

- h. Two fragments of plain glass. See Pl. LII.
 - i. Piece of flint. See Pl. LII.
 - k. Fragment of Chinese porcelain vessel, finely glazed and painted with fret pattern in grey-blue on outside, and two faint lines inside. See Pl. LII.
- D. K. 005. Small objects in metal, stone, &c.**
- a. Large white shell bead. Diameter $\frac{5}{8}$ ".
 - b. Broken bronze finger ring, with empty circular gem cavity. See Pl. LI.
 - c. Small bronze bell. Diameter $\frac{3}{8}$ ".
 - d. Fragment of small bronze bell.
 - e. Several small fragments of bronze, some showing engraved patterns.
 - f. Small piece of bronze with square hole, probably worn-out Chinese coin.
 - g. Small thin bronze disk; perhaps a coin.
 - h. Fragment of pale-green stone.
- Objects from Uzun-Tati.

OBJECTS FROM OLD SITE NEAR LACHIN-ATĀ.

- L. 001. Small objects in bronze**, said to have been found near Lachin-atā Mazār (presented by Bēg of Gulakhma).
- a. Piece of cast bronze, to underside of which is attached, by iron rivet, a fragment of leather. It is probably a piece of harness. $1\frac{3}{8}$ " \times $\frac{3}{4}$ ".
 - b. Bronze split ring. Diam. $\frac{5}{8}$ ".
 - c. Piece of thin sheet bronze doubled in halves. $\frac{3}{4}$ " \times $\frac{9}{16}$ ".
- L. 002. Terra-cotta fragments**, found on eroded ground near Lachin-atā Mazār.
- a. Fragment of rough terra-cotta vessel decorated with lightly scored lines and nebulae. 3 " \times $2\frac{3}{4}$ ".
 - b. Fragment of rough terra-cotta vessel decorated with nebular scorings. 2 " \times $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".
 - c. Fragment of neck and shoulder of coarse terra-cotta vessel, with scar showing attachment of handle. Round junction of neck with shoulder two parallel raised mouldings. On neck, as ornament, a few oblique dotted lines. Height $3\frac{3}{8}$ ", width $2\frac{1}{8}$ ".
- Objects from Lachin-atā.
- L. 003. Chinese seal in bronze**, octagonal, said to have been found at old site near Lachin-atā; bought at Gulakhma. *Obv.* shows in cameo one of the hundred forms of the character 壽 = 'longevity' (Dr. Bushell). *Rev.* plain, with shank. Diam. $1\frac{3}{16}$ ". See Pl. L.

SECTION IV.—THE TÜGA-DONG MOUNDS AND THE KERIYA-KHOTAN ROUTE

Gulakhma, which counts over nine hundred homesteads in its several villages, and in its central part near the Keriya-Khotan route bears the look of a thriving small market town, might have tempted me to give to my caravan the rest which it badly needed. But time would not permit of more than a day's halt, which I myself used for the examination of some ancient mounds I had heard of as recently opened by people of Chīra. Etiquette demanded that I should visit them under the guidance of the Bēg of the latter oasis. So on March 29 I rode to Sarīgh, the easternmost village of Chīra, where the Bēg's party joined me, and thence was taken again south-eastwards into the scrub-covered waste which stretches south of the high road connecting the two oases. After about three miles the sandy soil changed to gravel, and three miles beyond, at a point about equidistant from Gulakhma and Chīra, we arrived at the mounds of *Tüga-dong* ('the Camel Hillocks').

There, not far from the edge of the pebble 'Sai,' I found some seventeen roughly circular mounds scattered at irregular intervals, varying from 10 to 60 yards, in the general direction from north to south. The largest measured about 79 ft. in diameter, with a height of 11 ft., while the smallest was about 30 ft. across, rising to 5 ft. above the ground-level. They had all been dug into from the top in the centre, and cuttings had often been made from their sides; but this work of destruction had evidently been carried on at different periods, as indicated by the varying states of decay of the interior materials thus exposed. There were indications of

Halt at Gulakhma.

Tüga-dong mounds.