

Persian Gulf.<sup>2</sup> What scanty potsherds were found in the earth with which the top portion of these graves of Tīz was originally covered in, were just of the same type as found on the surface of the adjacent debris area.

The clearing of this area, marked *II*, brought to light a complex of ten small rooms, none measuring more than about 10 by 8 feet. Their badly decayed walls were built with rubble set in earth and nowhere stood more than 4 feet above the ground. The finds, apart from some large pots of coarse plain fabric, comprised plentiful fragments of glazed and relief-decorated pottery as well as some of painted ware. As their types agree closely with those of the ceramic remains found elsewhere at Tīz, their characteristics may conveniently be described together farther on. That most, if not all, of this pottery was produced locally was at once made clear by finds of small three-limbed stands, 'spurs' or 'crowsfeet', used for supporting glazed vessels in kilns, and of pottery bars and handles (Tīz. II. ii. 13; iii. 41; vi. 85, &c.) used for a similar purpose during firing. All these show patches of glaze deposited from the objects with which they had been in contact. There were indications of glazing operations having been carried on within the rooms in small kilns. Some finds of broken glass, a potter's mould, II. vi. 84, and a small bronze disk which may be a coin, with a suspension loop, II. x. 131 (Pl. X), prove these quarters to have been inhabited. Among a number of very small coins found here some are considered by Mr. John Allan to be Parthian of the first century B.C. Others appear to belong to Muhammadan times.

Pottery debris was particularly abundant on a low mound, *III*, situated about 300 yards to the south-east of the previously mentioned graveyard and appropriately known to the villagers as *Kalandī*, the 'place of pottery'. A trench 6 feet in width was carried through it for some 40 yards. Cut to a depth of 5 feet, it revealed plenty of broken pottery, mostly glazed, mixed throughout with layers of burnt earth, charcoal fragments, and ashes. The spot must have been used for the production of local ceramic ware during some length of time. It deserves, therefore, to be mentioned that almost all the glazed fragments found here show that mixture of brown, yellow, and green glaze, with incised floral ornaments below, which has been noted already as prevailing among the glazed ware of Qal'āt-i-Jamshīd. Specimens of this ware are shown in Plate IV. Another type of glazed ware shows bold graffiti inscriptions of Kufic letters cut through a slip and glazed with various tones of yellow and pale green. Plain green glazed pieces were rare, and blue glaze absent. Three-limbed 'crowsfeet' or 'spurs' and other pottery pieces used to support vessels in the process of glazing turned up by the dozens (see III. 145, 147; Pl. IV, V). Some plain white ware shows almost

<sup>2</sup> See below, pp. 207 sq.