-toppu. A rare and irregular winter visitor.

One specimen of *Mergus serrator* Linn. Red-breasted Merganser; Serra. An irregular visitor, more commonly in winter. At times occurs in pretty large numbers.

One specimen of *Mergus albellus* Linn. Smew; Baghal tas-serra. A scarce winter visitor.

Three specimens of *Pharacrocorax carbo carbo* Linn. Cormorant; Margun. Fairly common, especially in winter.

One specimen of *Sula bassana* Linn. Gannet; Sula. A very rare and irregular visitor.

Two specimens of *Hydrobates pelagicus* Linn. Storm Petrel; Cangiu ta Filfla. Pretty common and resident; nests.

One specimen of *Puffinus puffinus yelkouan* Acerbi. Levantine Shearwater; Garnia. Scarce; resident and nests.

One specimen of *Podiceps cristatus cristatus* Linn. Great crested Grebe; Blongiun prim. Fairly common in autumn and winter.

One specimen of *Podiceps auritus* Linn. Slavonian Grebe; Blongiun second. A rare winter visitor.

One specimen of *Podiceps ruficollis ruficollis* Pallas. Little Grebe; Blongiun terz. Scarce and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Columba palumbus palumbus* Linn. Ring-Dove; Tudun. Not a common visitor; occurs in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Columba oenas* Linn. Stock-Dove; Hamiema taz-zebbug. A rather scarce migrant in both seasons; more common in autumn.

Three specimens of *Streptopelia turtur turtur* Linn. Turtle-Dove; Gamiema. Occurs on passage during both seasons; generally abundant in spring.

One specimen of *Pterocles orientalis* Linn. Black-bellied Sand-Grouse; Ganga ta Spania. A very rare and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Burhinus oedicnemus oedicnemus* Linn. Stone-Curlew; Tellerita. Common in spring and autumn.

Two specimens of *Cursorius cursor cursor* Latham. Courser; Nanchina. Frequent but not a common visitor during all seasons.

Four specimens of *Glareola pratincola* pratincola Linn. Pratincole; Perniciotta. A mere straggler. Formerly common.

One specimen of *Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus* Linn. Oyster-catcher; Gallina tal bahar. A rare and accidental visitor.

Two specimens of *Charadrius hiaticula hiaticula* Linn. Ringed Plover; Monachella prima. A rare visitor in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Charadrius morinellus* Linn. Dotterel; Birwina. Occurs in all seasons, but more common in November and December.

Two specimens of *Charadrius apicarius altifrons* Brehm. Golden Plover; Pluviera. A regular and fairly common autumn visitor; also met with throughout the winter.

Four specimens of *Squatarola squatarola squatarola* Linn. Grey Plover; Pluviera pastarda. Usually scarce; occurring in spring and autumn, and sometimes in winter too.

One specimen of *Vanellus vanellus* Linn. Lapwing; Venewwa. Common in autumn and winter.

Five specimens of *Philomachus pugnax* Linn. Ruff; Ghirwiela. Common in spring and autumn; a few met with also in winter.

Two specimens of *Calidris ferruginea* Brunnich. Curlew Sandpiper; Begazzina hamra. Common in June; occurs also in autumn and at times in winter.

Two specimens of *Calidris minuta* Leisler. Little Stint; Tertuxa. Fairly common in spring, summer and autumn.

One specimen of *Tringa erythropus* Pallas. Spotted Redshank; Ciuvett. A rare and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Tringa totanus totanus* Linn. Redshank; Pluvierott. Common in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Tringa nebularia* Gunnerus. Greenshank; Cewcewwa prima. A fairly common migrant in spring and autumn; occasionally appears also in the other seasons.

One specimen of *Tringa hypoleucos* Linn. Common Sandpiper; Begazzina tarrocca. Common in spring and autumn, occasionally also in summer.

Three specimens of *Himantopus himantopus himantopus* Linn. Black-winged Stilt; Fras-servient. An uncommon spring and autumn visitor.

One specimen of *Recurvirostra avosetta avosetta* Linn. Avocet; Xifa. A rare and irregular visitor.

Three specimens of *Limosa limosa limosa* Linn. Black-tailed Godwit; Ghirwiel prim. An uncommon visitor in spring, autumn and winter.

Two specimens of *Numenius arquata arquata* Linn. Common Curlew; Gurlin, or Gur'in prim. Generally common in summer; occurs also in spring and rarely in winter.

One specimen of *Numenius tenuirostris* Vieill. Slender-billed Curlew; Gurlin terz. Fairly common in spring and autumn.

Two specimens of *Scolopax rusticola rusticola* Linn. Woodcock; Gallina. A scarce but regular autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Capella media* Latham. Great Snipe; Beccacc ta Mejju. Common in spring.

One specimen of *Capella gallinago gallinago* Linn. Common Snipe; Beccacc. A fairly common spring and autumn migrant.

Three specimens of *Hydrochelidon leucoptera* Temminck. White-winged black Tern; Cirlewwa tar-rebbigha. Occurs in both seasons, but more common in spring.

One specimen of *Gelochelidon nilotica nilotica* Gmelin. Gull-billed Tern; Cirlewwa tal Inghilterra. Of rare accurrence in spring.

One specimen of *Sterna albifrons albifrons* Pallas. Little Tern; Cirlewwa zghira. A rare visitor in spring and summer.

One specimen of *Larus minutus* Pallas. Little Gull; Gawwija zghira. Rare in autumn; formerly was more frequent.

One specimen of *Larus ridibundus ridibundus* Linn. Black-headed Gull; Gawwija rasha sewda seconda. Occurs in winter; becoming scarce.

Three specimens of *Larus argentatus cachinnans* Pallas. Yellow-legged Herring Gull; Gawwija prima. Common in winter; partial resident and nests.

One specimen of *Larus hyperboreus* Gunnerus. Glaucous Gull. Shot on the 10th February, 1932, at Mellieha Bay. This species has never been recorded before.

One specimen of *Rissa tridactyla tridactyla* Linn. Kittiwake; Gawwija tal Inghilterra. Of very rare occurrence in winter.

Two specimens of *Alca torda* Linn. Razorbill; Mus tal bahar. A casual and rare visitor. Occasionally it occurs in relatively large numbers.

One specimen of *Fratercula arctica arctica* Linn. Puffin; Purcinella tal Bahar. A rare and irregular visitor.

One specimen of *Otis tetrax orientalis* Hartert. Little Bustard; Pitarra. A rare visitor in spring and autumn.

One specimen of *Chlamydotis undulata undulata* Jacquin. Houbara Bustard; Ghubara. Only four specimens are recorded.

Two specimens of *Megalornis grus grus* Linn. Common Crane; Grawwa. Of almost annual occurrence in all seasons; generally rare.

One specimen of *Rallus aquaticus aquaticus* Linn. Water-Rail; Gallozz tax-xitwa. A scarce spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Porzana porzana* Linn. Spotted Crake; Gallozz second. Generally common in spring and autumn; occasionally very scarce.

One specimen of *Porzana parva* Scopoli. Little Crake; Gallozz terz. A rare spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Crex crex* Linn. Land-Rail; Gallozz. A common spring and autumn migrant.

One specimen of *Porphyrio caeruleus* Vandelli. Purple Gallinule; Fagian tal bahar. Three other specimens are preserved in the Museum collection.

In 1915, Mr. G. Despott, in his "List of the Birds of Malta", omitted *Porphyrio caeruleus*, saying that this species, being a localized one, cannot cross the stretch of sea which separates these islands from Sicily even at its narrowest part. The Purple Gallinule is found in S. Spain, possibly Minorca, Sardinia, Morocco, Algeria, Tunis and Sicily. It occasionally occurs in S. Italy and perhaps Dalmatia, and has been recorded from Bohemia, Hungary, France and Portugal, where indeed it used to nest. There is, therefore, no reason why the occurrence of the birds in Malta should not be absolutely genuine, especially taking into account that a similar species, Allen's

Gallinule (*P. alleni*) which is found throughout the greater part of Africa, has been recorded as far off as the Ascension Islands, Azores, Madeira etc.

One specimen of *Gallinula chloropus chloropus* Linn. Moor-Hen; Gallozz tal Germania. Common in spring and autumn.

Six specimens of *Coturnix coturnix coturnix* Linn. Quail; Summiena. Generally abundant in autumn and spring. Some nest.

Other acquisitions of Maltese Birds consist of the following :—

One specimen of *Egretta garzetta garzetta* Linn. Little Egret; Agrett abjad. Presented by Capt. W. Clarke.

One specimen of *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax* Linn. Night Heron; Cuacca. Presented by Major C. R. A. Wallis, R.N.

One specimen of *Ixobrychus minutus minutus* Linn. Little Bittern; Russett tassigiar. Presented by Capt. W. Clarke.

One specimen of *Podiceps auritus* Linn. Slavonian Grebe; Blongiun second. Presented by Capt. W. Clarke.

One specimen of *Pterocles orientalis* Linn. Black-bellied Sand Grouse; Ganga ta Spania. Presented by Mr. John E. Beck.

One specimen of *Calidris arenaria* Linn. Sanderling; Pispisella bajda. Presented by Capt. W. Clarke.

One specimen of *Sterna anglica anglica* Montague. Gull-billed Tern; Cirlewwa tal Inghilterra. Presented by Mr. John E. Beck.

One specimen of *Rallus aquaticus aquaticus* Linn. Water-Rail; Gallozz tax-Xitwa. Presented by Mr. Giov. P. Xerri.

GHAR DALAM MUSEUM.

The fossil remains of pigmy Elephants exhibited in Ghar Dalam Museum have been enriched by an interesting series of molar teeth representing *Elephas mnaidriensis* Leith Adams, *E. melitensis* Falconer, and *E. Falconeri* Busk. All the newly exhibited specimens were obtained from the bone-breccia layer during the course of excavations conducted in the cave, in 1937-38.

The following is a list of the specimens :—

No. 1. — ?4x in 35mm. by 24mm. Laminar frequency : 4 in 25 mm. (8 in 5 cm.). Right, third lower molar of *E. Falconeri*, or second molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 2. — x12 in 149 mm. by 47 mm. Laminar frequency : 4 in 50 mm. Right, sixth lower molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 3. — x12x in 159 mm. by 53 mm. Laminar frequency : $3\frac{3}{4}$ in 50 mm. Left, sixth upper molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 4. — x13x in 188 mm. by 49 mm. Laminar frequency : 4 in 50 mm. Right, sixth lower molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 5. — x5x in 59 mm. by 28 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 in 50 mm. Left, second upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*, or second upper molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 6. — ?$\frac{1}{2}$6x in 105 mm. by 42 mm. Laminar frequency : 4 in 50 mm. Right, fourth lower molar of *E. mnaidriensis*, or fifth lower molar of *E. melitensis*.

No. 7. — ?8x in 145 mm. by 46 mm. Laminar frequency $6\frac{1}{2}$ in 10 cm. Left, fourth lower of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 8. — ?9x in 143 mm. by 58 mm. Laminar frequency : $6\frac{1}{2}$ in 10 cm. Right, fifth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 9. — ?6 in 105 mm. by 64 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 in 10 cm. Left, fifth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 10. — ?8x in 128 mm. by 54 mm. Laminar frequency : 7 in 10 cm. Left, fifth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 11. — x8? in 117 mm. by 55 mm. Laminar frequency : 7 in 10 cm. Right, fifth lower molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 12. — ?12 in 156 mm. by 55 mm. Laminar frequency : 7 in 10 cm. Left, fifth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 13. — ?9 in 146 by 54 mm. Laminar frequency : 5½ in 10 cm. Left, fifth lower molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 14 — ?½8 in 156 mm. by 58 mm. Laminar frequency : 5¾ in 10 cm. Left, fifth lower molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 15. — ?10x in 193 mm. by 59 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 in 10 cm. Right, fifth lower molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 16. — ?11? in 165 mm. by 61 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 in 10 cm. Left, sixth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 17. — ?½12 in 170 mm. by 60 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 to 7 in 10 cm. Right, sixth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

No. 18. — 13? in 175 mm. by 63 mm. Laminar frequency : 6 to 7 in 10 cm. Left, sixth upper molar of *E. mnaidriensis*.

COLLECTION OF TERTIARY PECTINIDAE.

The following specimens were presented to the Museum by Prof. F. Roman, of the Faculté des Sciences of Lyon :—

Pecten benedictus Lamarck; Plesancien; Millas (Pyrénées orientales).

Pecten subbenedictus Fontannes; Burdigalien moyen; Clansayes (Drôme).

Chlamys scabrella Linn.; Plaisancien; Villeveuve-Loubet (Alpes maritimes).

Chlamys Collenensis Mayer; Plaisancien; St. Ariès prés Bolléne; (Vaucluse).

Chlamys Northamptoni Michelotti (= *bonifaciensis*) Locard; Burdigalien; Bonifacio (Corse).

Chlamys praescabriuscula Fontannes; Burdigalien superieur; Clansayes (Drôme).

Chlamys Tournali M. de Serres; Burdigalien; Sainte Lucie (Aude).

SPECIMENS OF SCALARIA FROM THE GLOBIGERINA LIMESTONE OF MALTA.

A small collection of specimens of *Scalaria* from the Globigerina Limestone of Malta was submitted to F. R. Cowper Reed, M.A., Sc.D., F.G.S., for examination. Besides *Scalaria (Cirsotrema) Duciei* Wright, and *Scalaria (Cirsotrema) crassicostata* Brocchi, var. *taurina* Sacco, one new species and two new varieties of another species were determined.

The following is the report of Dr. Cowper Reed :—

Scalaria (Stenorhytis) melitensis sp.nov.

Shell trochiform, of few whorls, apical angle about 60°. Whorls tubular, rather loosely coiled, increasing slowly in size, cylindrical in cross section, bearing equidistant transverse lamellar costae corresponding but not in direct line on successive whorls; sutures rather deeply sunken; sutural angle about 75°. Lamellar costae crossing whorls at regularly decreasing intervals from mouth to apex, strong, prominent, sharp, plate-like, concavo-convex with the convexity on oral side, composed of several thin shelly layers; free edge of lamelle irregularly and weakly crenulated, with one deeper broader marginal crenulation near the upper (sutural) end forming a blunt spine, particularly developped on that lamella which forms the outer lip of the mouth; upper ends of successive lamellae bent back along suture and fused with base of corresponding lamellae on next upper whorl; interspaces between lamellae flattened or slightly concave, curving up into aboral face of the lamellae and crossed by transverse equidistant lines, usually alternately strong and weak passing up with diminished strength on to the concave face of the lamellae. Mouth projecting laterally, circular, with broad thickened inner lip reflexed on basal whorl and thick outer lip formed chiefly by first transverse lamella; 8-10 lamellae present on basal whorl, 10-12 on next whorl, successively more closely placed, and corresponding with those on basal whorl but curved forward at base and overlapping them.

Remarks.

None of the three specimens are perfect, the upper portion being broken, but all have the basal whorl and mouth well preserved and one has the two next whorls nearly complete and shows the apical angle and shape of the whole shell and spire, but the apex and uppermost whorls are missing.

From *Sc.retusa* (Brocchi) (Sacco, 1891, p. 34, t.I, Fig. 49) which has been recorded from many Miocene localities in Italy (De Boury, 1891, pp. 3,6,7, etc.), our shell differs in the whorls being more loosely coiled and more circular in cross section, in the greater basal diameter of the shell, the lower spire, the smaller obliquity of the axis, the larger sutural angle, and in the transverse lamellar costae being more concavo-convex and strongly arched away from the mouth. The shape of the shell and width of the interspaces and transverse lineation more resemble *Sc. trochiformis* (Brocchi) (Sacco, 1891, p. 36, t.I, Fig. 55), but the lower spire and larger apical angle more resemble *Sc. retuspina* De Greg. (Sacco, 1891, p. 35, t.I, Fig. 53) especially the variety *Acutispina* Sacco (1891, p. 36, t.I, Fig. 54) in the spine on the outer lip and reflexed inner lip, but the greater basal width of our species, the greater lateral projection of the mouth, the lower basal whorl and its slower increase in size towards the mouth are distinguishing features. We may doubt if the shell from Malta figured by De Gregorio (1895, p. 8, pl. II, Fig. 49) as *Sc. retusa* is identical with our shell which is however more allied to his *Sc. retuspina*. Cossman (1912, p. 45, pl. II, Figs. 23, 24) figures *Sc. trochiformis* (Brocchi) from the Astian as representative of the genus or subgenus *Stenorhytis* Conrad, but it is not identical with our species, though closely allied.

Scalaria (Cirsotrema) Duciei Wright.

Shell tall, turrited, composed of 9-10 whorls; apical angle about 20°; sutural angle about 75°. Whorls convex, subcircular in cross-section, scarcely overlapping, rather loosely coiled; sutures deep; surface of whorls crossed by numerous equal equidistant and regular rather narrow prominent costae rarely interrupted by varices, each costa slightly concavo-convex and composed of several thin shelly layers having its edges bearing low denticulations and slightly undulated, a specially broad and marked undulation occurring just below the suture-line; interspaces concave and crossed by low regular undulations and lines, giving a pitted appearance. Costae numbering 20-24 on each whorl, not continuous from whorl to whorl, their upper ends bending back and overlapping. Base of shell with a revolving narrow ridge cutting off the lower ends of the costae and defining a broad flattened basal band or plate on which the costae appear as thin low ridges converging to the inner margin of the mouth. Mouth circular; lip rounded and thick, having short blunt tooth on outer lip near suture line and a pair of shorter blunt prominences on anterior edge.

Remarks.

This species which was founded on specimens from Malta and was well figured by Wright (1855, p. 61, pl. VII, Fig. 4) with a fairly sufficient description of its characters, must be regarded as identical with the Maltese species *Sc. Swanni* Adams (1870, p. 271, pl. X, fig. 9) the figure of which was published without any adequate definition of the species. De Gregorio (1895, p. 8) rightly recognized their identity, but his figures of *Sc. Duciei* (1895, p. 8, pl. II, figs. 44-46, 48) seem to represent quite a different shell. We may rather compare De Gregorio's figure (1895, p. 7, pl. II, fig. 47) of the Maltese shell which he attributes to *Sc. scaberrima* Micht., but this is not like Cossmann's (1912, p. 59, pl. III, fig. 24) *Acrilla (Discoscala) scabberrima* (Micht.) nor Sacco's (1891, p. 57, t. II, pp. 45-47) *Sc. (Discoscala) scaberrima* Micht., and indeed more resembles *Sc. (Cirsotrema) aberrans* Sacco (1891, p. 48, t. II, fig. 20) or his variety *crassicostanomala* Sacco (1891, p. 49, t. II, fig. 21) of *Sc. Duciei* Wright. Three examples of *Sc. Duciei* from Malta have been submitted to me for examination, and on them the above remarks are based.

Scalaria (Cirsotrema) crassicostata Brocchi, var. *taurina Sacco.*

One good specimen of a complete shell shows the mouth and all the characters present in this variety of *Sc. crassicostata* as described and figured by Sacco (1891, p. 45, t. II, fig. 12). It is probable that this is the same form as De Gregorio figured and described as *Sc. Duciei* (1895, p. 8, pl. II, figs. 44-46, 48). It differs from the new variety named obliquata in the more convex whorls, the deeper suture lines, the less oblique costae and their non-continuation from whorl to whorl up the spire.

Scalaria (Cirsotrema) crassicostata Brocchi, var, nov. *obliquata.*

This new variety of which eight examples are included amongst the specimens in this collection tapers rather more slowly to the apex than the typical. *Sc. crassicostata* Brocchi, the apical angle being rather smaller the whorls are less convex and there is a decided but shallow and broad constriction on the upper part of the whorls near their junction, sutures being also hidden by the costae which are continuous and cross the sutures from one whorl to the next with scarcely any interruption; the costae also run obliquely to the axis of the shell; and on the upper whorls become closer together and more numerous. There are 12-13 costae on the basal whorl, the base of which is flattened below the revolving ridge which marks off the area or plate on which the flattened out costae lie close together and converge to the edge of the mouth. A few thick varices, chiefly on the basal whorl, interrupt the regular succession of the costae. The costae are thick and composed of numerous thin shelly layers at right angles to the surface of the whorls, and are slightly concave on the side away from the mouth. From *Sc. crassicostata* Brocchi, and its varieties as figured by Sacco (1891, p. 45, t.II, figs. 12-17) this new variety chiefly differs in its oblique and continuous costae and smaller convexity of the whorls, thereby also differing from De Gregorio's *Sc. Duciei* from Malta (1895, p. 8, pl. II, figs. 44, 46, 48) as far as one can judge from his poor figures and short description, which suggest *Sc. crassicostata.*

Scalaria (Cirsotrema) crassicostata Brocchi, var. nov. *inequalis.*

This variety is allied to the varieties of *Sc. crassicostata* with irregular and unequal costae which Sacco has named *derto-Seguenzai* (1891, p. 46, t.II, fig. 16) and *subseguenzai* (1891, p. 46, t.II, fig. 17), but it differs from both in the smaller convexity of the whorls, in the presence also of a slight revolving constriction in the upper half of the whorls, in the sutures being less sunken and more or less hidden by the costae crossing over them and being continuous from whorl to whorl and by their obliquity to the axis as in the new variety above described as *obliquata.* It differs from the latter and agrees with the two varieties described by Sacco in the irregular and unequal size of the costae and their occasional division, by the more numerous and larger varices which may correspond with 2 or even 3 costae in the next whorl, and by the narrower interspaces which are usually narrower than the costae. The revolving lines crossing the costae, the varices and the interspaces are also usually stronger thus resembling *Sc. lamellosa* Brocchi, but the base of the shell is like *Sc. crassicostata* var. *rotundicosta* Sacco (1891, p. 46, t.II, fig. 15) and the varices are more rounded as in this variety. Four examples and a doubtful fifth occur in the series of shells from the Globigerina Limestone examined by me.

REFERENCES.

Adams, A.L., 1870. Notes of a Naturalist in the Nile Valley and Malta. Cossmann, M. 1912. Essais de Paléconchologie Comparée, Livr. IX. De Boury, E., 1891. Etude Critique des Scalidae Miocènes et Pliocènes d'Italie. Bull. Soc. Malac. Ital. vol. XV. De Gregorio, A., 1895. Fossiles Tertiaires (surtout miocènes) de Malte. Annales de Géol.et de Paléont, Livr. 19. Sacco, F., 1891. Molluschi d. Terr. Terz. d. Piemonte e d. Liguria, Parte IX. Wright, T., 1855. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. V, vol. 15.

J. G. Baldacchino,
Curator, Section of Natural History.

APPENDIX D.

Report by Mr. A. Sciortino on the Fine Arts Section 1938-39.

I have the honour to submit my Report on the working of the Section of Fine Arts of the Museum for the Financial Year, 1938-39.

2. The principal activity of this Section has been the restoration of many fine pictures, sent in to us for necessary cleaning and adjustment by the different Government Departments. Incidentally this part of our routine work has been instrumental in the discovery of a number of works by important artists. Worthy of mention is an 'affresco' on panel, of the Umbrian School, by Timideo della Vita. This has been given the necessary cleaning and restoration (tempera process), involving a long and careful handling. It is now replaced in its original setting in the church at Bir Miftuh, near C. Gudia. We have also cleaned a number of important paintings belonging to St. Anton Palace and the Auberge D'Aragon, as well as many others belonging to the Museum Collection.

3. The work of restoration on the second floor of the Inquisitor's Palace at Vittoriosa is still in hand. The friezes all round, with the exception of those in one room, have been successfully completed. Important additions, to the work of reconstructing the old history in this place, are the completion of the altar in the Chapel, situate on the first floor, and the restoration of the three dedicatory inscriptions in the principal stairway, correlative of local history.

4. Owing to lack of funds we have been unable to complete the work of restoration in one room on the second floor of the Inquisitor's Palace. For the same reason the acquisition of works of Art, including paintings, has been greatly curtailed insofar as this Section is concerned.

5. The following is a list of additions to our collection :— One large wardrobe (for the Inquisitor's Palace); one oil painting belonging to the Florentine School (rather damaged), Madonna and St. Joseph, 28″ × 27″; one oil painting by G. Lewis, 1884, English landscape, 19″ × 11″; one oil painting by R. F. 1892, Port in the Orient, 24″ × 15″; one oil painting by Verner, 1893, Cows at rest, 21″ × 14″; one water colour by K. T. 1880, Twilight, 29″ × 13½″; one water colour by Godfrey, Entrance to Grand Harbour, Malta, 1884, 14″ × 5″; one small etching by C. Maratta, Madonna and Angels; two small Majolica medicine jars; an oil painting, Mirth, by Calosci, 17″ × 12″ (this being taken in lieu of an amount payable in respect of duty on pictures exported from Malta, under Article 5 of Act XI of 1925); and one portrait of an unknown prelate, in oils, 29″ × 23″ kindly given to us by O. F. Gollcher Esq., O.B.E.

A. Sciortino,
Curator of the Fine Arts Section.

APPENDIX E.

Admission of visitors to various sites under this Department from 1st April, 1938, to the 31st March, 1939.

The Museum, Valletta.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	1,643
Free on special days and by student's ticket	5,862
	7,505

The Roman Villa Museum.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	513
Free on special days and by student's ticket	953
	1,466

The St. Paul's Catacombs.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	655
Free on special days and by student's ticket	507
	1,162

The Tarxien Neolithic Temples.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	1,292
Free on special days and by student's ticket	1,122
	2,414

The Hal-Saflieni Hypogeum.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	2,930
Free on special days and by student's ticket	811
	3,741

The Ghar Dalam Cave and Museum.

Admission on payment at -/6d. per head	583
Free on special days and by student's ticket	240
	823

APPENDIX F.

Donations 1938-39.

(a) *Exhibits.*

By H.E. General Sir Charles Bonham-Carter, K.C.B., C.M.G., A.D.C., on behalf of Lt. Col. N. H. M. Spiller, R.A.M.C.

One silk 'souvenir programme' of a performance at the Theatre Royal by the officers of the Garrison in Malta during 1833.

By the Government of Malta.

One model of Malta and Gozo — physical.

By Mr. Benjamin Formosa, L.P.

One photograph showing H.M. Queen Elizabeth at the Malta Pavillion — British Industries Fair.

By Mr. Lewiś Schembri.

One half penny bit, George VI, 1938.

By Mr. Emmanuel Xerri.

One silver three-penny bit, George VI, 1938.

(b) *Publications.*

From the Director of the Museum.

Tria Monumenta Lapidea Sepulchralia — Kufico-Arabico-Sicula; M. A. Vassalli.
On insect visitors to Malta, Malta, 1939; J. Borg.
Malta — Supplement to Great Britain and the East, 1937.

From the Director of the Museum and Mr. C. G. Zammit.

Problems of the Quaternary in Upper Italy and Tuscany.
Nouvelles Etudes sur l'art rupestre du levant éspagnol.
Probleme der Paläolithischen Malerei Ostspaniens.
Ein diluviales Kriegerbild. Works by Prof. Hugo Obermaier.

From Mr. Edgar M. Grech.

Catalogue and English Précis of Books in the Museum Library. Spl. Edn. Valletta 1939. Edgar M. Grech.

From the Directorate :

Department of Antiquities, Cyprus :
Report for the year 1935. 1934, 1936 Pt. 1.
Cyprus Monuments--Historical and Archaeological Buildings, No. 35—6 & 7.
G. Jeffery : A latin bishop's tombs in Famagusta. The Carmelites at Famagusta.
Byzantine Churches of Cyprus. The Basilica of Costantia, Cyprus.
Archaologisches Institutes des Deutschen Reiches :
26 Bericht des Römische Germanischen Kommission 1936.
Office International des Musées :
Museion—Supplément Mensuel; Janvier, 1939.
U.S. National Museum :
Report for the year 1938.

From the Directorate :

Durban Museum & Art Gallery : Annual Reports : 1936-37, 1937-38.
Auckland Institute and Museum, N.Z :
Annual Report, N. 1, 2. 1937. N. 3. 1938.
Regio Istituto d'Archeologia e Storia dell'Arte :
Rivista N. 6, F. 3. 1938.
Institut Pasteur de Tunis :
Archives—T. 27. N. 3, 1938. T. 28. N. 4, 1938.

Institut Pasteur d'Indo-Chine :
Archives—T. N. 26. T. 7, 1938.
Institut Pasteur d'Algérie :
Archives—T. 13. N. 3, 1935.
Ryojun College of Engineering, Manchuria :
Memoirs—VI. 11. N. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.
Otago Museum & Art Gallery, N.Z :
Annual Reports—1936-37, 1937-38.
Cheltenham Library. Art, Gallery & Museum :
Report for the year 1937-38.
University of London—Institute of Archaeology :
First Annual Report, 1937.
The American Anthropological Association :
The Flathead Indians of Montana; H.H. Turney High.
Carnegie U.K. Trust :
Museums & Art Galleries of the British Isles; S.F. Markham.
Instituto Oswaldo Cruz-Rio de Janeiro.
Memorias—An. 1938. T. 33. F. 1, 2, 3 & 4.

From the Keeper of the Manchester Museum—University of Manchester :
Report for the year 1937-38.

From the Headmaster of St. Edward's College :
St. Edward's College Magazine—Summer Term & Michaelmas Term Issues, 1938.

From Dr. I. R. Iriarte—Venezuela :
Trabajos Cientificos.

From Mr. J. Farrugia de Candia :
Monnaies Hafsites du Musée de Bardo, Tunis, 1938; J. Farrugia de Candia.

From Dr. Hon. A. Critien, M.D., M.A., O.B.E. :
The Manderaggio-Notes historical and otherwise; A. Critien.

APPENDIX G.

Accessions 1938-39.

(a) *Exhibits.*

One Roman period wick-lamp.
One antique copper table range-finder; period O.S.J.J.
One old iron collection box.
One eighteenth century bronze mortar and pestle.
Forty-two old bone thread-winders.
One period adjustable spinning wheel.
One shilling piece — George VI, 1937.
One sixpenny piece — George VI, 1938.
One shilling piece — George VI, 1938.
One florin piece — George VI,— 1938.
One half-crown piece — George VI, 1938.
One framed lithograph 'Accoglienza popolare fatta a S.M. Adelaide, vedova Regina d'Inghilterra, in Malta, 5 Dicembre, 1838'.
Two lithographs — a) 'The Cossacks' Cave' and b) "The descent to Alhusta, leaving Chaterdagh", by G. Muir.
One lithograph 'Our Saviour' by Maria Anna Zammit.
Five engravings by L. Brockdorff :— a) Tunis, (b) Abdalleah, (c) Syria, (d) Carthage, (e) Ruins of Carthage.
One water-colour 'H.M.S. Marlborough coming into Malta Harbour from Corfù, by Frederick Swaine le Grice.
One water-colour 'Stairs leading to the terrace, Fort Saint Angelo, Malta'.
One water-colour 'Musta Church, Malta, from Città Vecchia, August 27th, 1860'.
One water-colour 'Admiralty gears, Dockyard Creek, Malta'.
One water-colour (a copy) 'Città Vecchia' Malta.
One water-colour 'Zabbar Gate, Malta, April 18th 1860'.
One water-colour 'Fort St. Angelo', Malta.
One water-colour 'Interior of Fort St. Angelo, Malta, February 1860'.
One water-colour 'St. Paul's Church, Città Vecchia, Malta, from the Sanitarium, August 30th 1860'.
One water-colour 'Windmill at Città Vecchia, Malta, August 9th 1860'.
One water-colour 'Fountain at Città Vecchia, Malta'.
One water-colour 'Russian ship Gromoboi saluting in Malta Harbour, September 19th 1860'.
One water-colour 'Salient of St. Anne's Battery, St. Elmo, Malta, August 2nd 1860'.

(b) *Publications.*

The Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London. VI. 94. P. 1 to 4.
L'Anthropologie. 1938.
One copy of the 'Tourist Guide to the Church of St. John with plans and appendix'. Rev. G. F. Townsend.
One copy of 'The Stone Age of Mount Carmel—Excavations at the Wady-el-Mughara'. VI. 1. P. 1.
One copy of 'An introduction of Geology'. A. E. Freeman.
One copy 'Earth Lore—Geology without jargon'. 2nd Edn. S.J. Shand.
One copy 'A history of Architecture'. Sir B. Fletcher.
One copy 'Descrizione storica delle chiese di Malta e Gozo'. A. Ferres.
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One copy 'Il Maggior tempio di S. Giov. Battista in Malta. A. Ferres.
One copy 'Roman Imperial Coins'. V. IV. P. II.—Macrinus to Pupienus. 1938. Mattingly & Sydenham.
One copy 'La tecnica della pittura dai tempi preistorici ad oggi'. L. A. Rosa.
One copy 'Technische Methulungen fur Malerei'. VI. 53. 1939.