

the thing he was discovering, but all of which helped to arouse the interest of England in the excavations. writings are very beautifully written and he was made a knight and they showed him recognition in the work they did there and it was the impetus of his writing which largely stimulated people in England to give money for excavation in Mesopotamia, or a continuation of

- - - - - quite a discussion of No. 2, decipherment and study of cuneiform, and then we began No. 3, the summary of the history of excavation. Summary of the History of Excavation, and under this we mentioned the work of and of in Mesopotamia there, beginning to dig in to the great mounds of Nineveh and of other palaces of great kings a few miles away from Nineveh. A remarkable thing has happened in Mesopotamia. The land, as we noticed, is very flat and the result is that in this extremely flat level land you have the place where the two rivers flow down through it, one almost directly down from the mountains, the other coming from way over to the west, curving around and coming down, and these rivers flowing through that very flat country had occasionally changed their course, not very often, but there has been a great change from the course of the rivers of antiquity, so that today the thriving cities along the course of the rivers are often many miles removed from the place where the thriving ancient cities stood, so that the ancient cities are largely mounds left there deserted in the desert and it is possible to go there and to excavate without having to interfere with gardens and farms and houses and places of present civilization. There are many places in Assyria and in Palestine where the center of an ancient civilization is covered with a modern town, or with modern towns, and, of course, that makes it extremely difficult to excavate. In Mesopotamia you rarely have that difficulty on account of the change of the course of the rivers. This, of course, makes the mounds much more impressive from the viewpoint of excavation. You have much more of the feeling of something that is deserted and ancient in a place where you do not have a thriving, modern life going on. Here is a letter from Professor , Edward who was a professor