

Copyright information

**Newton, Charles Thomas, Sir, 1816-1894.**

Observations on an Inscription in an unknown character : found on a fragment of base in the Temple of Diana at Ephesus / by C.T. Newton.

1876.

**ICLASS Tract Volumes T.10.11**

For the Stavros Niarchos Digital Library Euclid collection, [click here](#).



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License](#).

This book has been made available as part of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Digital Library collection. It was digitised by UCL Creative Media Services and is copyright UCL. It has been kindly provided by the [Institute of Classical Studies Library and Joint Library of the Hellenic and Roman Societies](#), where it may be consulted.

Higher quality archival images of this book may be available. For permission to reuse this material, for further information about these items and UCL's Special Collections, and for requests to access books, manuscripts and archives held by UCL Special Collections, please contact [UCL Library Services Special Collections](#).

Further information on photographic orders and image reproduction is available [here](#).



With thanks to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation.

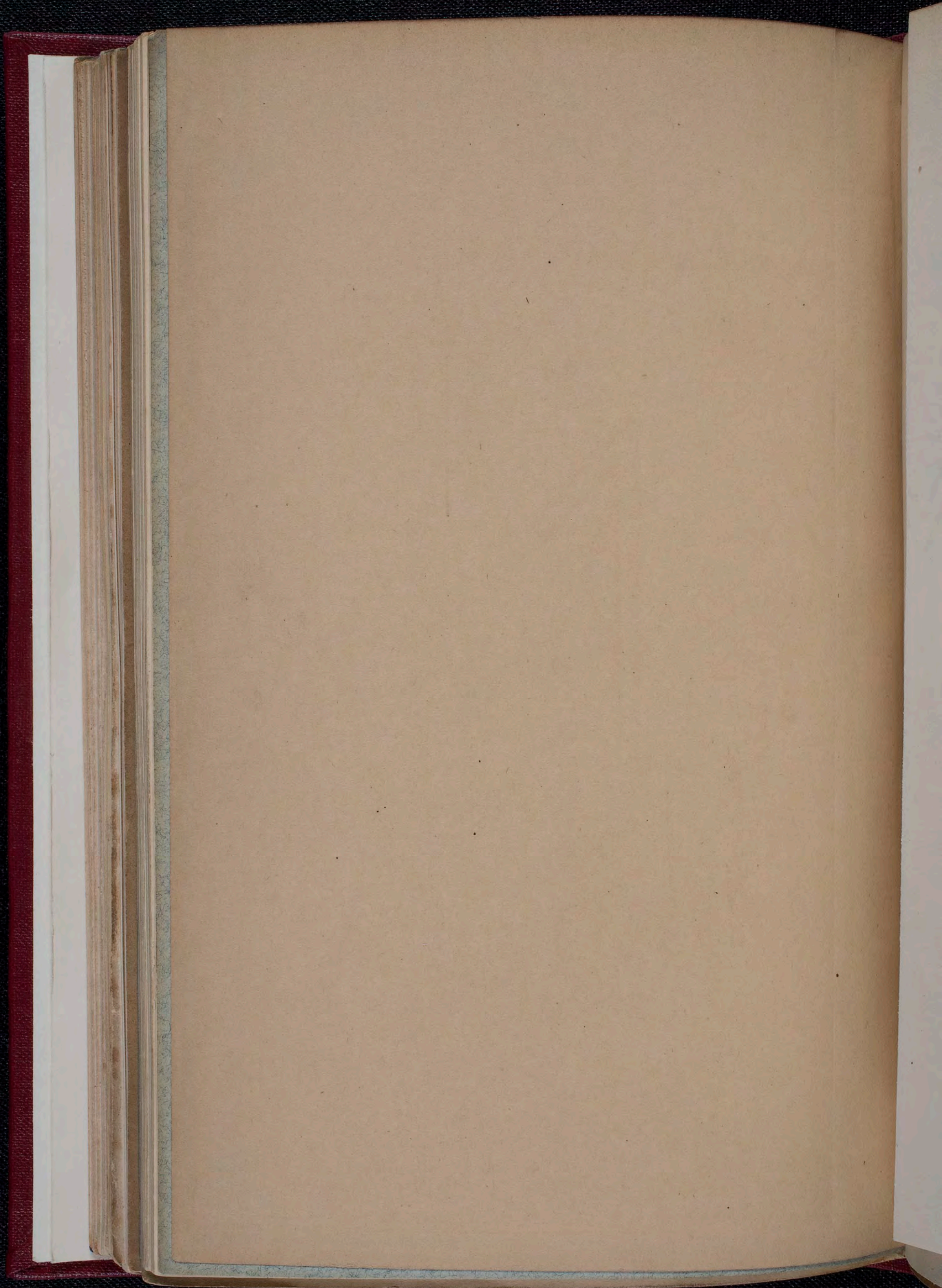


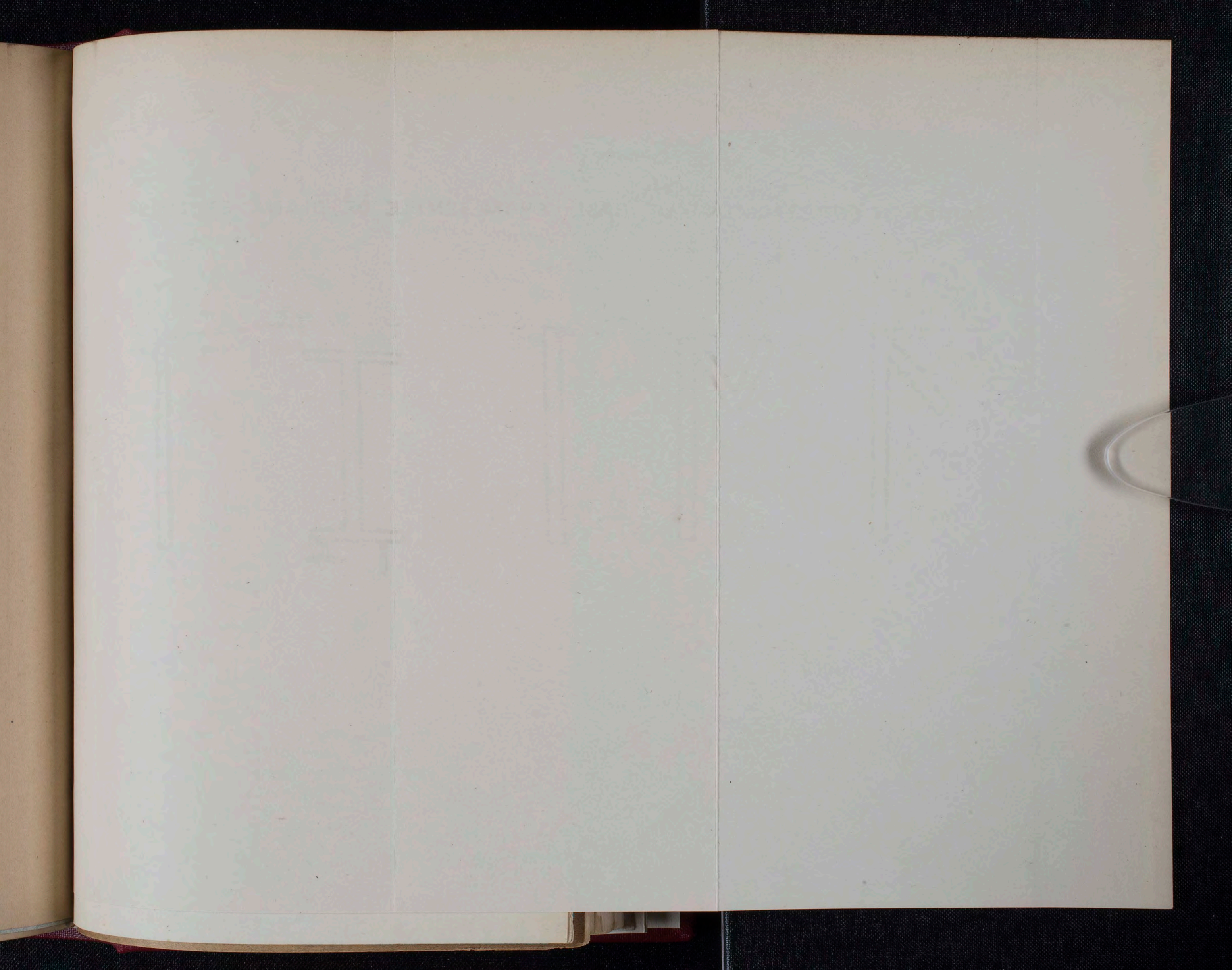
UCL Library Services  
Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT  
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7679 2000  
[ucl.ac.uk/niarchoslibrary](http://ucl.ac.uk/niarchoslibrary)

NOT TO BE  
REMOVED  
FROM THE  
LIBRARY

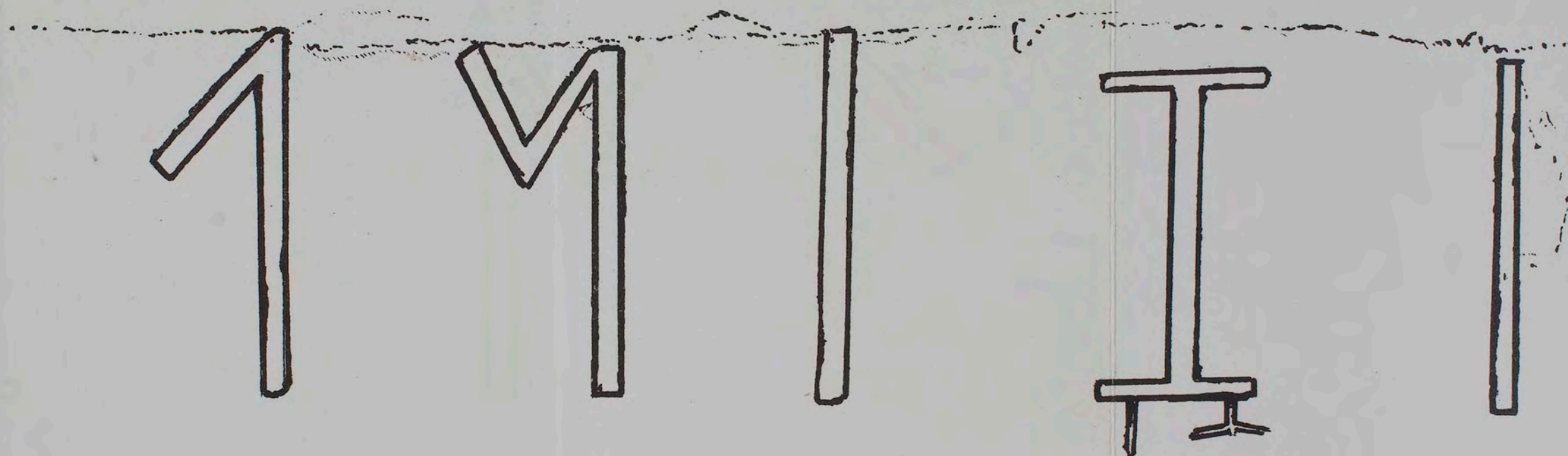


11





INSCRIPTION ON FRAGMENT OF BASE FROM TEMPLE OF DIANA EPHESUS.



O  
Foun  
Re  
M  
tion  
Dian  
very  
of m  
ture  
side  
4½ in  
on t  
after  
char  
thir  
can  
less  
two  
part  
scrip  
eith  
T  
resp  
Tem  
ture  
the  
circl

OBSERVATIONS ON AN INSCRIPTION IN AN  
UNKNOWN CHARACTER,

*Found on a Fragment of Base in the Temple of Diana at Ephesus.*

BY C. T. NEWTON, C.B.

*Reprinted from the "Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archaeology."*

VOL. IV, PART 2, 1876.

MR. NEWTON exhibited a paper impression from an inscription on a base found by Mr. J. T. Wood in the Temple of Diana at Ephesus. This inscription consists of five characters, very deeply and legibly cut on the curved face of a fragment of marble, which has evidently formed the base of some sculpture, as the outline of a foot may still be traced on its upper side. The section of this base is rectangular, and its depth  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is uncertain how far the inscription extended on the right, but on the left the marble is left perfectly plain after the last letter. Beginning from the left the two last characters  $\Gamma\eta$  might be either archaic Greek or Semitic, the third would be the Greek iota, but the fourth character  $\text{I}$  cannot be at present recognized in any ancient alphabet, unless we suppose it to be a new variety of the  $\text{I}$ . There are two finer strokes under the lower cross-line, which seem part of the original character. Whether we read this inscription from right or left, the characters do not suggest either a Greek or a Semitic word.

The curve of the base and its rectangular section correspond with those of other fragments of bases found in the Temple of Diana, to which are still attached portions of sculptured figures in relief in a very archaic style. On striking the curve of these bases it has been found that we obtain a circle six feet in diameter, a dimension very nearly corre-

sponding to that of the bases of the sculptured columns which Mr. Wood discovered, and which unquestionably belong to the temple built in the time of Alexander the Great, and which Pliny describes as *cælatae columnæ*. After a careful examination of all the fragments of archaic sculpture already alluded to, Mr. Newton has come to the conclusion that they belong to the earlier temple, some of the columns of which were the gift of Croesus, and that they are in all probability fragments of *cælatae columnæ*, a peculiar architectural feature, which would thus seem not to have been the invention of the architects of the later temple, but to have been adopted by them in accordance with the tradition of the original design. The fragment of inscribed base of which an impression was exhibited, may belong to one of these *cælatae columnæ* of the earlier temple, though its depth ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches) is less by half an inch than that of the other fragments of base of the same character. We may, however, in any case, assume that it is the inscription on the base of some piece of sculpture, and that it is most probably part of a dedication. If this dedication was made in the earlier temple, the date of the inscription may be as early as B.C. 560, though the mode of cutting in the letters suggests a more recent date. We may now be quite sure that there were originally in Asia Minor several alphabets derived in the main from the same source as the Greek, but which, unlike the Greek, never spread beyond the district where they first came into use. The question which has now to be examined is, assuming the inscription before the Society to be Asiatic, to what alphabet do its characters belong?

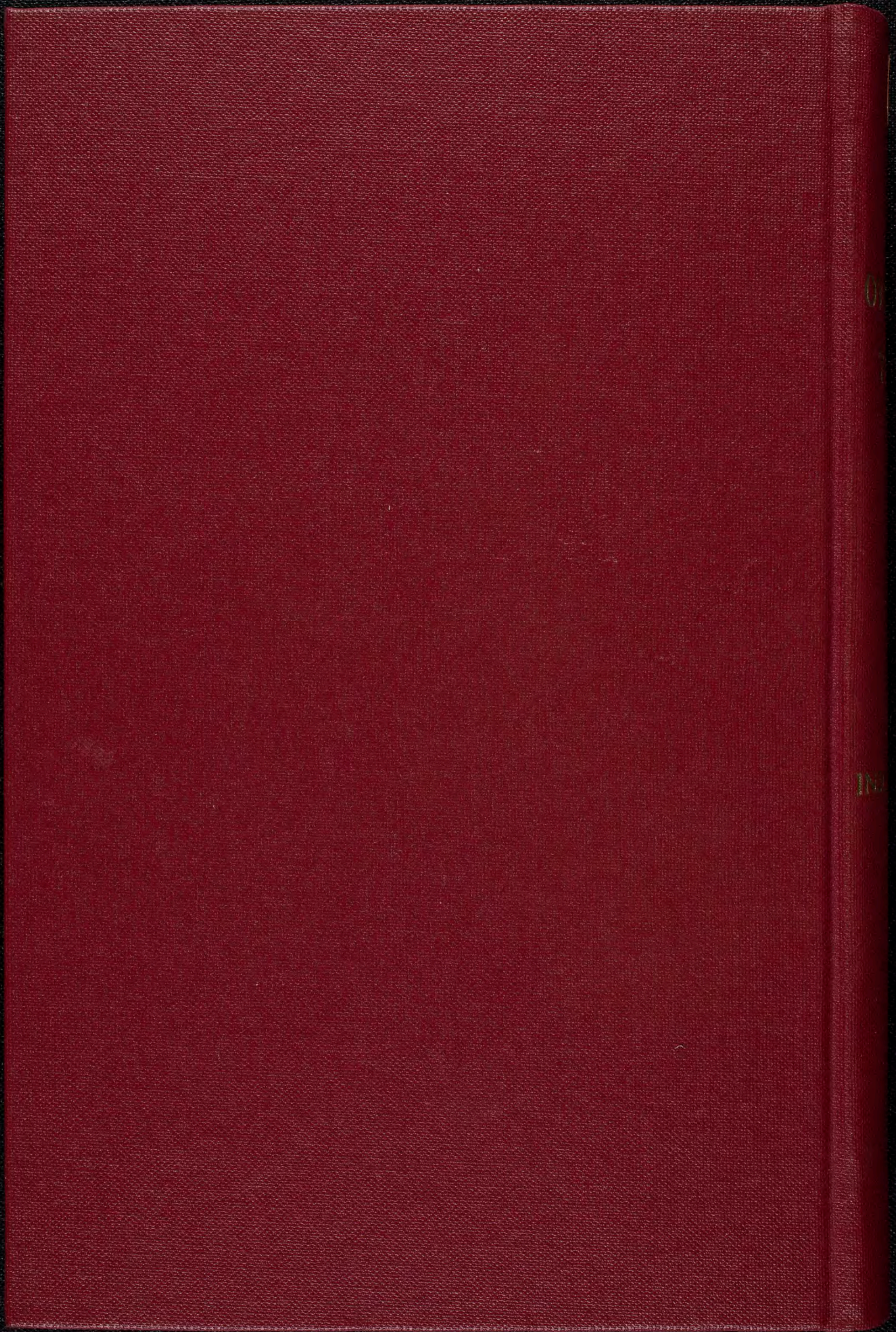


Character.

columns which  
belong to  
and which  
examined  
ly alluded  
ey belong  
were the  
fragments  
ich would  
architects  
them in  
gn. The  
n was ex-  
ae of the  
y half an  
the same  
that it is  
ture, and  
his dedi-  
e inscrip-  
f cutting  
y now be  
r several  
e as the  
yond the  
on which  
n before  
characters

ANE.





XST.30

OVERBECK'S  
TRACTS

10

INSCRIPTIONS



# Digital ColorChecker® SG



**gmb**  
GRETAGMACBETH

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 mm