

2/11/99

I beg to inform you that on the 26th ultimo I obtained permission from the governor-general of Baghdad to proceed to Niffer, and on the following day, accompanied by Mrs. Haynes, I left Baghdad arriving in Hillah on the 29th and immediately began negotiations for laborers.

Being Ramazan it was difficult to secure the requisite number of 150 men; but we left Hillah on the first day of February with nearly the required number and the promise of others to follow at the end of Ramazan.

Six large sail boats were chartered to convey the workmen with their families and supplies for the expedition. The party arrived at Niffer on Saturday the 4th instant, and on Monday the 6th began excavations with 143 workmen of all grades.

We have found two sound tablets and exposed the side of a fine building on Mound X, built of kiln burned bricks, which belongs to an early age. The exposed side is more than 115 feet and shows no trace of a door.

This is the last day of Ramazan. The fasting (30 days) ends with sunset. Tomorrow is Bairam (feasting.) Only one day of the feast will be observed at Niffer, and on Monday morning the work will be resumed with renewed vigor. A lot of new men, to whom places have already been promised, will be employed at the beginning of the week. More Arabs have already applied for work than can be employed, and there is general rejoicing over our return to Niffer.

The Afaj and Behahitha tribes are at loggerheads; otherwise the country and tribes are at peace.

I regret to report that Mr. Geere is ill with pleuro-pneumonia and had to be left in Baghdad under the care of physicians. At the request of Messrs. Gere and Fisher, and with the advice of physicians and my own approval Mr. Fisher remained in Baghdad to nurse and attend Mr. Geere during his illness.

I trust that the party will soon be together and that the united results of our labor with (*sic, will*) be acceptable to your people in Philadelphia.

My first financial report will be made on Saturday the 4th day of March, and thereafter monthly reports will be made at intervals of four and five weeks to adapt the reports as nearly as possible to the calendar months, and yet render the report by full weeks, since it is impracticable for me to make up the report except on Saturday owing to the fact that the laborers' accounts are kept by the week and the payments made by the week.

1899-03-18. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 41. L-857. TC

Niffer, March 18. 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.

Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,

#400 Chestnut Street,

Philadelphia, Pa.

U.S.A.

Dear Sir:-

For the week ending today, I desire to report the following principal discoveries:-

1. Fifty-three sound tablets and many fragmentary tablets.
2. Several fragments of a large unburned clay cylinder (*CBS 8383*). The largest fragment measures 6 inches in length and 5 inches in diameter. It is too damp and soft at present to be cleaned with a brush. I hope it will prove a valuable discovery.
3. One bronze bowl or cup, well preserved.

The tablets and fragmentary cylinder were taken from the lower strata below the level of the plain.

Reports from Baghdad show that Mr. Geere is improving rapidly and will doubtless soon be with us. It is not yet certain whether Mr. Fisher will remain with Mr. Geere until he comes to us or precede him.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes,
Director &c.

1899-03-25. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 42. L- 856. TC

Niffer, March 25, 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.

Treasurer, Babylonian Exploration Fund

#400 Chestnut Street

Philadelphia, Pa.

U.S.A.

Dear Sir-

I desire to report the following discoveries for the expiring week.

1. Four sound tablets and a quantity of fragmentary tablets from a considerable depth below the present level of the plain.
- 2 One stele of burned clay
- 3 Two seal cylinders.
- 4 One bath tub coffin in process of preparation for transportation.
- 5 Forty-five graves opened and the sound bones saved.

Over 200 workmen have been employed during the week and with signal success Mrs. Haynes has superintended the work of 50 men. It was necessary that she should do this in order to carry out the instructions of your Committee requiring me to make explorations in different sections of the Mounds at the same time. I am gratified to add that the efforts of Mrs. Haynes have in every way proven successful and satisfactory and that she gets on remarkably well with the people.

The latest news from Mr. Geere is assuring and I have reason to believe that he may be with us before this letter reaches you.

The general health of the camp is excellent, although there is considerable illness among the Arabs round about us, such as typhoid fever and pulmonary diseases, malarial fever &c, resulting in daily calls for medicine. The sick and wounded come from afar and according to our ability to relieve suffering, we do for them all that lies in our power to do, to afford relief.

Very truly yours,

John Henry Haynes

Director &c

1899-04-22. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 49. L-187. TC

Niffer, April 22" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
#400 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa.,
U.S.A.

Sir –

For the week ending today I have to report the following discoveries, viz:

1. One hundred perfect tablets, mostly burned, and a quantity of broken tablets, all from low levels.
2. One pentagonal prism, incomplete, but fully inscribed (*prob. HS 1789*). Each of its five faces average $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. long and 1 inch wide. This is also from a low level.
3. Four seal cylinders.
4. Two stelas of burned clay.
5. Seven graves opened. One skull and other bones saved.

Until the present time I have employed the services of a native assistant and superintendent in the person of a man who has had large experience among the Arabs of the desert; but have now found it necessary to discharge him from my service because of irregularities. I have paid him 20 L.T. for three months service which in many ways was very efficient. Until the arrival of our companions from Baghdad, Mrs. Haynes and I are quite alone with more than 200 workmen to look after. Mrs. Haynes is in the field with me every day and has taken up the work of the superintendent at the point where he left it.

Mr. Geere's immediate prospects for joining us are at this writing uncertain. He may even, under the advice of his physician, return to England. His recovery is pronounced remarkable, but his physician doubts his ability to endure a long hot summer in the dessert.

I am happy to say the general health of the camp is good, and the work goes forward merrily.

Very truly yours
(sgd) John Henry Haynes
Director &c.

1899-04-29. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 51. L-187. TC

Niffer, April 29" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.,
400 Chestnut St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.
U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

It gives me much pleasure to report to you the following principal discoveries for the week ending today, viz:-

- 1 One hundred and twenty perfect tablets and a large quantity of imperfect tablets, all from low levels and some of them exceptionally fine –
2. One stele of burned clay
3. Three seal cylinders
4. Eight graves opened; one skull saved and smaller objects collected therefrom.

Mr. Geere reports continued convalescence and the reports of his physician are favorable to complete recovery of health, although the increasing heat of springtime is said to try him rather severely. I hope soon to receive definite news of his intended movements, which I will faithfully report to you.

One death from consumption has occurred in our camp since my last letter, but the general health of the camp is good; our relations with the Arabs pleasant and our work moves on without interruption and with steady results.

Mrs. Haynes and I are exceedingly busy in maintaining the work and preparing to make comfortable Messrs. Geere and Fisher when they join us.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

Director &c.

Niffer, June 10" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.
Treasurer, Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir

I have the following objects to report as the finds of this week-

- 1 Forty perfect Tablets and a large number of imperfect Tablets
- 2 An Inscribed Skull
- 3 Five Inscribed Hebrew Bowls
4. Four Seal Cylinders
- 5 One Large Glazed Bottle
- 6 Four Sassanian Lamps
- 7 Two Glass Tear Bottles
- 8 Ninety-seven graves opened

At a depth of 8th (*sic*) below the surface, near the crown of a Hill were found two bowls partly inscribed in Hebrew characters, containing a skull fully inscribed in Hebrew. The skull was removed in pieces but all the parts were carefully saved and will be photographed before it is packed.

Of the five inscribed Hebrew bowls, one is quite large and beautifully inscribed. The smaller ones are all fully inscribed.

At a depth of about (*blank*) feet was found a large bluish gray glazed bottle of beautiful form and color, resembling somewhat in shape an army canteen.

Some weeks ago when I had hoped that Messrs. Geere and Fisher would soon be with us, Mr. Geere suddenly announced the departure of Mr. Fisher and declared his physical inability to come to Niffer to remain, at the same time proposing to come on for a few days, look over the ground and return to Baghdad for the summer. This seemed to me unwise from every point of view and I declined to sanction his coming until his health should be so far restored as to warrant his remaining at Niffer. In view of Mr. Meyer's experience and fate, I am sure I was right in withholding my consent. To one in a weak condition and unable to endure the increasing heat, the perils of travel are much greater than continued residence. I have repeatedly assured Mr. Geere that I should be very glad indeed to have him come to Niffer and take up the active work for which he was engaged, just as soon as he was physically able to do so.

Later Mr. Geere proposed to remain in Baghdad during the summer at his own expense, with the hope of being reengaged in the early autumn, suggesting the month of September as the time of his coming. It is my opinion that this, under the circumstances, is for the best

interests of the expedition, being the best that we can do to have an Architect on the ground at the earliest possible day after the intense heat of the summer has past.

It is impossible to get any one else on the ground at so early a date and I am most anxious to have an architect at the earliest possible date.

Owing to the intense heat we now find it necessary to seek a more perfect shade during the heated hours of the day and for this reason a part of the work will be grouped around Temple Hill, where we can find suitable shelter. Work, however, will be continued on the outlying mounds, but with smaller forces.

I enclose herewith a schedule of the tablets packed in 37 boxes also a summary of the principal objects found up to this time.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

per C.A.H.

No. of Box	Perfect Tablets	Imperfect Tablets	Remarks	No. of Box	Perfect Tablets	Imperfect Tablets	Remarks
1		114		22	55	22	
2		218		23		176	
3		108		24		96	
4		109		25	31	35	
5		138		26	*32*	42	**2 Rectangular Prisms 1
6	129			27	100	59	Octagonal Prism
7	150	3		28	91	98	
8	160			29	105	69	
9		155		30*	45	67	* Choice
10	50*	70	*Ticket marked	31		72	
11		183	"Roller" Octa-	32	83	33	
12		125	gonal Barrel	33		99	
13		117	Cylinder	34		154	
14		131		35		100	
15		137		36	103	27	
16		139		37		149	
17		128					
18		99		Total	976(sic)	3797(sic)	Others unpacked 6 fine
tablets							
19		98					to be photographed
20		144					
21		123					

SUMMARY

22 Seal Cylinders and Two Half Cylinders
 2 Conical Seals
 4 Inscribed Prisms
 3 Discs
 13½ Steles
 5 Perfect Inscribed Hebrew Bowls
 15 Imperfect Inscribed Hebrew Bowls
 10 Perfect Bronze Bowls
 5 Imperfect Bronze Bowls
 4 Mirrors
 5 Sassanian Lamps
 431 Graves opened
 30 Skulls saved.

A very large number of glazed and unglazed jars and vases; silver and Bronze Rings, Bracelets, Nose and Earrings, Anklets and Beads, Coins, Junk, Jade, Piece of Gold 9 × 4.4 cent Salt cellar of Gypsum, Stone Image, Water Course, Kitchen, Wall, of Burned Bricks and Arch.

1899-06-17. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 59. L-190. TC

Niffer, June 17th 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk: Jr.

Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut St.
Philadelphia, Pa.,
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the week ending today, the report is as follows:

- 1: Eleven sound Tablets and a few fragments
- 2 One seal Cylinder
3. Two Fragments of Clay Cylinders
- 4 One Fragment of Inscribed Diorite
- 5 One Coin of Athens
- 6 Two Sheets of Gold (diamond shape) from Grave No. 453
- 7 One Large Knife (12½ in. long) with wooden Handle
- 8 Three Thin Glass Bottles
- 9 One Three-fold Jar
- 10 One Perfect Inscribed Hebrew Bowl
- 11 One Complete Inscribed Hebrew Bowl in several fragments
- 12 Thirty-one Graves opened

We have commenced removing the superficial earth from a new section of the east half of the Temple enclosure and found therein a fragment of a clay cylinder and a fragment of inscribed diorite. The remainder of the finds reported this week are from the outlying mounds.

Supplemental to the summary sent you last week, I enclose a synopsis of the graves opened to June 10th.

Very truly yours

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

Per C.A.H.

SYNOPSIS OF GRAVES OPENED.

Total number of graves opened Feb. 6 to June 10, 1899

431

No. of Slipper Coffins (Plain)					74
" " " " (Ornamented)					20
" " Bath tub "					27
" " Box "					23
" " Bread tray "					4
" " Caldrons					4
" " Caskets (Jewish)					24
" Burials in Urns, Jars, Vases &c.					182
" " " " Libben					20
" " " " Burned Brick					10
" " " " Loose earth					31
Of this number	283	contained skeletons of adults			
	54	"	"	"	infants
	82	"	"	"	youths
	12	"	2		skeletons
	3	"	3	"	
	1	"	4	"	
	1	"	43	"	

31 coffins were placed with the head towards the N.E. 9 N.W. 28 S.E. 7 S.W.
27 E.N.E. 8 E.S.E. 7 W.N.W. 7 W.S.W.

105 Coffins contained vases, jars, bottles or cups
101 " " some form of personal ornament
20 " photographed singly and several in groups
25 ft Lowest depth at which Coffin was found
1 " Shallowest " " " " " "

About ½% of grave objects found in Slipper Coffins
" 95% " " " " " Burial Urns, Jars &c

1899-07-22. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 60. L-191. TC

Niffer, July 22" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk: Jr.

Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Steet,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the week ending today, I desire to report the following discoveries.

- 1 A Fragment of Inscribed Stone Vase, containing twenty-five complete characters. (*Lugalzagesi*)
- 2 A Fragment of Inscribed Stele or Tablet. (*HS 1958 = Edzard 1959, Aššur-etel-ilani*)
3. One Seal Cylinder.

The fragment of inscribed vase belongs, apparently to a vase of which fragments were found by me during my former campaign at Niffer.

The fragment of inscribed stele or tablet appears to be a part of brick tablet, divided in sections, and perhaps intended to be set up in a public place, or possibly built into the face of a public building. The fragment we have found measures $6 \times 4\frac{1}{8}$ inches and is a nearly complete section, as you will see by the enclosed squeeze. The brick tablet is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, and excepting its inscribed face, appears in texture and color like an ordinary brick used in building.

These two objects as well as the cylinder, were found over the eastern corner of the Temple Area, in the section adjoining the spot where I found the torso reported in the winter of 1896. I trust this section will soon produce other interesting objects, as we descend to lower levels.

We have now traced for a considerable distance along the Northeastern side of the Temple Area, the enclosing wall of crude bricks.

During the week we have had 243 workmen enrolled, and now that the annual harvests are over, numbers of applicants are turned away.

This is a larger force than I intended to employ, but having opened up the trenches on a large scale, I have gradually increased the number of workmen since we came to the Temple Hill and I find that I can handle this number of men to advantage, since the foreman and skilled laborers served with me throughout my former campaign, and are imbued with the spirit of devotion seldom awakened in behalf of the foreigner.

We have suffered much from heat during the past week, yet our general health is good.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

C.A.H.

Enclosures:

- 1 Two squeezes of Inscribed Brick
- 2 One squeeze of Inscribed Vase Fragment
- 3 One squeeze of Brick Tablet.

P.S.

The inscribed Brick of which a squeeze is enclosed, I believe to be a brick of the Patesi of Sirgullah. We have found two specimens of this brick which was hitherto unknown at

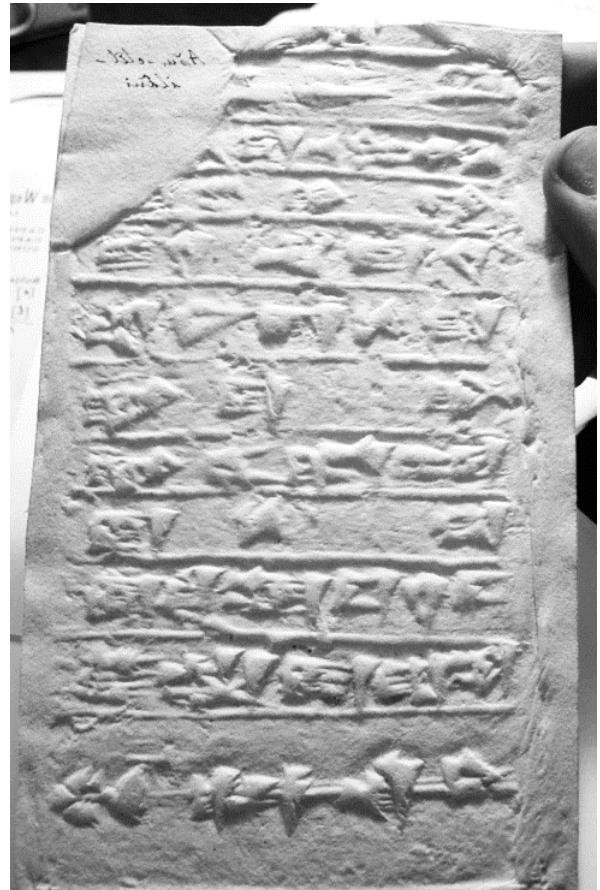
Niffer.

[*Lugal-nizu, also shown on photograph IV A-237*]

HS 1958



Lugalzagesi



Assuretelilani

1899-07-29. Haynes to Sparhawk. UPMAA_Nippur_06.02, 61. L-192. TC

Niffer, July 29" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

I am happy to report excellent progress in excavating the Northeastern section of the Temple Area. We have come upon walls both of crude bricks and kiln burned bricks which will doubtless, when fully explored, disclose important structures. To explore these fully will require several weeks of labor.

Near the Northern corner in the Temple Area, we have already come upon crude bricks belonging to the era of Ur Gur. It is impossible at the present time to predict the character or importance of these constructions. Meantime, all important walls and constructions will be scrupulously preserved in the state in which they are uncovered, so that when the architects arrive in October, they will find them in the condition in which they were discovered and so thoroughly explored that they may begin their professional labors without further loss of time.

I shall endeavor by every reasonable effort to prevent the destruction of any important wall, building or structure, so that no real loss may accrue to the final results of our work through the temporary delay of the architects and engineers.

I regret my present inability to send you plans and sketches of our work and its discoveries, but it requires the combined efforts of Mrs. Haynes and myself to superintend the work in its many different phases, keep records etc. etc. etc.

The general health of the camp is good. Both Mrs. Haynes and myself are suffering severely from the extreme heat, but are otherwise in good health.

Very truly yours

John Henry Haynes.

C.A.H.

1899-09-09. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 2. TC

Niffer, Sept. 9" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

For the week ending today I have to report the following principal objects of discovery.

1. A Marble Disc (circular slab) twenty-five and one half inches in diameter and two and three fourths inches in thickness bearing an inscription of nine lines.
(CBS 16202 = PBS 15, 81 = OSP II 41)
2. Two fragments of Inscribed Vase.
3. Three fragments of Inscribed Stone, other than vase fragments.
4. Three fragmentary Tablets from the Ur Gur level.
5. Four fragmentary (seal) Impressions on clay from Ur Gur level.
6. Carved Stele of shell measuring one inch by eleven-sixteenths of an inch, bearing an archaic figure (warrior with drawn bow).
7. Bronze Saw measuring four and seven-eighths inches in length by one and three-fourths inches in extreme breadth.
8. Model in stone of a plano-convex Brick of early type.

Besides the enumerated objects, a number of interesting objects of small size, and less importance, have been found, such as nails, scraps of metal, bits of pottery etc., etc.

The Marble Disc has one polished and one rough side. In the centre of its rough side is an Archaic inscription of nine lines, of which a squeeze is herewith enclosed. The space for the inscription was never polished, and but roughly cut before the inscription was added. Since being cut the inscription has also been defaced; two facts which unite to make the squeeze appear very rough and the inscription incomplete. The enclosed squeeze is, however, a perfect impression of the inscribed portion of the stone, which is a yellowish colored marble. This stone was found below the level of Ur Gur and but slightly above Noram Sin's level, within the Temple Area. It is a symmetrical disc (its circumference being a perfect circle) twenty-five and one-half inches in diameter. The fact that it has one rough inscribed surface and one polished and unbroken surface naturally suggests the theory that this object may have served one of the early monarchs for a table, its rough and inscribed surface being placed on a low pedestal of brick and clay.

The other objects are self explanatory and need no further comments at this time.

We have reached the level of Noram Sin's pavement at three different points and are making every effort to have a large area on this same level thoroughly excavated before the arrival of the architects, whose coming, so long deferred, will be hailed with joy.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes,

Per C.A.H.

Enclosure:

One squeeze of Inscribed Disc.

1899-09-16. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 3. TC

Niffer-

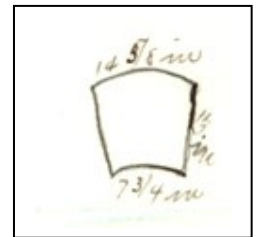
Sept 16" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

For the week ending today I have to report the following principal discoveries.

1. A Disc of bluish gray Stone (schist and probably argillite) ten inches in diameter and two and a quarter inches in thickness, bearing a three line inscription of King Garne, near the circumference. (*UM 91-2-1 = Frayne, RIME I, p. 416, 3b*)
2. An Inscribed Brick of the form of the accompanying diagram. The Brick measures 13 inches along each of its straight edges; its two curved edges measures (*sic*) respectively $14\frac{5}{8}$ and $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
It also measures 3 inches in thickness and bears on its outer curved edge an inscription made with a stylus. A squeeze of the inscription is herewith enclosed. (*UM 84-26-12 = Gerardi 1986*)
3. Six Fragmentary Tablets from the level of Noram Sin.
4. Two Inscribed Vase Fragments
5. One Inscribed Fragment of Black Stone.
6. One Copper Knife Blade found below the level of Noram Sin
7. One Spear-head or blade from the level of Noram Sin
8. A Stele of Lapis Lazuli about $\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch in length and breadth carved with a human face in low relief.
9. Brick Stamp of Noram Sin.



As soon as the intensity of the heat sufficiently abates, I intend to place a part of our force in some other section of the mounds to resume the search for tablets. A part of our force will also be employed for a time on the Temple in continuation of the work already well advanced.

For two and one half months the entire force has been concentrated on Temple Hill because it was impossible to safely conduct excavations elsewhere during the extreme heat of summer. The expiring week has been somewhat cooler than the preceding weeks, but the heat is still too great to permit of work in other parts of the mounds. We however anticipate the transfer of

a part of our force to other mounds during the coming week, or at latest, on the following week, according to temperature. I enclose a copy of the contract executed between Mr. Geere and myself.

Very truly yours

(sgd) John Henry Haynes pr.

C.A.H.

Enclosure.

1 squeeze of Inscribed Disc

1 squeeze of Inscribed Brick.

UM 91-2-1



Lugalkinešdudu, Frayne 2008, p. 416 f

UM 84-26-12, 0.5 : 1



Gerardi 1986, 37

1899-09-23. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 4. TC

Niffer,

Sept. 23rd 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today, I have to report the following discoveries:

- 1 One Sound and Two Fragmentary Tablets.
- 2 Fragment of Black Inscribed Stone
- 3 Brick Stamp of Noram Sin
4. Small Vase of Jewelry
- 5 One Conical Spike of silver eleven inches long
- 6 One bronze Bracelet from Noram Sin level
- 7 An Inscribed Brick of Raman-nadin-ahē, of which a squeeze is herewith enclosed
(*Duplicate of BE I 81 etc.*)

The small vase of jewelry mentioned above was found below the level of Ur Gur and may perhaps belong to the time of Noram Sin. The jewelry consists of several spiral rings for the finger and a chain of chaste design, all of silver, remarkably well preserved.

The conical spike of silver was also found below the level of Ur Gur and is also well preserved. The Bronze Bracelet too has suffered but little corrosion through lapse of time.

We have recently found several fragments of inscribed black stone such as diorite and fragments of statues of the same material, which gives us additional proof that vases, statues and inscriptions suffered wanton destruction within the Temple Area at the hands of some savage invader.

Owing to an increase in the temperature, we were unable to undertake excavations in any of the outlying mounds this week. We however confidently hope to do so next week.

Very truly yours

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr. C.A.H.

Saturday Evening.

Splendid Inscribed Door Socket just out! Will be reported next week. This is payday for 312 men and a multitude of duties press upon us.

J. H. H.

1899-09-30. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 5. TC

Niffer,

Sept. 30" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:-

For the week ending today, it gives me pleasure to report the following discoveries:

- 1 An Inscribed Door Socket of Diorite from below the level of Sorgon. A squeeze of the inscription is herewith enclosed. (*Duplicate of BE I 1 = OSP II 42B*)
- 2 One Seal Cylinder
- 3 A quantity of sound and Fragmentary Tablets from the level of Noram Sin.
- 4 Six fragments of unburned Clay, bearing impressions of Archaic Seal Cylinders.
5. Fragments of a very large Tablet.

The Tablets are all from the Temple Enclosure and being from the level of Noram Sin, must date from the time of that Monarch or as I think most probable belong to an earlier time. There are among them many fragments whose appearance indicate that they had been kept and moved about many times before they found their resting place on the level of Noram Sin. These Tablets being from such a low level are moist and being unburned are unfit to be handled at the present time. It is therefore impossible to say just how many of them are in sound condition – at least 50, probably 60. I do not think they are likely to crumble either from contact with the air or from crystallization of salts, which have been absorbed by lying so long in nitrous earth. I am gratified to recover Archaic tablets from a well known level, and I hope they will add materially to our knowledge of remote antiquity.

The weather has been hotter during the past week than for the two preceding weeks. Partly for this reason and partly because of finding Tablets within the Temple Area, the resumption of excavations in the outlying mounds was deferred until this morning when excavations were begun on Hill V known also as Tablet Hill. The weather is decidedly cooler this morning and I hope to increase the force on the outlying mounds at the beginning of next week.

We hear indirectly that Mr. Fisher was expected to arrive in Baghdad on Tuesday (26th instant). We hope both he and Mr. Geere will soon reach Niffer.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

↓

Enclosure

Squeeze of Door Socket.



1899-10-07. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 6. TC

Niffer

Oct. 7" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treasurer Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today, I desire to report the following discoveries.

- 1 Three fragments of a Borrel Cylinder measuring $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches long and 2 inches in diameter across the end.
- 2 Two sound and three fragmentary Tablets from below the Noram Sin level.
- 3 Two Seal Impressions on clay from the level of Noram Sin.

The fragments of Borrel Cylinder are burned and must, I think, contain fully one-half of the entire inscription. It was found in the debris through which Meli Siha's bricks are abundantly found.

For several days a battalion of soldiers has been encamped within six miles of Niffer from which small posses were temporarily stationed among the neighboring Arabs for the purpose of collecting taxes. In Shaheen's encampment (the one nearest to us of all the Arab tribes) were four soldiers. Early Thursday morning three of the soldiers were shot and the fourth fled to headquarters. Of the soldiers who were shot one fell dead, one is said to be mortally wounded, the third severely but not fatally wounded. As the soldiers among the neighboring encampments received the news of Shaheen's perfidy, they quickly left their posts and returned to headquarters.

At the time of the affray our guards were from Shaheen's camp and four of them deserted us, two only remaining. Many of our workmen too are from Shaheen's encampment and as they received the news in the trenches, the excitement became intense and a general stampede was only prevented by telling the men that they would not be re-employed if they left their work.

Shaheen fled to a neighboring encampment and sought asylum among the Bahahitha Arabs, a large and powerful tribe. Many of his followers have scattered driving their flocks before them. No one can foretell what the immediate outcome will be. We do not apprehend any very serious trouble for ourselves, but the excitement is intense and the movements of the Arabs uncertain.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes.

pr C.A.H.

1899-10-14. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 7. TC

Niffer, Oct. 14" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:-

I desire to report the following discoveries made during the week.

1. Thirty-one fragments of clay bearing impressions of Archaic Seals and Seal Cylinders, taken from a stratum twelve feet below the level of Noram Sin's pavement within the Temple Area.
2. A fragment of highly polished Diorite bearing a part of the incised outline of a quadruped, showing the greater part of the head and a large portion of the body. The tail is complete. This was found below the level of Ur Gur. There is no trace of inscription on this fragment, but the character of the cutting is spirited. (*HS 6 = TMH IV A6*)

The impressions on clay mentioned above appear to be fragments of a single lump of worked clay impressed with several seals. There also appears to be a considerable part of the original mass wanting.

A force of twenty-eight men has been at work on Hill V during the entire week but have so far found only three or four fragments of tablets. It is my purpose to increase the present force on Hill V, and if no tablets are found, to move the force to some other mound.

Messrs Geere and Fisher have not yet arrived, nor am I advised that they have left Baghdad.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes,

Pr. C.A.H.

1899-10-21. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 8. TC

Niffer, Oct. 21" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

I regret having no important discoveries to report this week, but this does not indicate that the work which has been done is without value, or that it may not in the future produce good results. One hundred and twenty-five days labor have been expended on Hill V, also known as Tablet Hill. A trench has there been carried down to the water level and will afford an excellent opportunity for the study of the strata of that mound.

Three hundred days' labor have been employed in searching for one of the city gates, without, of course, achieving any tangible results. The mounds of Niffer are of such vast magnitude that a great deal of labor has to be put forth as a rule before results begin to appear. This search will be continued during the coming week. No further labor will be employed on Hill V for the present.

I am glad to report the safe arrival last evening of Messrs Geere and Fisher. They appear to be in good health and will at once begin the work which has so long needed their attention.

I hope to be able to make fuller reports in the future and accompany them with photographs, sketches, plans &c.

Hoping the results of the work of the united party may in the future be satisfactory to you and commensurate with the large expenditure of funds, I am,

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr. C.A.H.

1899-10-28. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 12. TC

Niffer

Oct. 28" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the expiring week I desire to report the following-

- 1 One sound, burned, Tablet.
- 2 A fragment of soft, impure limestone possibly representing a deity or idol of Archaic design and execution. A drawing of this stone, made and copied by Mr. Fisher, is herewith enclosed, and will be followed by copies of other drawings by the same hand. The original drawings will not be entrusted to the post, which has served us rather badly of late.

Work during the week has been continued both within the Temple Area and at other points outside the Temple Area. Search for the City Gate towards the N.E. has employed half our entire force of workmen. Up to the present moment, we have found no certain clue, beyond a mere fragment of very archaic wall, to indicate the existence at that point of a gate or other structure. It is, however, worthy of remark that the bricks in the aforesaid fragment of wall are kiln burned and of the most ancient and primitive type of bricks which have hitherto been found at Niffer. The search will be continued.

The work within the Temple Area will also be carried somewhat further with the purpose of examining certain strata which are now covered by walls of later constructions which were left for the architects to study and plot. We are today beginning to remove some of these walls and shall continue the work in conjunction with further search for one of the City Gates.

Mr. Geere has been at work surveying and plotting the constructions which we are now beginning to remove from the eastern corner of the Temple Area. The work upon the Temple Area is very complicated and will doubtless receive from both Mr. Geere and Mr. Fisher their best efforts for many weeks. The results of this labor will not appear for the present. It is perhaps enough to say that both of these gentlemen begin their work earnestly and show evidence of faithfulness in discharge of their duties.

I desire also to add that I have now received printing paper from Bombay (long delayed en route) and shall hereafter be able to enclose photographic prints in my weekly reports.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr. C.A.H.

1899-11-04. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 13. TC

Niffer,

Nov. 4" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I am happy to report the following discoveries.

- 1 Twenty-one sound Tablets and a few fragmentary tablets.
- 2 A fragment of a Statue (right foreleg of human figure). This fragment of statue was found on the level of Ur Gur near the eastern corner of the Temple Area. It is of black stone, but does not appear to be diorite. This fragment shows evidence of a great deal of battering before it was finally broken up by violent hands. Especially is the shin much pitted.

The tablets were taken from a little hill or knoll which apparently extended into the harbor and, to my fancy, represents the ancient custom-house of Nippur. One of the tablets is of the oldest type, is burned and is in a perfect state of preservation. The other tablets are unburned, but are nevertheless in a perfect state of preservation, and I trust will prove valuable.

By far the larger part of our force has been employed within the Temple Enclosure removing certain walls and constructions of the pre-Ur Gur period for the purpose of fully exploring the level which several weeks ago produced fifty or more tablets as reported in my letter of Sept. 30th.

I am glad to report having received from Messrs. Brown Shipley et Co., their Letter of Credit No. B/R 29360 dated Sept. 9th. 1899, for £1,000 stg. and I beg you to remit at once on receipt of this letter an additional credit that I may have it in hand as soon as possible after the beginning of the year 1900.

Under a separate cover, I am sending you by this post a complete statement of receipt and disbursements of Oct. 28th.

I enclose herewith a tracing made by Mr. Fisher of three vases. The large vase on the left was found below the level of Noram Sin and is too much broken to be removed. The vase in the center of the sheet belongs to comparatively recent times, but is a form that is also found at lower levels. The vase on the right of which a front and side elevation are shown belongs to about the time of Ur Gur, and is chiefly interesting because of its peculiar form somewhat resembling a modern flask for the pocket.

I shall hope to send you more drawings by Mr. Fisher by the next weekly post.

Mr. Geere and Mr. Fisher are busy surveying and plotting the constructions within the Temple Area, which it is needless to say they find very complicated.

I also enclose nine photographic prints belonging to three series which will be referred to respectively as Series A, Series B, and Series C, denoting the size of the negatives from which they are printed as follows: Series A. is from a negative 10" × 8" Series B. 7" × 5", Series C 5" × 4" in size. The number of each print is in the lower right hand corner. You will easily recognize the photographs from the following descriptions.

- Series A. No. 109 View of excavations E. Corner Temple Area, as shown Oct. 1" 1899
" 110 A more general view of the same, Oct. 21" 1899
- Series B. No. 1 View of Excavations in E. corner of Temple Area Aug. 1st 1899, as seen from the top of Ziggurat
" 2 Ditto No. 1 from top of tower near S.E. wall of Temple Area
No. 3 Beginning of excavations N.E. side of Temple Area Aug. 15" 1899.
" 5 General view of a gang at work at E. corner of Temple Area.
No. 6 Work men's huts and three men making baskets; one man cleaning flint lock gun, and brace of pistols.
" 83 Beginning the search for one of the city gates Oct. 19th 1899.
- Series C. No. 124 General view of excavations E. corner of Temple Area as seen from top of Ziggurat Oct. 21" 1899.

I hope to send you photographic prints by the next post.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr. C.A.H.

Enclosures.

9 Photographs.

1 Tracing.

1899-11-18. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 15. TC

Niffer,
November, 18th 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street.
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I have to report only one broken seal cylinder (half) taken from the middle of a crude brick measuring $9 \times 6 \times 3$ inches, being of the same size and apparently belonging to the same epoch as the crude bricks of Ur Gur.

It gives me pleasure to enclose herewith a copy of Mr. Fisher's drawing sheet XVII and also the following photographs of the same subject–

Series A

No. 117 Fragment of statue reported in letter of Nov. 4th. See also Mr. Fisher's drawing.

Series B.

No. 104 Same subject as No. 117 taken with small camera.

No. 106 Same subject as above and also the fragment supposed to represent an idol or deity reported in letter of Oct. 28th, which letter also enclosed a drawing (in copy) by Mr. Fisher.

Series A

No. 118 Same idol or deity taken with a large lens

Beside the above I also enclose the following photographs to illustrate the work in general.

Series A

No. 6 View from top of ziggurat overlooking the excavations in the E. corner of the Temple Area Aug. 1st 1899

No. 10 View from top of ziggurat overlooking the excavations Sept. 1st 1899

No. 13 View of excavations as seen from the Causeway Sept. 5th 1899

No. 14 Pedestal like construction of crude bricks measuring $13 \times 13 \times 9$ inches

No. 16 View from top of ziggurat overlooking the excavations Oct. 1st 1899

No. 17 View of excavations Sept. 5th 1899

No. 115 General view of housebuilding by our workmen.

Series C

No. 10 Pedestal like construction. See also No. 14 Series A.

Mr. J. de Morgan who is conducting excavations at Susa is now enroute to Niffer to pay us a visit and see the excavations. He is expected to arrive tomorrow, and is accompanied by the French Consul at Baghdad.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosures.

Copy of drawing by Mr. Fisher

12 Photographic prints.

1899-11-25. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 17-18. TC

Niffer,
Nov. 25" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treasurer Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I have to report the following discoveries:

- 1 One inscribed Tablet
- 2 One inscribed fragment of Marble Vase
- 3 Two fragments of different inscribed steles, of stone, of which squeezes are herewith enclosed. (*CBS 19913 = PBS 15, 66 and unident.*)
4. One small fragment of inscribed Stele.

A considerable part of our force has been engaged during the week in removing the large semicircular bastion situated near the end of the causeway within the Temple Enclosure. At the present time there seems to be a very fair prospect of finding beneath this bastion an early approach to the Temple Area. At least there are two or three indications pointing in this direction. Both Mr. Geere and Mr. Fisher feel confident that the complete removal of this bastion will warrant valuable results and I sincerely hope they will not be disappointed in these hopes. The bastion is now removed down to the Ur Gur level and its earlier foundations will be removed during the coming week. It is needless to add that the recovery of an approach into the Temple Area preceding the time of Ur Gur will be a matter of very great importance to the history of Ancient Architecture.

Description of photographic prints.

Series A.

- No. 103 Mass of silver rings, chains, etc. from level of Noram Sin reported in letter of Sept. 23rd 1899.
- " 104 and 105 Different views of same.
- No. 106 Closet vault made of primitive bricks below the level of Noram Sin. One side of the vault is removed to show interior construction of plano convex kiln burned bricks bearing thumb marks on convex surface. The bricks are laid up in herring-bone fashion.
- No. 107 View of two vertical drains and four water courses or ordinary drains. "A" is a vertical drain composed of several sections of large kiln burned tile. At "B" is another vertical drain. The dotted line (red ink) shows two water courses which emptied into the vertical drain at "B". These drains are made of Noram Sin's

bricks and belong to the level of that king. The parallelogram and circle traced in red ink show two horizontal drains of a date prior to the time of Noram Sin.

" 108 View of excavations from the Eastern corner of the Temple Enclosure as seen from top of Ziggurat Oct. 21" 1899

" 112 Objects in clay which we believe to be drums. See also drawings of Mr. Fisher.

Series B

No. 86 Shows one of the objects taken from a very low level (10 ft below the level of Noram Sin) within the Temple Enclosure.

87 View of the other object shown in No. 112 Series A (*CBS 19925*).

See also drawing made by Mr. Fisher. This object belongs to about the time of Noram Sin.

In the early part of the week the expedition was very much honored by a visit from Mr. J. de Morgan, who is conducting excavations at Susa, and three of the members of his staff, Mr. and Madam Lampre and Mr. André. Mr. Rouet, French Consul at Baghdad accompanied the party as guest of Mr. de Morgan, while Bedry Bey acted as escort detailed by the Government as a courtesy to the distinguished party. The party arrived on Monday and departed Wednesday, having examined our work as thoroughly as possible within the limited time. Mr. de Morgan spoke most appreciatively and with great enthusiasm of our work declaring himself amazed at the magnitude and quality of the work accomplished during the present year. In short, Mr. de Morgan and all the members of his staff, paid high tribute to the character of the work which has been done within the Temple Area. It is not for me to attempt to repeat their words but it is enough to add that their warm appreciation and encouragement have inspired us with new zeal.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosures:

2 Squeezes

2 Drawings made by Mr. Fisher

10 Photographic Prints.



Sq. 2

1899-12-02. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 20-21. TC

No. 43

Niffer

Dec. 2nd 1899

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street.
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the expiring week I desire to report the following discoveries:

- 1 Fragment (about one-fourth) of inscribed barrel cylinder.
- 2 Six perfect Tablets and a quantity of fragmentary Tablets
- 3 One bronze Vase of bottle form with bail or handle
- 4 One stele of burned clay
- 5 An incomplete Tablet of black stone inscribed on its reverse side and a pictorial scene (probably Hittite) on obverse side. (*HS 7 = TMH IV A7*)
- 6 Fifteen graves opened.

Beside the above an entrance (or gateway) probably a postern gate has been found at the point where we were searching for a gateway when Messrs. Geere and Fisher came to us as reported in my letter No. 37, Oct. 21, 1899. I hope to send you photographs, drawings and descriptions in my next letter, since it has been impossible to do so this week.

In addition to the work conducted at this point, the removal of Bastion No. 63 within the Temple Enclosure has been concluded and during the coming week we will be able to see what lies underneath it and hope it will give some clew to the original entrance to the Temple Enclosure.

A force has been employed on Hill V known as Tablet Hill.

I beg to enclose nine photographic prints to accompany tracings which Messrs. Geere and Fisher are now preparing to be enclosed in this letter, also several photographs showing different phases of our work and the life of our people.

Series A

No. 62 A group of Green Glazed Vases and lamps belonging chiefly to the Parthian and Sassanian periods. Most of these vases and lamps were taken from graves.

No. 119 The beginning of the destruction of Bastion No. 63 as seen from the top of the ziggurat Nov. 23rd 1899

No. 120 The two upper sections of a vertical drain belonging to the time of Noram Sin. See drawing by Mr. Geere. It consists of a large outer and small inner tile and

descends from a pavement of brick set in bitumen, belonging also to the time of Noram Sin. The rough perforated stone which covered its orifice is seen upturned on the pavement towards the right.

Series B

No. 109 Two women carrying water. *I couldn't find it.*

Series C

No. 16 Tent of a licorice root digger from the banks of the Tigris temporarily employed by us. *I couldn't find it.*

" 20 Several firkins of sun dried clay mixed with straw, made by the women of our camp. In the center of the picture is an ornamented firkin and beside it one of our workmen is making a cloak (abba) for himself on a holiday.

" 22 Two women spinning with a distaff. The woman on the right and small girl on the left have nose rings. Behind the small girl is a bedstead made of the mid-ribs of the date palm tree.

" 47 Donkey laden with tent and tent poles.

" 48 An Arab workman in holiday attire in front of his black tent. This man is by profession a robber and by practice a licorice root digger and was, for a time, employed by us as a basket carrier.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosures

9 photographic prints

P.S. The tracings are unfinished and it is time to dispatch the post. I shall hope to send them next week.

1899-12-09. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 22-23. TC

No. 44

Niffer,
Dec. 9" 1899

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the expiring week I desire to report the following discoveries.

- 1 Seven perfect tablets
- 2 Several large fragments of Tablets found within the Temple Enclosure below the level of Noram Sin's pavement.
- 3 Fragment of a small statue bearing fragment of an inscription.

A brick vault which appears to have been a basement room in some building is beginning to appear. It is on a low level and is doubtless of very old construction.

Respecting the gateway which was mentioned in my last letter, No. 43, it seems at the present time not to have been a postern gate, but an entrance of greater importance, so that the work of clearing it has been a task of greater magnitude than was previously anticipated. It is not yet cleared so that the work of making photographs and drawings must, of necessity, be postponed until next week. The bricks used in its construction are the most primitive and earliest type of bricks which have been found at Niffer.

Bastion No. 63 has now been removed and underneath it two paneled pylons have been uncovered. The mass of debris between the two pylons now remains to be removed. I am not prepared to render a further account of this construction today, but that it will give us a clew *sic* to the ancient entrance into the Temple Area can not be doubted.

I am glad to enclose today a tracing made by Mr. Geere giving the details of a vertical drain belonging to the time of Noram Sin of which photograph No. 120 was enclosed in my last letter.

The work is well done and will, I am sure, be a source of great satisfaction to each member of your Committee. I heartily endorse the work and hope to have the pleasure of sending other tracings and drawings from time to time.

I also include herewith six tracings by Mr. Fisher of vases and a lion.

To accompany the above I also desire to enclose herewith seven photographic prints as follows:

Series A.

- No. 120 The upper part of a vertical drain of which tracing and description by Mr. Geere are herewith enclosed. This photograph was described on the 3rd page of my last letter.
- " 62 I also enclosed in my last letter and described on the 2nd page. No. 62 is again enclosed to accompany the tracings of vases made by Mr. Fisher.
- " 30 Inscribed stone Disc described in my letter No. 32 Sept. 16" 1899 (*UM 91-2-1*).
- " 27 The underside (inscribed) of a marble disc, supposed to have been a Table, reported in letter No. 31, Sept. 9", 1899.
- " 29 Top or upper side of same Table or disc.
- " 31 Inscribed Door Socket found below the level of Noram Sin and described in letter No. 33 Sept. 23" 1899

I have just received from London the Bill of Lading for one case of picks and two crates of handles which were asked for in my letter of April 29" 1899. I am not advised of the shipment of the saddle and bridle ordered in the same letter for Haji Torfa. I trust this has not been overlooked.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosures.

1. Tracings of Drain by Mr. Geere
2. Notes on tracing by Mr. Geere
3. Six tracings by Mr. Fisher
4. Six photographic prints.

1899-12-16. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 25. TC

No. 45

Niffer,
Dec. 16" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

It gives me great pleasure to submit the following report for the week ending today.

- 1 One inscribed Door Socket of Ur Gur found in position, of which a squeeze is herewith enclosed. (*Duplicate of BE I 121*)
- 2 Seven perfect Tablets and a quantity of fragmentary Tablets
- 3 One Seal Cylinder
- 4 One Seal impression on clay.

The Door Socket is of diorite and bears, as you will see from the squeeze, an inscription of ten lines, of which three lines are written in double register. The Socket is well polished on its upper face and being found in its original position has been carefully measured and plotted by the architects and photographed by myself. As soon as practicable both plans and photographs of the socket in its environments will be sent you, and I trust they will awaken a deeper interest in our work. The Door Socket was found underneath the Bastion No. 63. It was found in a passage leading through a wall belonging to the period of Ur Gur over which the later bastion was built. This undoubtedly fixes the front entrance to the Temple Area at that time, and may, therefore, be regarded as an important contribution to our scanty knowledge of Babylonian Temples.

During the week Mr. Geere has been preparing charts of the strata of three different trenches. Other trenches will be treated in the same manner.

I am glad to enclose herewith eleven tracings by Mr. Fisher, of which seven are steles; one a fragment of an inscribed statuette and three drawings of a triplex vase.

I also enclose eight photographic prints to accompany Mr. Fisher's tracings.

Series A.

Nos. 41 to 47 are steles photographed to scale so as to show their relative size. In the lower left corner of No. 45 is seen a couch with a female figure in relief lying upon it. Tracings of coloring are still to be observed on the figure.

- " 48 Shows the couch as seen from above, giving a full face view of the recumbent figure. The same print shows also two tablets one evidently intended to be worn as a charm or

amulet. This tablet was found in a coffin. The other object which appears to be a tablet, is a fragment of a pentagonal prism, inscribed on each of its five sides.

I am sorry to advise you that cholera is reported to be approaching Niffer, and specially to be creeping up the Tigris from Busreh towards Baghdad. We, however, are not alarmed, and yet think it best to make mention of the fact because of the possibilities involved. One death from fever occurred in the camp yesterday morning. I am glad to say the general health of the party is good.

Very truly yours

(sgd) John Henry Haynes pr C.A.H.

Enclosures:

1. Squeeze of Door Socket
2. Eleven Tracings of Mr. Fisher
3. Eight photographic prints.

1899-12-23. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 26. TC

No. 46

Niffer,
Dec. 23" 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

For the week ending today I have the following discoveries to report:

- 1 Six inscribed Tablets in perfect condition, and a quantity of Fragmentary Tablets.
- 2 One fragment of inscribed Vase bearing a three line inscription of Alu Sharshid
- 3 One fragment of inscribed black stone, showing part of seven lines of inscription.
(CBS 19925+ = PBS 5, 35+)
4. One clay impression of a Seal Cylinder.
5. One fragment of ornamented black stone, possibly a part of a statue.
- 6 One Seal Cylinder.
- 7 Fifty-four graves opened.

The very ancient constructions in the line of the N.E. wall of the city supposed to be the ruins of a gateway, are fully explored and photographed, but I have been unable to make the prints to send you by this post, as I had hoped to do.

It is interesting also to note that the original entrance to the Temple Area is nearly cleared and Mr. Geere is already making drawings of it; and unless some unexpected development occurs, it is probable that we shall be able to send you a drawing, and perhaps a photograph to show the present condition of this entrance to the Temple Area, at a period preceding the time of Noram Sin.

I am glad to enclose herewith five tracings made by Mr. Fisher. Four are of burial jars and coffins; one of a sculptured black stone which may possible have been a part of a statue.

Owing partly to the unfavorable weather and partly to the stress of other duties, I am unable to send you photographs by this post.

I enclose herewith squeezes of the vase fragment and black stone (inscribed) which may, or may not, but probably is, part of a very early door socket.

Very truly yours,
(sgd) John Henry Haynes
pr C.A.H.

Enclosures:

Five tracings
Two squeezes.

1899-12-30. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67, 27. TC

No. 47

Niffer, Dec. 30. 1899.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

I desire to make the following brief report for the week ending today.

1. Twelve perfect Tablets and a large quantity of fragmentary Tablets.
2. One seal Cylinder.
3. Thirty-four graves opened.
4. Progress in tracing the City Wall
5. Progress in tracing the wall of the early Temple enclosure.

During the week work has been conducted at three different points. Several trenches have been opened on Hill V known as Tablet Hill. It is here the tablets have been found.

A part of the City wall on its northeastern side has been traced to show its relation to the entrance reported several weeks ago. Photographs and plans are necessarily delayed for the present.

The entrance to the earlier Temple preceding the time of Ur Gur has been found directly underneath the passage way in which the door socket reported in my letter of Dec. 16th (No. 45) was found, and at the present time we are following out a wall towards the S.W. by means of a tunnel driven along its face. The earlier entrance was between two pylons found underneath the Bastion No. 63, which was recently removed. Three photographic prints of door socket enclosed.

During the coming week (the first week of the New Year) work will be continued on Tablet Hill and Temple Hill and on the enclosing wall of the ancient City.

I am glad to inform you that Blockey Hotz et Company have received a cablegram from Brown Shipley et Company, London, to the effect that a L/C for £1000 Sterling in my favor was mailed to Blockey Hotz et Co., on the 16th instant, and will doubtless reach Baghdad about the middle of January, for which please accept my hearty thanks, and believe me,

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes,

per C.A.H.

Enclosures

3 photographic prints

1900-01-06. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 29-30. TC

No. 48

Niffer,
Jan. 6" 1900

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

For the week ending today I desire to make the following report.

1. Forty-two perfect Tablets and a large quantity of fragmentary Tablets.
2. Five Seal Cylinders
3. Forty-three graves opened
4. Progress in tracing the enclosing walls of the city with the purpose of locating its gates.
5. Progress also in tracing out the earlier Temple Enclosure.

One of the sound tablets was found in a pile of rubbish within the Temple Enclosure and slightly above the Ur Gur level, and a few fragments were found beneath a wall of Ur Gur's bricks also within the Temple Enclosure. The remaining tablets have been wholly taken from Hill V, originally known as Tablet Hill. The cylinders also came from Tablet Hill.

At present we are opening a vaulted tomb built of burned bricks which appears to have been a family vault.

The El Hemza and Bahahitha Arabs, and several minor tribes are in the midst of a war whose primary cause was the murder of two soldiers by Shaheen reported in my letter No. 35, Oct. 7" 1899. The seat of war is about three miles from our camp. Shaheen with 150 warriors, is at present surrounded in a castle on the borders of the great marsh, and the battle has been raging for 48 hours with no very great loss of life, and the prospect now is that Shaheen will soon be captured. When the wind is favorable, the firing can be distinctly heard at our house, and several of our workmen have gone to join their fellows at the front.

A detachment of our old enemies, the Es Sayed Arabs who have been encamped at the foot of our mounds towards the N.W. for more than two weeks, folded their tents and marched away on the first day of the month after a vain, but determined, attempt to do us injury.

The noted bandit known as Souleman, an outlawed Persian Kurd of whom even the Governor-general of the Vilayet stands in fear, and for whose head the Government has long offered a liberal bounty, is again in our neighborhood and paid us a visit toward evening on Sunday last, departing again at midnight. Where he went or on what errand, I am unable to say, nor do I know his present whereabouts, but am confident that Souleman and his select assortment of fellow-bandits are near us. In view of these things, I have temporarily increased the number of guards. I trust the country will be in a more settled condition before the arrival of Dr. Hilprecht.

The thirty days' fast of Ramazan began on Tuesday the 2nd instant. While most of the men observe the fast by abstaining from food through the day, they work as usual. No

interruption will occur in the work until the end of the fast, when two days will be given to the usual festivities following the long fast. I would say here that no interruption of the work occurred on account of our own holidays.

This morning the first frost of the season was observed and it was bitterly cold for the barefooted workmen in the trenches during the first half hour of the day, before the sun rise. At all seasons of the year we begin our work soon after day dawns.

We have received no further news from the cholera and no longer fear its approach to us, but hear that quarantine is still maintained at Koot on the Tigris in addition to the usual quarantine at Busreh. Possibly the latter quarantine will be removed before Dr. Hilprecht reaches Koot enroute to Baghdad and Niffer.

Except a few cases of dysentery, the general health of our camp is good and its foreign members are all in good health.

Owing to the unfavorable condition of the weather and the increased demands for vigilance on my part it has been impossible to prepare photographic prints for this post. It however gives me pleasure to enclose two tracings made by Mr. Geere. These tracings show plan and longitudinal section of Trench No. 1; plan, longitudinal section and cross section, also elevation of Trench No. 2 in Hill V. The original drawings are kept here and these sent you as a specimen of the work we are doing.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enc.

Two tracings by Mr. Geere.

1900-01-13. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 31. TC

No. 49

Niffer January 13th 1900

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr
Treas. of Baby. Exploration Fund
#400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the week ending today I beg to report the following discoveries, viz:

- 1 Fifty-nine Sound Tablets and a very great number of Fragmentary Tablets, many of them of large size.
- 2 Three Fragments of a large Prism
- 3 One seal Cylinder
4. Forty-seven Graves opened.

Respecting the fragmentary tablets, I wish to add that many of them are nearly perfect and yet classed as fragmentary tablets. Though only fifty nine perfect tablets are reported we have gathered enough I think, to fill ten or twelve ordinary boxes with sound and fragmentary tablets during the week.

I am still unable to send you photographs by this post but hope to do so by the following post.

The general health of the camp is good and the results of our work since the beginning of the New Year have been gratifying, as I hope to prove to you in good time.

We are still without news of Dr. Hilprecht whom I do not expect before the middle of February.

With much esteem I beg to remain

Very truly yours

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

No. 50

Niffer,

Jan. 20" 1900.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the week ending today I am happy to report the following interesting and valuable discoveries.

- 1 Two hundred and fourteen sound tablets and a great quantity of broken tablets.
- 2 One complete rectangular prism fully inscribed, and several fragments ($\frac{2}{3}$ or more) of a similar prism.
- 3 One sound pentagonal prism fully inscribed and a nearly complete similar prism broken into many fragments.

A large part of the tablets herein reported have been taken from low levels, and will, I am confident prove valuable to the historian. Indeed a part of them came from a stratum six feet below those which were reported last week in letter No. 49. The prisms also came from this low level. We have some reason to hope that this same stratum will yield many others, and you may be sure that we will not relax our efforts to secure all of the tablets that are concealed in this immediate section of Tablet Hill. I desire to remark here that the tablets which were reported last week in letter No. 49, have since been packed and filled twenty-four of the ordinary boxes in which I have uniformly packed the tablets, both in the preceding and present campaigns. I judge the quantity which is reported in this letter will fill twelve or fifteen boxes.

The inscribed prisms are unburned but very interesting and I can but regret that they were not baked so that they might have been preserved in perfect condition. The rectangular prism measures $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, and each of its faces are $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide. The pentagonal prism is also $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches long and its several faces vary from 2 to $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width. One face is 2 inches wide; one is $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide; and three faces are $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide.

I am pleased to enclose a tracing by Mr. Geere of plan, section and elevation of a vaulted tomb found as a cellar or underground chamber in connection with one of a tier of rooms built into the top of the great enclosing wall of the Temple Area during its last reconstruction. This was found in the S.W. side of the Temple Enclosure near its southern corner.

I also enclose a tracing and water color made by Mr. Fisher. The tracing shows the obverse and reverse of a brass coin found in the above vaulted tomb. The water color shows a gold ornament, possibly a shoe buckle, of which two were found in the above tomb. See also photographic print No. 50.

Twelve photographic prints belonging to two different series are also enclosed.

Series A.

- 126 View of a structure supposed to be an entrance way through the N.E. city wall, which was first mentioned as a gateway in my letter No. 37, Oct. 21, 1899.
- 127 View of the same structure with two gangs of men at their midday luncheon. The gang in the foreground is sitting in what appears to be the roadway. The stairway on the right appears to have been a passage for people, and there seems to be a remnant of a similar stairway to the left of the roadway. This passage or gateway stood on the bank of a canal which I feel confident served also as a moat encircling the city wall.
- 134 An open casket 5ft 10 in long 12 in wide 7 in. deep inside measurements. This casket had a swelling lid of whaleback form, having an upward swell of 6 inches or 7 inches which practically made the available space for its tenant twice the depth of the casket itself. In this instance the cover which was in two parts was broken away and a part of the earth which had fallen into it had been removed.
- 135 A group of coffins. In the right hand stands a casket with a whalebone back cover broken in and settled down nearly flat. Beyond it is a burial urn lying on its side; the upper part has been carried away down to the surface of the ground, for it was found in a valley made by the wash of rains on the mounds. To the left of the casket and urn is a grave of burned brick, and also in front of it is a large elliptical urn inverted over its tenant, and beside it stand two vases still in original position being placed in this instance outside instead of inside the coffin. A workman's knitted belt is bound around it to keep it together. Directly beneath this inverted coffin is a large burial urn lying on its side. The little vases distributed around in other parts of the picture were all found outside the coffins, but their positions have been changed to make them visible in the pictures.
- 152 A green glazed sarcophagus unlike in its ornamentation any sarcophagus we have heretofore found at Niffer. In four panels are two small human figures lying side by side. This grave was robbed in ancient times and the sarcophagus was then broken away near the head. It is otherwise sound and because of its peculiar ornamentation it is now in process of preparation to be transported to Constantinople, and I trust it may find its way into your museum at Philadelphia.
- 156 Two green glazed sarcophagi also being prepared for removal since they are unusually good specimens. In the sarcophagus in the foreground were found two adult skeletons. Beyond this sarcophagus is a burial urn, which also contained an adult skeleton.
- 150 Gold ornaments taken from the tomb of which Mr. Geere has made a tracing. The two large diamond shaped pieces are sheets of pure gold which covered the faces of the two dead bodies. The scalloped bands were placed over the forehead and temples. Besides these there is a small nose(?) ring, four large beads, twelve rosette like buttons; forty-eight small and plain ornamental buttons, Two buckles, with imitation stone settings, and clasp. All the above are of pure gold. Besides these there is a brass coin of which Mr. Fisher has made a tracing to accompany this letter.

Series B.

- 109 View of primitive gateway shown also in Nos. 126 and 127 Series A

111 Haji Torfa's guest house with mulberry trees on each side.

112 Nearly front view of Haji Torfa's guest house showing his Arab mare in her usual stable.

115 A few date trees and a water or Asiatic buffalo on the borders of the great marsh.

116 Abud el Hamid's castle surrounded by the reed and mat huts of his people. This is also on the border of a great marsh. Abud el Hamid is the president of five sub tribes of El Heinza (*sic*) Arabs.

We learn through Blockey, Hotz et Co. that Dr. Hilprecht expected to sail from Marseilles on the Koordistan which was due at Busreh about Jan. 10th. I am also pleased to tell you that Mr. Rudolf Hurner, Acting Consul of the U.S. at Baghdad has accepted my invitation to accompany Dr. Hilprecht to Niffer for a short visit.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

1900-01-27. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 35-36. TC

No. 51

Niffer,

Jan. 27" 1900

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the expiring week I desire to report the following finds.

- 1 Eighty-eight complete tablets and a multitude of incomplete tablets.
- 2 Three fragmentary rectangular prisms
- 3 Two fragmentary pentagonal prisms
- 4 Three seal cylinders
- 5 One fragment of an inscribed boundary stone of which a squeeze is enclosed.
6. One large duck weight
7. Four small bronze vessels.

In respect to the tablets and prisms, I desire to say that they belong to the same lot which was reported last week. We have not yet come to the end of these tablets, and hope to find many more. I think we may regard this collection of tablets as constituting a distinct library by itself. The estimate given in my last report of the tablets which had been collected during the week fell below the actual quantity being packed in 25 ordinary boxes. These tablets have come from near the central part of Tablet Hill.

We are still without news from Dr. Hilprecht and it would seem that the Koordistan, on which he expected to sail, has been delayed. We however hope that he will be with us sometime in the month of February.

There has been a good deal of illness in our camp, chiefly dysentery, two cases of which have proved fatal. The foreign members of the party are, however, in usual good health.

I enclose nineteen photographic prints as follows:

Series A.

132 & 133 Different views of the door socket of Ur Gur in situ. This is the door socket reported in letter No. 45, Dec. 16" 1899

135 Group of coffins of which another view was shown in No. 136 heretofore sent you.

Series B.

61 Native house in process of construction.

120 Group of coffins shown also from another point of view in No. 135 Series A.

- 121 Several coffins shown in the extreme left of the preceding number.
- 122 Bath tub coffin 3½ ft long 15 inches wide 20 inches deep. An adult was buried in this coffin, the corpse being placed upon its back with the knees drawn upwards, the head in this instance being placed in the square end. This is also shown near the center of No. 121.
- 123 Shows several Arab warriors belonging to the Shammar tribe resting their mares on one of the mounds of Niffer. The long spears stuck in the ground are carried in the hand when mounted and are a very dangerous weapon when in the hands of an expert horseman.
- 129 Several of our workmen's huts, one of which is in process of rebuilding.
- 131 Coffin composed of two burial urns placed mouth to mouth making a coffin whose average dimensions are about 3 ft 9 inches in length and from 20 inches to 2 ft in greatest diameter.
- 132 Another example of the same type of coffin as the preceding.
- 75 & 76 Different views of the same group of women. These are the wives of three of our workmen; all wear nose and finger rings and bracelets.

Series C.

- 77 Native house in process of construction.
- 72 Same house a little further advanced. In the back ground is the house occupied by our party.
- 84 & 85 Basket carriers at their work removing earth from the trenches.
- 94 Tent occupied by family of workman belonging to the licorice root diggers from the Tigris.
- 151 Same coffin shown in No. 132 Series B.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enc.

19 photographs
1 squeeze.

↓

1900-01-27 0.8 : 1



Hilprecht: IV Exp. Orig. in Const.

EŞ 2232 (so B.S.)



Copied from squeeze



1900-02-03. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 41-42. TC

No. 52

Niffer,
February 3rd 1900.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I have to report the following discoveries:

- 1 Seventy-four perfect tablets and a very great quantity of imperfect tablets, some of which are very large and of great promise.
- 2 Two large fragments of different rectangular prisms.

Both tablets and prisms are a part of the library which have formed the basis of the four preceding reports, and I am glad to say that the limits of this library have not yet been found, so that we may hope to report still more tablets and prisms from this same library. In passing I also remark that the tablets which were reported last week have since been packed and fill twenty-seven boxes, of the ordinary size.

I enclose fourteen photographic prints as follows:

SERIES A.

- 139 Group of three plain clay colored sarcophagi, or slipper shaped coffins in Situ
- 142 View of a shallow trench made in a deep valley on Hill I or Camp Hill. Near the foreground is a covered water course. Beyond it is a well like structure, probably intended for storage of some cereal. We find many such storage wells, having no great depth. They are distinguished from wells for water which always descend to the permanent water level. In the left of the picture a part of the trench is being carried down to a lower level, where a well for water was found.
- 143 Group of five clay coffins or sarcophagi and beyond them two vaulted tombs of burned brick. In the upper right hand corner of the picture is an inclined paved pathway leading to the mouth or door of the furthest vaulted tomb. A foreman of a gang arrayed in a single garment for his body and another for his head, stands pick in hand at the head of a coffin.
- 148 A broken terra cotta or stele which represents a sitting female figure with animal forms in relief on either side. Its size is considerably magnified by the lens. (*CBS 7056 = PBS 16, 212*).
- 151 A group of burial urns and a household jar in position as found. Toward the left of the picture is a small burial urn standing nearly upright and covered with burned brick.

This contained the skeleton of a child. Slightly to the right and somewhat below the covered urn, is an ordinary household jar of large size lying upon its side, yet somewhat inclined. This contained the bones of an adult. Directly to the right of the household jar is a two-urn-coffin, only one of the urns showing in the picture by reason of the deep shadow which falls upon the second urn. Directly in front of the two-urn-coffin is the top of a vertical drain covered with a perforated brick. In the upper right hand corner of the picture is seen the skull of an adult lying between two parts of a crushed burial urn whose mouth was closed by two burned bricks.

- 153 Another view of No. 151 after an additional grave had been opened in the same trench seen to the right of the workman. The skull shown in the preceding is shown in this picture just above its center.
- 154 Shows part of the arch of a door way built entirely of crude (sun dried) bricks. The rest of the arch had fallen in ancient times. However near to this is another arched doorway which is still nearly perfect, and this also is of crude brick and the same style of construction.
- 155 An unglazed, ornamented sarcophagus. In all of my experience at Niffer, I have only seen four unglazed sarcophagi ornamented with the female form.

SERIES B.

- 103 Two sarcophagi found in the same room built into the great enclosing wall of the Temple Area. The head of each sarcophagus was covered with wine jars which are much broken.
- 107 Group of workmen returning from their day's labor. Some of them have their water jars in their baskets upon their heads, others have bricks. *Not found.*
- 108 A skeleton as it was found in one of the sarcophagi shown in No. 103. The parts that do not show were covered with earth.
- 139 A skeleton as it was found in a large household jar. The skull lies between two tall slender vases. As the limbs in burial were doubled, the bones particularly of the legs, lie in apparent confusion. The knees were drawn up and in process of time the bones fell into their present position.

SERIES C.

- 161 This is a new type of coffin and is a variation of the well known clay sarcophagus. It is somewhat broken and for that reason the picture does not convey a correct idea of its real form. The head is however towards the right and was open in the same manner as the ordinary slipper coffin. The closed part of the coffin was very high or deep and being very short it was probably intended that the knees of its occupant should be drawn upward.
- 169 Ordinary sarcophagus, the head being covered with two wine jars; a common method of covering this type of coffin. The two sarcophagi shown in No. 103 Series B. were each covered with two wine jars which had been broken.

The fast of Ramazan ended February 1st and our people are now enjoying the feast of Bairam.

Blockey Hotz et Co. inform us that no news has yet reached Busreh of the whereabouts of the "Koordistan."

We are in receipt of a letter from Bruno Meissner Ph.D. Assyriologist, at Babil, saying some of the members of the German Expedition excavating at that place will shortly visit us at Niffer.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

1900-02-10. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 43. TC

No. 53

Niffer,
Feb. 10" 1900

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir –

For the week ending today I have to report the following discoveries:

- 1 Fifty-six sound tablets and a great quantity of fragmentary tablets.
- 2 One inscribed fragment of vase.
- 3 Two terra cotta steles
- 4 Three Seal Cylinders

The tablets reported in letter No. 52 have since been packed into 26 boxes of the ordinary size and I judge those reported in this letter will fill nearly or quite as many boxes; and I am happy to say that we have not yet exhausted the library from which they were taken. These tablets are taken from an average depth of 26 feet below surface.

I learned through Blockey Hotz et Co. that the "Koordistan", on which Dr. Hilprecht was to sail from Marseilles, arrived at Busreh on the 31st ult., and is doubtless filling out the term of its 10 days quarantine in the Shatt el Arab. I therefore judge that Dr. Hilprecht should reach Niffer at the end of the present month.

Mr. Fisher has nearly completed drawings and tracings of the Ziggurat as it now stands and I shall hope to transmit to you the tracings by next post.

Owing to the unfavorable condition of the weather I have been unable to prepare photographs this week.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosure

One Squeeze.

1900-02-17 Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 44. TC

No. 54

Niffer,
Feb. 17" 1900.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I have to report the following discoveries.

- 1 Sixty-five sound tablets and many fragmentary tablets.
- 2 Three rectangular prisms fully inscribed
- 3 One terra cotta stele
- 4 Two seal cylinders

I am happy to add that we have not yet found the limits of the library on which we have been employed for several weeks, but I believe that next week will see all that remains gathered in by us, and, according to the suggestions of Mr. E.W. Clark and Dr. Hilprecht we will next turn our attention to Camp Hill in the vicinity of the Court of Columns, where I hope, good results will be achieved even before the arrival of Dr. Hilprecht, which I trust will not be long deferred.

I enclose herewith three sheets of Mr. Fisher's tracings of the Ziggurat as it appears today. They show the ground plan, the front rear and side elevations in color.

Dr. Bruno Meissner, Assyriologist of the German expedition to Babil (Babylon) has just gone from us having spent one full day and part of a second day in examination of our work in the various mounds. He expressed astonishment over the visible results of our work, and his visit has added a pleasant chapter to our lives.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.

Enclosure:

3 tracings by Mr. Fisher

1900-02-24. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 42-46. TC

Niffer, Feb. 24" 1900.

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.,
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir: –

For the week ending today I desire to report the following finds:

- 1 Two hundred sound tablets and many fragments
- 2 A fragment (one-half) of an inscribed barrel cylinder.

At present there seems to be a part of a small room in which a remnant of the library which has absorbed our attention for several weeks still remains to be secured.

During the present week a considerable part of our force has been transferred to Hill I and as soon as the recovery of the library shall have been completed, the remainder of our workmen will be transferred from Hill V to Hill I.

We may reasonably expect Dr. Hilprecht to be with us on or before Saturday March 3rd, the date of my next report. Although no direct news has been received from him since the day following his arrival in Busreh.

I enclose the following photographic prints.

SERIES A.

- 130 View from top of ziggurat looking northeastwards showing remnants of walls and towers in foreground with a fine wall of crude bricks. Beyond them on top of the mound are several Arab warriors of the Shammor tribe ready to defend their herd of many thousand camels against the Afej Arabs should a sudden attempt be made to seize any part of the herd.
- 166 A clay colored, ornamental sarcophagus which is being covered with paper and past for removal, should it be desired at a later time to transport it to Constantinople. Beside it is a vase, probably a wine jar, later used for the burial of an infant. That it was first used for the storage of wine or other liquid, is clearly indicated by the small hole which is common in this kind of jar.
- 167 Shows in the foreground a blue enameled sarcophagus (ornamented with only two human figures, being different in its ornamentation and in an unusually good state of preservation. In the distance is the sarcophagus shown in No. 166, in process of preparation.

SERIES B.

- 142 Essentially the same view as No. 166 taken with a different camera.
- 143 Same sarcophagus shown in No. 167. The workman whose head is inserted in the sarcophagus, is removing the earth from its interior.

SERIES C.

139 View of two very humble Arab huts. That in the foreground consists of a mat supported by walls of brushwood. Upon a blanket in front of the first hut is some barley which has been washed and is spread out to dry. A woman squats upon the ground beside it, and three children near her exhibit the various stages of dress and undress common to the children of this region.

177 A group from Haji Tarfa's harem. The older woman on the left, is Haji Tarfa's eldest, and the one in the center the youngest of his three living wives. The tall maiden to the right is his youngest daughter.

179 Fatima, the eldest wife of Haji Tarfa.

182 A camel herd of the Shammor Arabs mounted upon a camel. It is common for the camel herd to ride in this way while the camels graze.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes,

pr. C.A.H.

Enclosures:

9 Photographs

1900-03-10. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 47-48. TC

No. 56

Niffer,
March 10" 1900.

Mr. John Sparhawk, Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund,
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir—

For the two weeks ending today I desire to report the following discoveries:

- 1 A Door Socket of diorite bearing an inscription of Dungi, son of Ur Gur. (*CBS 14549 = PBS 15, 42*)
- 2 An inscribed stone tablet of Ur Gur
- 3 Seven perfect tablets of burned clay, and several fragmentary tablets
- 4 A brick stamp of Bur Sin, slightly imperfect
- 5 Twelve perfect Hebrew bowls and broken bowls, all inscribed
- 6 Two lamps of clay
- 7 One terra cotta figurine of Beltis
- 8 One small glass bottle
- 9 Twenty-one stone weights
- 10 Seven seal cylinders.

The main force of workmen has been employed on and around the Court of Columns, while at three different points small forces have been at work as follows: A small gang has been at work upon Tablet Hill where the reported tablets were found. A second small force has been following the long burned brick wall discovered one year ago in the Southeastern end of Mound X without yet finding either end of it; and at the same time another small force has attempted to further trace the great wall of Noram Sin, which bounds the open space to the Northwestward of the Ziggurat and in which wall the crude (unburned) bricks were found to be stamped with the well known brick stamp of Noram Sin. I trust that the excavations at this point will lead to important discoveries concerning the work of Sargon I and his son Noram Sin. It is in this wall that the stepped entrance supposed to mark the site of a gateway as early as the time of Sargon was first found Oct. 28th last. See letters of Oct. 28"; Dec. 2", and Dec. 9" 1899.

I am also glad to add that this very ancient and primitive construction has deeply impressed Dr. Hilprecht, and I can but regret that its ruin is so nearly complete.

You doubtless know from his own letters that Dr. Hilprecht arrived at Niffer March 1st and has brought good cheer into our life and given an impulse to our work, for which we are duly grateful to him and to your committee, whose interests we try to serve.

I enclose sixteen photographic prints as follows:

SERIES A.

63 Group of Common clay colored vases, a brick stamp of Sargon; an inscribed Hebrew bowl; and just to the left of the center of the picture a triplex vase of which a drawing, made by Mr. Fisher was sent you Dec. 16" 1899.

64 & 65 Groups of glazed vases and lamps.

66, 67 & 68 Groups of unglazed vases.

SERIES B.

46 Group of glass and alabaster bottles and vases.

49 Native house with a woman standing in front of it spinning yarn. She holds the wool in the left hand and the distaff in the right hand. At her feet is a covered household clay jar made and ornamented by herself. Towards the left of the picture are several grain bins or jars, one of which is in process of making.

53 A native house covered with buffalo dung fuel in process of drying for future use. In the foreground is a carpet factory. *Not found.*

96 Native house in left of picture and beside a summer sleeping platform covered with a netting of muslin to exclude the insects.

108 A skeleton as it was found in a slipper shaped coffin.

141 Two slipper shaped coffins prepared for transportation, and two wine jar coffins.

144 A different view of the same coffins.

145 An Arab lad (son of a merchant at Suk el Afaj) standing in front of a movable shelter used as a writing room at the excavations.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

per C.A.H.

Enclosures

Squeeze of doorsocket of Dungi

Sixteen photographic prints.

1900-03-24. Haynes to Sparhawk. HSN 67. 49. TC

Niffer, March 24" 1900

Mr. John Sparhawk Jr.
Treas. Babylonian Exploration Fund.
400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pa. U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

For the two weeks ending today I have to report the following principal discoveries.

- 1 Three sound tablets and several fragments
- 2 Three seal cylinders
- 3 One conical seal
- 4 Thirty-one inscribed Hebrew bowls
- 5 One silver bowl
- 6 Probably one hundred Kufic coins of silver

I also beg to state that the work has been vigorously prosecuted at three different points, viz: a Large force has been employed tracing the north eastern wall of the city; Another large force has been employed on the Court of Columns; while a small force of thirty men in examining the wall in the southeastern part of Hill X. This is the wall reported in my letter of Feb. 25, 1899.

It is of course impossible at present to convey a correct impression of the importance and magnitude of the work at the various points, but in architectural results I trust the work will, in the end, prove eminently satisfactory to the subscribers and friends of the expedition.

Each member of the expedition enjoys continued good health, and all are hard at work.

Very truly yours,

(sgd) John Henry Haynes

pr C.A.H.