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characters on one and corresponding to the same on the next one, thus comparing them some progress could be made.   The guess was made by both of them that the one that had the least characters, least different characters on it, where there were more actual occurrences of them was an ancient Persian and both Rawlinson and   knew something of modern Persian and with that for a comparison they were able to work out something of the ancient Persian.   That was the beginning of the decipherment of the cuneiform writing which came, not from Mesopotamia, but from Persia, which had taken it over from Mesopotamia.   Yes, Mr.————? (Student) 1835 was when Rawlinson made his discoveries;   Had done his work a few years before but Rawlinson was not the next

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the knowledge of technique to know how to get them out without wrecking them, to know how to find exactly where the walls are which were often made of mud brick and have so disintegrated that you have to watch very carefully to see exactly where they are but once you dig them over nobody else can ever find out. It means that as long as it is left untouched the story is there even though it is of no use to anybody. Once it is dug up what you get out of the story you've got.   The earliest excavations did not yield us anything like the knowledge that the more recent ones do but the more recent ones would not yield us this much knowledge if it were not for the technique learned from the earlier ones and with each excavation there is an improvement in technique and an increased understanding that helps to interpret the new things that are found. The result is that they try to limit excavation to those who are competent. They Irak government now has a department of antiquity which, and no one is permitted to excavate without its permission, and they have to give proof to the department that the place where they are going to excavate is one which has reasonable promise of being worth while excavation. They have to give