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assume that this type of ring may have come into use earlier than the Twenty-sixth Dynasty, it might be possible to assign our ring to him.  
L. B.

ANTIQUITIES FROM PALESTINE. Through the generosity of Harris D. Colt and of his son H. Dunscombe Colt the Museum has received a considerable number of antiquities from the excavations conducted in 1934 by the younger Mr. Colt at the ancient site known as Tell Duweir in southern Palestine.<sup>1</sup>

Some of the objects belong to an occupation of the site during the period when southern Palestine and the Delta of Egypt were under the control of that Asiatic people, at least partly Semitic, known to writers in Greek, many centuries later, as the Hyksos. This period may be said to have extended from about 1780 to about 1580 B.C., when the Hyksos were expelled by the early kings of the Egyptian Eighteenth Dynasty. The objects from this period consist of material from two tombs. They comprise two dagger blades and a number of toggle pins of bronze, fragments of bone inlay, seventeen scarabs, a stone tripod, a small alabaster vase, and an interesting pottery series of seven pieces. One of the scarabs is of dark green jasper mounted in gold on a finger ring of silver. Two others are of amethyst. The remaining scarabs are of steatite, some of them of very fine workmanship. The bases of the steatite scarabs are inscribed with scroll patterns, animal designs, and arrangements of hieroglyphs. The hard stone scarabs are uninscribed. The Hyksos objects are on exhibition in the Third Egyptian Room, except the vessels, which have been placed with contemporary pieces from Egypt in the pottery collection of the Egyptian Department.

Of later date is a group of thirty-four pieces of Palestinian pottery, consisting of a group of bowls, lamps, jugs, and bottles and a figure of the goddess Astarte. The objects are of unglazed earthenware in buff, red, or gray. Some of them have a burnished surface, others are decorated with brown lines. Three interesting handles of large storage jars bear stamps of Hebron and

<sup>1</sup> Acc. nos. 34.126.1-67.

Socoh. With the exception of three imported pieces, this collection represents the ceramic art of Palestine at the time of the Hebrew Monarchy (about 1000-586 B.C.). It will be shown at some future date with other study material in the Near Eastern Study Room.  
L. B. AND M. S. D.

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN PAINTINGS. Four pictures by living American painters have recently been purchased out of the George A. Hearn Fund, and are shown this month in the Room of Recent Accessions. They are Landscape, Binghamton, New York, by Louis Eilshemius, Fruit by Henry Varnum Poor, The Smoking-Bean Tree by Cordray Simmons, and Jean by Eugene Speicher.

The use of the Hearn Funds has so increased our collection of recent and contemporary American paintings that they can no longer all be shown at one time. A policy of rotation has therefore been adopted for Galleries B 13 and B 14.  
J. M. L.

LECTURE ON PERSIA. An illustrated lecture on The Archaeology of Persia in the Achaemenian Period, offered through the coöperation of New York University and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, was given in the Museum on February 7 by Dr. Ernst Herzfeld. Dr. Herzfeld is professor of Oriental Archaeology in the University of Berlin and director of the Persepolis Expedition in Persia, which is sponsored by the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago.

PUBLICATIONS OF A BACCHIC INSCRIPTION. The Bacchic inscription exhibited in the western colonnade of the Roman Court has received much notice from scholars. It was published in full by A. Vogliano and F. Cumont in the *American Journal of Archaeology*, volume XXXVII (1933), pages 215 ff. It has now again been discussed in an article by M. P. Nilsson, "En Marge de la grande inscription bacchique du Metropolitan Museum," *Studi e Materiali di storia delle religioni*, volume X (1934). The inscription lists and classifies the membership of a sacred college devoted to the mysteries of Bacchos, which flourished in the Roman Campagna in the second century of our era.