

§ 72. THE MINIATURE FRESCOS: 3. FRAGMENTS OF SIEGE SCENES AND ANALOGIES SUPPLIED BY THE MEGARON FRIEZE AND SILVER 'RHYTON' OF MYCENAE: EGYPTIAN PARALLELS.

*Miniature Frescoes depicting Siege Scenes; Antiquity of theme in Egypt and Crete; Warriors hurling javelins on Knossian fragment; Youthful Spearman; Fragment of building, probably belonging to same subject; 'Sacral horns'—not confined to Shrines; Female figures visible in opening beneath entablature; Correspondence of structure with faïence House fronts; The Megaron Frieze at Mycenae—scenes of assault; Warrior precipitated in front of wall—prototype of Kapanews; Analogies from Egyptian siege scenes; House façade on crystal tablet—obliterated by workman; Section of outer wall on Tylissos fresco; The Silver 'rhyton' with Siege Scene from Mycenae Shaft Grave; graphic character of design; Historic import; Restoration of 'rhyton' in conical form; Continuous design—land, sea, and conventional reticulation for shallows; The besieged City—its gate and towers—Minoan character; Separate fragment with 'superposed pillars' and 'Sacral horns'; Non-Minoan element, however, among inhabitants; Shields of Minoan type; Shock-haired natives within the walls; Friendly native allies, some arriving by sea; Shipwreck and sea monster; Hostile barbarians with primitive weapons—stones, throwing-sticks, and clubs; Native 'friendlies' better armed; Minoan element among defenders—warriors in boat; The relief a historic record; Topographical data; Presumptions in favour of Anatolian Coast; Slings typical Asiatic weapons; Clubs also traditional; Archers paralleled by Knossian small relief; Pictorial style, akin to that of Miniature Frescoes; Anticipations of Scenes on Shields of Achilles and Herakles; Besieged stronghold traditional in Egypt—example from Fifth Dynasty Tomb of Anta—its dramatic character; Middle Empire examples; Sensational versions of New Empire; Was there a Minoan reaction on Egypt? Cretan Miniature Art supplies link between Early Egypt and Epic tradition.*

AMONG the 'Miniature Frescoes' derived from the little Corner Sanctuary described above, certainly the most important in their historic relation is a small group of a warlike character, implying, it would seem, an attack on some fenced city.

We have not here the same elements for reconstructing a connected design as in the case of the former subjects illustrative of festal and cere-

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'Miniature Frescoes' depicting siege scenes.