

A P P E N D I X II.

MICROSCOPICAL AND CHEMICAL TESTS

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RED PAINT ON WOOD. (SAMPLE FROM CEMETERY 5).

The withered wood fragment has a thickness of about 8 mm. To judge from the curvature of the piece it must formerly have been part of a wide and round vessel. It is evident, too, that both inside and outside have been covered with a good lacquer,¹ containing a red mineral pigment.

Owing to the withered state of the wood it was easy to scrape off the lacquer. The flake powder gained in this way was boiled with strong hydrochloric acid until full solution was obtained. Then sulphuretted hydrogen was passed into the diluted solution. As no precipitate was formed, no lead or other heavy metals can be present. Ammonium sulphide precipitated greenish black iron sulphide, and all other indicating reactions proved that iron is the dominating substance, and that it occurs in the form of oxide.

It may therefore be assumed that the red pigment used was a calcined ochre.

NO 5. A:6. CONTENTS OF THE BASKET.

Agglomerates of rounded light red-brownish grains.

The appearance as well as the structure and properties of the grains coincide with those of the grains in the sample No. 5. F: 1.

Thus it is to be assumed that also here the material in the basket is millet — in this case merely a little cleaner and more carefully manipulated.

NO. 5 F: 1. CONTENTS OF THE BASKET.

Big lumps of mixed grains of sand (diam. 0.02—2 mm.) of almost all colours, and a large proportion of grains of some brownish organic matter (1—2 mm.), together with some few seeds in light-brown and dark-brown glossy hulls (2—2½

¹ To avoid any misunderstanding it should be mentioned that this 'lacquer' has nothing whatsoever in common with the Chinese lacquer otherwise referred to in this monograph. F. B.