

OBJECTS PURCHASED AT KERIYA.

Ker. 001. Bronze finial. On summit of ornamental square shaft, a peacock, with erect crest flattened from before. There is a stump to which probably the spread tail was attached, but the tail is missing. Below the shaft is a round tang, flattened at its lower extremity. The same design of peacock made now by *Koftgārs* of *Kōtli Lōharān*, Punjab. It is a motif frequently used for *surmadāns*, and this piece looks very like end of style in *surmadān*. See Pl. LI.

Ker. 002. Rough terra-cotta vessel, cone-shaped, flat at bottom, broad end uppermost. There seems to have

been a permanent cover, but it is much broken. In one side of remaining portion of cover is a small hole about $\frac{3}{16}$ " in diameter and traces of two others in broken cover. The vessel might have been a lamp (*chirāgh*) and the holes made to take the wick. Height $1\frac{3}{4}$ "; diam. at top $2\frac{5}{8}$ "; diam. at base $1\frac{3}{8}$ ".

Ker. 003. Stone seal; wide elliptical, broken at lower side. In intaglio, a running deer to L., with horns like those of the chamois. On further side of deer a man, standing to L., perhaps carrying deer. On his head a cap with heavy brim, or thick hair. $\frac{9}{16}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ ". See Pl. XLIX.

From Lop where I had camped I was able to proceed at once on April 5 to the eastern most of the ancient sites which still remained to be examined in the vicinity of the Khotan oasis. It was the Tati of Hangaya, from which a number of coins had been brought to me in November, and with which Turdi from the vicinity of his own village was of course thoroughly familiar. Before setting out for it and other points on my way through the cultivated parts of the Hangaya tract I had opportunities for interesting glimpses of the flourishing state enjoyed by this oasis, and also by the oasis of Sumpula or I had noticed some of the Both are administratively included in the district of Keriya, of which they form probably the fiscally most valuable portion. The Bey in charge of it, whose acquaintance I had made with its pretty garden and orchard, vividly recalled to my mind the number of beautiful buildings residences explored at the Niya Site, estimated the number of beautiful buildings there at about 9000. This number, though nearly double that subsequently communicated to me as the present conventional reckoning, did not strike me as extravagant in view of the extent and busy life of Lop Bazar and the thriving look of the Hangaya villages. Those of Sumpula owe their population largely to the flourishing carpet industry which is carried here, and to the early importance of which I have already had occasion to allude.

Immediately to the north of Lop Bazar stretches a small lake of salt water, which is liable to be flooded by subsoil water. This immediately toward the east, and the road for which the road had been laid for nearly half a century, and the water for irrigation was said to be abundant. It is possible that the water from the Yung-kash and from springs which appear to the westward of Lop Bazar, and which surprised to find a great deal of ground normally barren, was carried to the lake, and from there of Hangaya Bazar. After riding about three miles in the direction of the lake, we found the to lacustrine fields irrigated by low dunes which are slowly but surely being built up by the cuts. Half a mile beyond we reached the lake, and the water was found to be first with cherry scrub, and further on completely bare.

Following under Turdi's guidance, a well marked track which I was to follow, we found wood from the jacks about the Yung-kash course, we arrived at the edge of the lake, and made from the edge of cultivation, at eroded ground covered with rocks and pebbles. It was the commencement of a typical Tati, just as Turdi's remark that the water was and which according to his statement extended far away to the westward, and the vicinity of Ak-sipit. That the debris-covered site here was highly cultivated, and that the prevailing dust-bazars prevented even an open market.

The oasis of Sumpula.

The Hangaya tract.

Hangaya Bazar.