

feet 2 inches); or different "motifs" as in plate 15, fig. 6 (from terrace B, between +21 feet 5 inches and +23 feet 7 inches). Vessels of coarse clay are also ornamented with incised patterns, as in plate 15, fig. 7, with its vertical zigzag grooves; fig. 9, with its grooved triangles; and fig. 8, with its grooved squares (all three from terrace C, between +19 and +21 feet).

(2) PAINTING.

In the pottery of light-colored gray, painting is found on whitish-green or greenish-yellow clay, but red clay is generally provided with a whitish-green slip, which serves as the ground for the painting. The decorating color is black or black-brown or violet-black, but remains always mat. The ground itself is always dull (see plate 35, figs. 1-6).

Forms.—The forms of the painted vessels resemble those of the fine gray ware; they are steep-walled beakers or bowls, in part with sharply bent back margins. The patterns are geometric in so far as the fragments permit an insight into the decoration—vertical lines and zigzag patterns being used together, *i. e.*, a kind of field decoration, as in plate 35, figs. 1 and 4 (from terrace A, between +27 and +31 feet and terrace C, +29 feet); or groups of parallel lines and bands with the crenulated pattern, as in plate 35, fig. 6 (from terrace B, between +21 feet 5 inches and +23 feet 7 inches). As isolated motifs appear trellis-triangles shown in plate 35, fig. 7 (from terrace C, between +21 feet 2 inches and +23 feet 2 inches); or angle patterns fringed with points, as in plate 35, fig. 5 (from terrace B, +23 feet 7 inches); or rhombs with diagonals, as in plate 35, fig. 2 (from terrace B between +21 feet 5 inches and +23 feet 7 inches); or very peculiar gores with vandyke edges, partly isolated, as in plate 34, fig. 6 (from terrace B, +31 feet); or partly combined and placed in rows, as in plate 35, fig. 3 (from the upper digging, between +29 and +32 feet).

POTTERY OF THE LOWER STRATA, CULTURE III.

The designation "lower strata" in the South Kurgan applies to those layers which were explored only by means of shafts. The points to be considered are shaft C in the upper digging, the top of which lies deeper than +18 feet, and shaft A, on the southern declivity near terrace B, which begins at +11 feet. The finds made in shaft D of the outer digging are not considered here. The strata in question lie, therefore, below the level reached in terraces B and C. In determining the character of these strata by the pottery they contain, we find the pottery to be intimately connected with that of the middle strata and to belong to the same great culture epoch.

(a) POTTERY OF LIGHT-COLORED CLAY.

Fragments of the same kind of pottery were collected throughout all the layers, down to the lowest. Taken individually, the similarities in form indicate the closest connection with the pottery of the middle strata. There occurred profiles of fine bowls like fig. 159 in shaft C, between -16 feet and -17 feet 5 inches; kettle-shaped vessels like fig. 147, also from shaft C between -5 and -9