

S.S. 055. Fr. of bronze sheet. Much corroded. $2\frac{7}{8}$ "; Gr. width $1\frac{1}{8}$ ". Pl. CXVI.

S.S. 057. Fr. of shallow bowl; buff, greenish buff surface. Sides turned up rather sharply from saucer-shaped lower part. Split and impregnated with salt. Ch. $4\frac{3}{8}$ "; outside depth $2\frac{1}{8}$ ".

S.S. 058, 59, 63, 70, 112. Fr. of pottery vessels. Buff. 057, few curved incisions on outside. $4\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 2". 059, flat circular slab with side rising at a steep angle. Both slab and side drilled with holes about $\frac{3}{8}$ " diam.; purpose uncertain. $3"$ \times $1"$ \times $1\frac{1}{2}"$. 063, wheel-made. Plain and weathered. $3"$ \times $2\frac{1}{4}"$. 0112, outside surface covered with sludge and greenish buff which has been pushed into irregular ripples ('rusticated') in successive zones. $2\frac{1}{8}"$.

S.S. 074. Fr. of pottery; grey, finely washed clay. Painted outside and inside over thin buff sludgy wash. Lip black. Below, outside, two broad annular lines and a triangle, apex down, sides boldly scalloped and cross-hatching inside triangle (cf. R.R. xvii. 08). Inside, below lip line a pair of annular lines. Between the upper of these and lip line are oblique lines forming irregular triangles in which is vertical hatching. Below, a thin scalloped line. $1\frac{3}{4}"$ \times $1\frac{7}{8}"$. Pl. CXIII.

S.S. 081, 90, 99, 100 + 106, 101, 102 + 103, 105, 107-10. Frs. of pottery vessels, of similar character to S.S. 03, but prob. all wheel-made. Paint varies in blackness. 081, rim black, broad smeary band extending about $\frac{1}{4}"$ from rim downwards, outside. From this four vertical lines. To R. three 'flying birds'. 090, inside, vertical band of 'flying bats'. To L. a form suggesting a written char., but prob. accidental. 099, rim almost flat, painted black; below, outside, a band of smeary lines. 0100 + 0106, rim painted black, broader outside than inside. Another thick

black line below, outside. 0101, strongly wheel-marked inside; vertical band of 'bats' between thick lines. Pl. CXIV. 0102 + 0103, similar to S.S. 0110. Remains of black on rim. Wheel-marked. 0105, rim black, bands on outside with 'flying birds' between, and vertical lines to L. Pl. CXIV. 0107, rim painted black and two black bands below, outside. Marks of smoothing tool on outside, in one place rippled as the tool vibrated when pot was on wheel. Pl. CXIII. 0108, pair of black bands with group of others below. 0109, rim painted black. Vertical strokes from rim to broad bands below. Outside zigzag in narrow and broad lines touching rim and solid band below. 0110, on rim black paint carried down in broad band on outside. Below, zigzag, hatched. Paint on all frs. varies in blackness, sometimes dense, at others thin. Gr. fr. (0107) ch. $1\frac{7}{8}"$; H. $2\frac{5}{16}"$.

S.S. 089. Carved lignite seal, black, originally sq. or oblong, broken diagonally, only two corners remaining. Deeply incised on one side with pattern similar in type to key pattern. Other side smoothly polished. Edges rounded. Size $\frac{7}{8}"$ \times $\frac{7}{8}"$ \times $\frac{3}{16}"$.

S.S. 091. Bronze peg, almost sq. in section at one end slightly tapering to a point at other. Much corroded. Length $1\frac{3}{4}"$, width c. $\frac{3}{8}"$.

S.S. 0119. Fr. of pottery jar; grey, burnt red on surface. Outside painted in black with three parallel zigzag lines. Space above upper and below line hatched. Inside plain. Walls thin and body of fine texture. $2"$ \times $2"$. Pl. CXIII.

S.S. 0121. Pottery jar; pear-shaped, buff. From broadest part it turns under and downwards to narrow solid stem-foot. Upper part spreads slightly towards mouth (missing). $5\frac{1}{4}"$ \times $2\frac{7}{8}"$. Pl. CXIV.

SECTION IV.—RUINS OF AN ANCIENT BORDER LINE

Discovery
of line.

The account given in Section iii of the sites that yielded relics of prehistoric occupation has already taken us over that portion of the southern delta in which I discovered ruined posts marking an ancient defensive line. There is no need, therefore, to preface my survey of their remains by a general description of the area. We may conveniently start this survey from the conspicuous ruin, R.R. iv, the *Burj-i-chākar*, which first attracted my attention to this Limes-like line and which approximately marks the centre of the section stretching north of the debouchure of the Rūd-i-biyābān.

Ruined post
of Burj-i-
chākar
(R.R. iv).

The ruined post, as seen in Figs. 480, 481, is a massive pile still rising to a height of about 25 feet. It forms, as the sketch-plan, Pl. 59, shows, a square, approximately orientated, of about 60 feet outside. Slender towers, now almost completely decayed and probably less than 10 feet in diameter, were added to strengthen the corners. The interior comprised two stories, but the disposition of only the ground floor could be ascertained. This contained three vaulted chambers, 31 feet long, the one in the centre being about 14 feet wide and the flanking ones 10' 4". Access to them lay from three smaller rooms along the southern face through which the gate led. But the dividing walls were too much broken here to permit of exact measurement. Guided by the arrange-