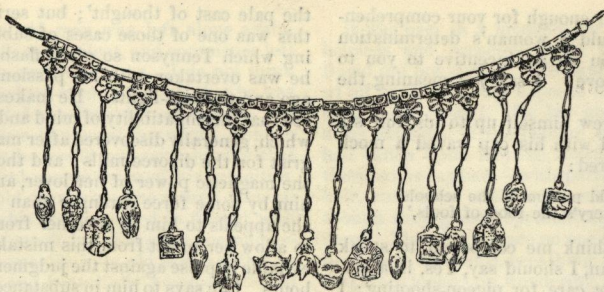




HEAD OF A GODDESS FROM A TERRA-COTTA STATUE OF THE FOURTH CENTURY B.C.



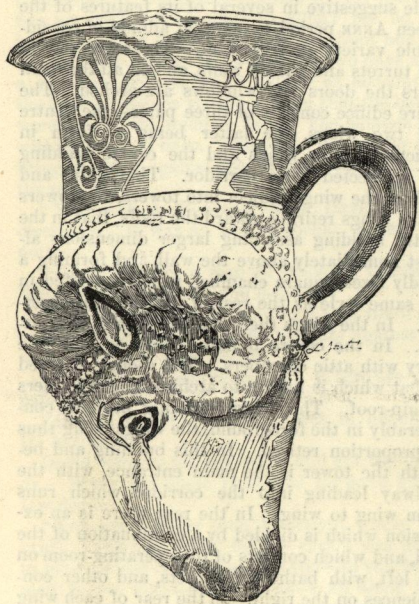
GOLD NECKLACE.

NEW DISCOVERIES AT CYPRUS.

UNDER the direction of MAX OHNEFALSCH RICHTER, consulting archaeologist of the Cyprus Museum, new researches have been recently made at Poli-tis-Chrysokhon, and many remarkable objects have been found. Situated between Europe, Africa, and Asia, Cyprus felt the art influences of three distinct civilizations, and originated nothing of her own. The Cypriote might have been imitative, but he was nothing more. The most important discoveries made by Herr RICHTER are Greek antiquities, showing that as far back as the sixth and seventh centuries before Christ there must have been continuous communication between Greece and Cyprus. The objects discovered by Herr RICHTER consist of amphoræ, lamps, cups, vessels of various forms, platters, masks, heads in marble and terra-cotta, figurines, bronzes, dirks, arrow-heads, a sickle, rings, ear-rings, bracelets, amulets, various pieces in jewelry, with scarabæi and carved stones. The larger proportion of these relics come from tombs, and were deposited with the remains of the dead. It was the belief in a future state which moved the old Cypriote to place alongside of the departed offerings which might either propitiate the deities of another world, or might be of use to the dead if perchance he came to life again.



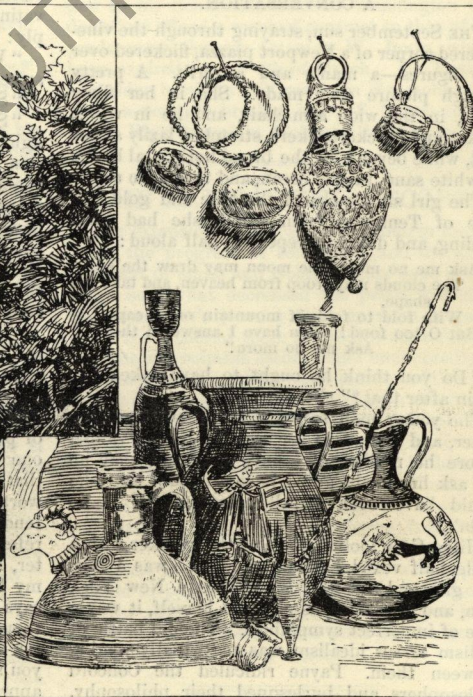
PORTRAIT IN TERRA-COTTA.



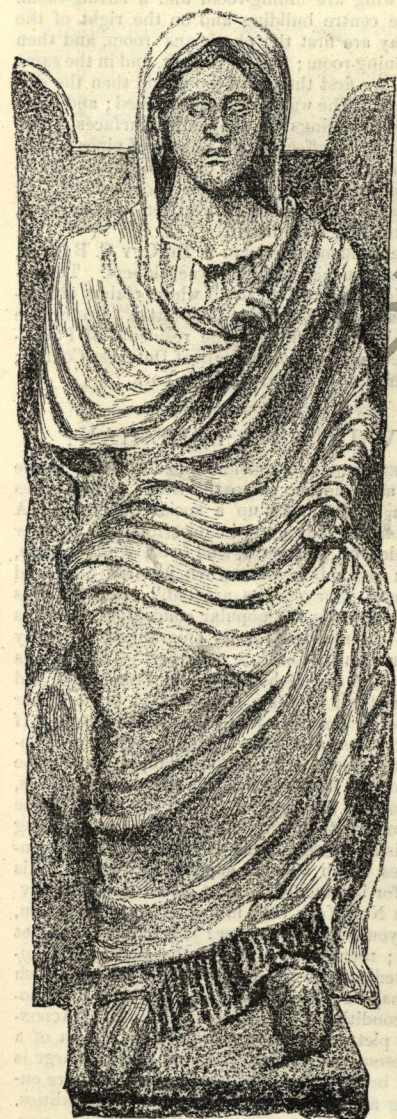
A DRINKING-CUP.



NECROPOLIS No. 3—THE SITE OF THE EXCAVATIONS.



AMPHORÆ AND JEWELRY.

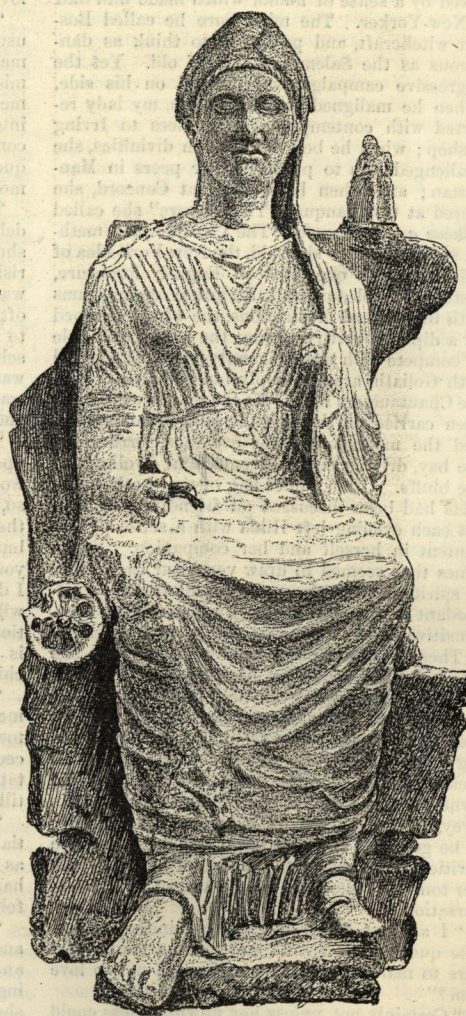


TERRA-COTTA FIGURE OF ISLAND WORKMANSHIP.

Among the illustrations various objects reproduced are careful copies from photographs taken by Herr RICHTER. In the centre is the site of the necropolis, where the excavations are being made to-day. It is shaded by magnificent oak-trees. The sparse tourists who visit Cyprus are always attracted by these searches for the treasures of the past, and last year a visit was paid Herr RICHTER by Sir HENRY BULWER. The two figures on the right and left hand of the page at the bottom are of terra-cotta, and are 2 feet 7 inches in height. Herr RICHTER, having found one of these two statuettes during an early exploration, became convinced of the necessity of making further researches in the same locality, and this led him to the discovery of the earliest known site of Greek civilization in Cyprus. There can be no doubt but that these two statuettes represent the costume worn by the women of an early date, and that the heads are modelled after life. Many varieties of drinking-cups have been found, and the one shown, terminating with a ram's head, conveys a good idea of the strength and power of design of the artists of that day. To the right are ear-rings, an amulet, and various small articles in pottery. Some of the rings found by Herr RICHTER are in the best style of early Greek workmanship. One of them has an engraved stone showing a man riding a deer. Before the finding of this stone Herr RICHTER states that no instance was known of the deer being represented in Greek art. In some of the tombs the jewelry is of a later date, and thought to be of about the time of ALEXANDER the Great. One very charming piece of personal ornamentation is a golden pelican, fashioned for an ear-ring, where the bird holds its head under its wing. There are some few objects in silver, but such relics are very rare, because silver is so perishable that few silver ornaments have come down in good order to our times. The gold necklace with its many pendants, on the top of the page of illustrations, shows how prolific was the fancy of the jeweller of 2200 years ago. On the extreme right of the page at the top is a terra-cotta figure which must be a portrait of the period. The whole treatment of the subject is a perfectly natural one: a woman in contemplation, who rests her head on her hand. At the left is the head of a goddess with a classical head-dress. In profile the face shows a Greek type, considerably modified, however, under Cypriote influences. At the foot of the page the design on an aryballos is represented. This is now in the British Museum. The inscriptions on it are numerous, and the figures are in white and red, with ornamentations and gilding in relief on a black background. The workmanship is pure Greek, and the subject presented Athene and Herakles killing Chimera. This fine specimen of Greek art was found in a tomb with a sacrificial spoon and other objects. The spirit of the drawing is very fine. There is not only force in the conception, but careful detail. Under English rule, the work of exhuming the art relics of the past is likely to be continuous.



ORNAMENTATION ON AN ARYBALLOS.



TERRA-COTTA FIGURE OF ISLAND WORKMANSHIP.