The PELOPONNESE, or Peloponnisos, forms the s. extremity of the Balkan peninsula. Joined to the mainland of Greece by an insignificant isthmus, it was known to the ancients as the Island of Pelops (Πελώπιον). Its medieval name, the Morea, was probably derived not from a fanciful resemblance to the leaf of the mulberry-tree (μουριόν), which it does not resemble in the least, but from the fact that the mulberry flourished in the country. The modern division into the seven names of Argolis (Αργολίς), Corinthia (Κορινθία), Achaea (Αχαΐα), Elis (Ελίς), Messenia (Μεσσηνία), Lacedaemonia (Λακεδαίμονια), and Arcadia (Αρκαδία) roughly corresponds to the ancient regional division. The largest towns are Patras and Kalamata. The scenery of the Peloponnesse is of the rarest grandeur and beauty, and its archaeological interest is unsurpassed.

The N. coast, ending in Cape Drepanos, opposite Naupaktos, is separated from the mainland of Greece proper by the long narrow gulf of Corinth, and is comparatively free from indentations. To the s. the peninsula sends out the three long tongues of land, separated by the Messenian and Laconic Gulfs, which give it its characteristic shape. These end (from W. to E.) in Cape Gallo (the ancient Akritas), fringed by the Oenousae Islands; in Cape Matapan (Paionaron), the southernmost point of continental Greece; and in Cape Malea, off which lie the islands of Elaphonissi, Kythera, and Antikythera. A fourth but less obtrusive tongue, fringed with islands and ending in Cape Skilli (Skylatoni), stretches s.e. between the Gulf of Nauplia and the Saronic Gulf. Off the N. coast lie the Ionian islands of Zante and Kefalonia. The greatest length of the peninsula is 132 m. (from Cape Drepano to Cape Matapan); its greatest width is 134 m. but road distances tend to be longer both in miles and hours than this might indicate, owing to the terrain.

An irregular series of mountains, encircling Arcadia, forms the backbone of the country, with articularia almost reaching to the sea in all directions. The highest peaks of this central group are Zereas (the ancient Kyllene; 7800 ft), Areomnis or Chelmos (7725 ft), and Olenos or Auchen (7295 ft). These form a natural barrier across the peninsula from E. to W. To the N. of Erymanthus Mt. Voulid on Panakkaios (6310 ft) rises above Patras. Two important chains run S. from the Arcadian group. The longer range of Taygetos, with Aigion (Aspis), the highest mountain in the Peloponnesse (7900 ft) separates the Messenian Plain from the Lacedaemonian Valley and ends in Cape Matapan. The parallel chain of Parnon (6365 ft), continuing the E. mountain wall of Arcadia (culminating in Artemision, 5815 ft), closes the Lacedaemonian Valley on the E., extends to Cape Malea, and reappears in the hills of Kythera.

Practically the only low-lying portions are the Isthmus and shores of the Bay of Corinth; the coastal district of Achaia and Elis from Patras to Pireos, with the vale of Olympia; and the plains or valleys of Messenia, Lacedaemonia, and Argos, at the head respectively of the Gulfs of Korone, Lechasia, and Nauplia. A feature of Arcadia is the bleak Plain of Trigla, lying 2000 ft above the sea. The vale of Olympia is watered by the Alpheus, the longest and most famous river in the peninsula; the Messenian Plain by the Parnassus or Pamisos, the most copious stream; the Valley of Laconia by the Eurotas; and the Arcelian Plain by the seasonal Panisus or Inachus. The Elean Peniagos flows into the Channel of Zante. The whole of the N. coast is seared by small torrents, generally dry but occasionally sweeping the road into the sea. A feature of the plateaux of the interior is the number of Katothroi (katafakés), swallow-holes into which the rivers disappear underground; they are common in Arcadia. The only natural lakes are Phoeon or Stymphalos, both shallow almost to the point of being seasonal, but there are hydro-electric reservoirs behind the Peneios and Ladon dams.

Communications in the main are excellent and it is possible to make a tour of the most famous sites with ease and comfort, either by public transport or by organized coach tour. The 4-5 day tours (from Athens) allow the hurried traveler to see more than would be possible in the time except by private car; even those less pressed, who are satisfied to see the popular highlights of archaeological discovery, may favour this means of transport, arranging longer halts with
continuation by a later tour. The Argolid is readily accessible by train, as also is Olympia (via Patras). Intending visitors to the s.w. may profitably visit Kalamata. The traveller who wishes to gain more than a superficial acquaintance with antiquities will be greatly rewarded by a more leisurely tour, taking in the remote areas with their characteristic aspects of life, where a few hours’ hard travelling brings incomparable rewards.

History. The Peloponnese was inhabited in Early Helladic times (3rd millennium B.C.), but neither archaeology nor tradition gives any certain answer whatever to the peoples came or what language they may have spoken. From the non-Hellenic place-names ending in -bya, -byos, and -ya (e.g. Corinth, Mycenae) they were probably of Asiatic origin. Their implements were of copper and later of bronze; their hand-carved pottery had elongated spouts, the so-called sauce-boat (as was characteristic) and were painted with brown glaze. Their existence is probably recorded in the legendary Pelasgoi of Herodotus. Remains of typical sites can be seen at Zygouries and Lerno.

At the beginning of the 2nd millennium opens the period called Middle Helladic. A violent upheaval marks the arrival of new racial groups, of Indo-European stock perhaps from N. of the Black Sea, presumably the first Greek-speaking people, since their culture develops without a break into the Mycenaean era, now known to have written records in Greek. They were a warrior-like people, who brought with them the Homeroid grey monochrome pottery (‘Minyan’), and developed another ware with matt-painted decoration; the latter may represent an assimilation from the earlier race whose culture they absorbed. Their houses were small, but those of the chiefs had a characteristic horsetail plan, with a hearth in the centre of the largest room and an open porch; the scheme is that of the later megaron. The race understood construction and developed important architectural buildings. Their dead were buried (originally without or with few offerings) in a squatting position in cist graves. Their traditions survive in the hero legends of Perseus, Heracles, etc. Middle Helladic remains are present at Mycenae, Tyrins, Argos, Asine, and Mycenae. The contents of Grave Circle B, now in Athens, give a good idea of the art of the end of that period of development (c. 1550 B.C.). Thereafter the mainland becomes influenced by Middle Minoan civilization, though developing Cretan traditions in an individual way.

A very rapid development marks the Late Helladic period; a widespread civilization, which Homer knew as Achaean and we call Mycenaean because both archaeology and tradition confirm that it reached its apogee.

The other main centres of the Peloponnese were at Argos and Pylia. No danger seems to have threatened them from abroad, quite the reverse if the references to marauders from Attica (found on Mycenae tablets) indeed refer to the activities of the Achaean in Asia Minor.

A fresh wave of Greek-speaking people from the N. the so-called Doric invasion, brought widespread destruction to the Peloponnese. Classical historians attributed this break to the return of the Herakleids, descendants of an earlier Mycenaean dynasty (which included Herakles) exiled by the Peloponnesian rulers of Mycenae before the Trojan War. This was a political upheaval of a very violent kind which put back civilization several centuries, but it is evident that the Achaean civilization (which is clearly shown by the discoveries of the Aegean Civilization) was not greatly affected by the Dorians and is not less nor more Greek than the Peloponnese. Arcadia is today a noble country and the superiority of the Dorians is not less.

The recovery of the Peloponnese is associated with the destruction of the Bronze Age. The area developed new techniques and produced more sophisticated art, which lasted throughout the centuries.

The earliest historical records of the Peloponnese deal with the rise of Sparta. The Syeneid of Corinth confirmed Philip of Macedon as king of the Greek world, the historical centre of the Peloponnese becomes Corinth, which became prominent.

The Peloponnese was ravaged in 327 B.C. by the Goths and by Alaric. Plataea was the Byzantine reorganization in the diocese of Macedon. The province enjoyed (alone of Eastern provinces) the legal rank. Ecclesiastically it remained under the jurisdiction of Rome (under the Metropolitan of Thessalonica), sending only one bishop (of Corinth) to Ephesus (431). By 457 the Peloponnese had a number of bishops and Corinth had become a metropolitan see. In 540 the Huns penetrated to the gates and Justinian restored the Isthmus; the w. shores were attacked by Justin’s Ostrogoths in 549; but in the Peloponnese the ancient era survived into the 1C. Widespread earthquakes devastated the peninsula in 522 and 531.

Avar and Slav incursions submerged the Peloponnese c. 587, bringing two centuries of barbarism. Plague raged havoc in 746-7. In 805 the Moirs of Aegina were defeated (as it was called) by the Byzantine theme, and under the Orthodox church refined and assimilated the Slav elements, although predominantly Slav ravages in the Taygetus region far into Frankish times and the Mani remained aloof. New mercenaries soon came in the Saracen corsairs, beaten off in 881, and the Bulgars, who penetrated the Morea in 924-27 and in 996. In general the 1C was a period of reconstruction and prosperity, during which Venetian merchants began to acquire the trading privileges that they enjoyed throughout the 12C.

A year after the fall of Constantinople in 1204 William de Champlitte landed in the western Peloponnese. Assisted by Geoffrey de Villehardouin, he conquered the Morea and divided it up into 12 feuds among various barons of France, Flanders, and Burgundy. Geoffrey de Villehardouin, who became in 1210 Prince of Morea (or Prince of Achaia), governed the country with moderation. In 1261 Michael I Palaeologus restored the Byzantine Empire, and the Morea passed to the Latin Empire of the Franks under the rule of the House of Villehardouin. The Venetians occupied Methone, Argos, Nauplia, and Navarino; and Nero Acacio established himself in Corinth, Argos, and Achaia.

The Byzantine Palaeologi gradually won back the Peloponnese by means of matrimonial and other alliances. In 1453 two rival despots, Demetrios Palaeologus at Mistra, and his brother Thomas at Patras, simultaneously appealed to Turkey for help against the Albanians, who were devastating the country. The Turkish general Turahan, after assisting, proceeded to conquer the two brothers. In 1458 Mehmed II ordered the invasion of the Morea under Osman, son of Turahan. In 1460 the conquest was completed. The Venetian coastal settlements were abandoned in 1573. In 1687 Francesco Morosini retook the Morea; in 1699 it was ceded to Venice by the Treaty of Karlowitz. In 1715 Ali Pasha retook it for Ahmed III, and the Treaty of Passarowitz gave it back to Turkey. In 1770 an insurrection led by Old Korfu was suppressed.

In 1821 the War of Independence began in the Peloponnese by the action of Germanos, Abp. of Patras. The same year Peter Mavromichalis, Bey of Messinia, took the title of Sultan of the Morea, and the Ottoman Empire. The revolt was suppressed by the Turkish general Turahan and by other chieftains. Tripoli fell in Oct. 1821. In 1822 Kolokotronis defeated the Greek fleet at the battle of Kavala.

The city of Corinth, the capital of the Morea, was captured by the Greeks in 1822, under the leadership of Kolokotronis.

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25 CORINTH AND ITS ENVIRONS

A Corinth

CORINTH (Kopinoos; Kypselos B; Acropolis, Ephrya, C), or New Corinth, capital of the nome of Korinthia and seat of a bishop, is a modern town of 20,800 inhab., situated on the Bay of Corinth, 11 m. w. of the Corinth Canal. It dates only from the destruction of Old Corinth by the Franks in 1204. The new town was wrecked in its turn in 1917, but has been rebuilt on antisemitic principles, its low buildings and recircular plan giving it a paradoxical air of impermanence. It seems to turn its back on the sea and offers little to the visitor; sea-bathing is best sought to the
w. of the town. OLD CORINTH (Xenia A; good taverna), or Palaiokorinthos, now a mere village, occupies part of the site of the ancient city. Its little square, with an old plane-tree and a fountain, lies 31 m. to the s.w. of New Corinth (bus hourly) or may be reached in minutes from the main highway.

The Ancient City lay below the n. slopes of the mountain of Akrocorinth (1885 ft.), its almost impregnable citadel. Its commanding position between two seas early made it a centre of commercial intercourse between Europe and Asia; cautious traders preferred the safe portage of the isthmus to the dangerous voyage round the Peloponnesus. In addition, the renowned Isthmian Games, which were held every other year in the neighbourhood, further increased its importance. In its most flourishing period Corinth is said to have had a population of 300,000, the number of slaves is put by Athenaeus as high as 460,000. Two important harbours belonged to it: Lechaion, on the Bay of Corinth, united to the city by means of Long Walls, and Keratea, on the Saronic Gulf—hence the epithet 'biramis' Corinthus. In addition, there was the less important port of Schoinous.

The ancient inhabitants, whose worship of Aphrodite was characteristic, were notorious, in an age of licence, for their vices. The Greek proverb, Laimyzed by Horace «Non curvis hominibus contingit adire Corinthum»: is usually taken to mean that not everyone could afford to go and join in this reckless profligacy. On this unceasing soil St Paul founded a church during his eighteen months sojourn in the city. Particularly apposite, therefore, is his reminder to the Corinthian citizens that 'evil communications corrupt good manners' (1 Cor. 15, 33). The First Epistle gives a vivid picture of the internal troubles of the early Church.

Corinth has given its name to an architectural order (the Corinthian capital having been invented according to Vitruvius by Callimachos in the 4C B.C.; see Olympia), and in modern times, to the current (Korinthian στυλις), which was first cultivated in the neighbourhood. In England the 'Corinthian' of the early 19C was a sporting gentleman riding his own horse or sailing his own yacht; today the adjective survives as the name of a yacht club and of a football club.

History. The name Korinthos is of pre-Greek origin and the vicinity of Corinth has been occupied with interruptions since the 5th millennium. The longest break seems to have followed a disaster contemporary with the destruction of the House of the Tiles at Lerna (Rte 30; Early Helladic H). The Homeric city of Ephra (The Lookout!), home of Medea, Skylus, and Bellerophon, is probably to be located at Korakou near the coast; Mycenaean settlements in Corinth were subordinate to the Argolid. The site of classical Corinth was refounded by the Dorians. Towards the end of the 8C the historical last king of a semi-mythical line gives place to the oligarchy of the Bacchiadai, under whom Corinth became a mercantile power. Overpopulation may have occasioned the foundation of Nemausus and the illybrian Sycipae (c. 734), but Corinthian prowess at sea is attested by the tradition that Aeneas of Corinth built ships for Samos in 704, by the finding of typical Corinthian pottery (aristóboulos, alabastra, sklyphoi) all over the Mediterranean, and by the naval battle of 664 against her revolting colony Corcyra (at which, according to Thucydides, the tricreme was introduced into Greek waters). In the mid-7C the Corinthians were overthrown by Kypselos, who devoted thirty years to the development of trade and industry.

Under his son Periander, one of the Seven Sages, who reigned for 44 years (629-585), the city reached a level of prosperity that it maintained under Pissistratos, his nephew, and the moderate oligarchy of merchants who overthrew him. New colonies were founded on the Ambracian Gulf, Leukas was occupied, and Corcyra reconquered. The Isthmian Games were founded or reorganized. Trade in bronzes and vases expanded to Egypt and Mesopotamia, to the Black Sea and to Spain. The Corinthians are credited with the invention of the pinetum and its decoration.

During the Persian War the city served as Greek headquarters and her forces were represented in the pass of Thermopylae. The increasing commerce of Athens robbed Corinth of her foreign markets. She failed to prevent Athens from annexing Megara (457 B.C.) and for the remainder of the 5C found herself, not always happily, in the Spartan camp. The war in 343 B.C. between Corinth and Corcyra was a cause of the Peloponnesian War, in which Corinth supported the Sicyonians against the Aetolian expedition. After the death of Lykandros the Thebans, Athens, and Aetolia offered to her former ally, but fared badly in the ensuing Corinthian War (395-387). At Corinth, after 362, Xenophon wrote the 'Hellenica'. In 346 Timotheos seized power only to be killed by his brother Timoleon, who was later to achieve fame as the savour of Sicily from the Carthaginians.

Corinth was the site of a battle in the defile of Chaonitai (338 B.C.) and received a Macedonian garrison. At the synod at Corinth, the following year, the Greek world ratified the leadership of Ptolemy of Macedon, and after his assassination, of Alexander the Great, in the campaign against Persia. The city flourished under a century of Macedonian rule. To this period belong the Corinthian painter Euphranor, who practised in Athens c. 336 B.C. (The Cynic philosopher Diogenes (412-323) ended his days in Corinth as tutor to the sons of Xenocrates. Aratus expelled the Macedonian garrison in 224 B.C. and united Corinth to the resuscitated Achaean League. In 146, after the defeat of the League by the Romans, Corinth was mercilessly razed to the ground by Mummius and his ten legates. It lay desolate until, in 44 B.C., Julius Caesar planted on its site a colony of veterans, the Colonia Julia Corinthiensis, which soon achieved splendid and importance as the capital of the province of Achaia. The city's portrayal and description of Corinth in the Roman period is in the life of the local Jews. Nero's proclamation of Greek independence at Isthmia was resided by Vespasian, but Corinth, embellished by Hadrian (with an aqueduct from Lake Stymphalos) and by Herodes Atticus, became the finest city in Greece.

Though it survived the ravages of the Herulians in 267 and of Alaric in 395, Corinth suffered from disastrous earthquakes in 522 and 551, and its decline set in. After a final period of prosperity in the 11C, it was sacked by the Normans in 1147 and the rest of its history is one of successive captures. Its masters included Villehardouin (1212), the Acciaioli (1358), the Palaeologi (1430), the Turks (1458), the Knights of Malta (1612), and the Venetians (1647). In 1715 it was taken by the Turks; this siege of Corinth is the one described by Byron. The victory of Kolokotronisi over Dramali to the s. opened the way to Corinth, which fell into Greek hands after a short siege; Dramali himself died here and the remnant of the Turks was evacuated by sea.

ANCIENT CORINTH lay on a rocky plateau (200 ft) between its citadel and the sea. Its area was very extensive: the Long Walls started at the top of Acrocorinth, included the city, and ended at the port of Lechaion (see below). The actual length of the city walls does not, however, tally with the measurements of Strabo (vii, 6, 21-22). The principal excavation area lies close to the village cross-roads.

The inspection of the excavations and museum requires at least half a day; with a car it is possible to combine Corinth, Acrocorinth, Lechaion, Isthmia, and the temple at Thermopylae in one day's visit, but the unhurried traveller would be well advised to devote two or three days to the region and should on no account omit the visit to Perachora.

Adm. daily, 10 dr. incl. Museum; weekdays 7.30 or 9 to sunset; Sun 10-1 & 2.30-5 or 3-7. Guides to the Excavations and Museum published by the American School are available on the site. There are two entrances: from the open space above the Odon and from the main street nearer the Plateia. The latter opens directly on to the Lechaion Road and is preferable for a first visit.

The Lechaion Road led into the city from its n. port (comp. below). An impressive monument to Roman town planning, 40 ft wide, paved and drained in the IC A.D., it remained in use for centuries. Steps at its
CORINTH

steepest part seem to have precluded use by wheeled traffic. We descend to Roman level and pass on the right a colonnade masking 16 small Stoa's. Their rear wall supported a terrace on which are the foundations in poros of a BASILICA of the 1C n.c., 210 ft by 75, possibly a judgment hall. Deep underneath the basilica, which was later rebuilt in marble on a larger scale and with a façade on the agora (comp. below), are the extensive remains of a Greek Market (5C n.c.; reached by a flight of steps through one of the central shops).

On the e. side of the road and extending below the village are some remains of a great bath of the Imperial era, perhaps the Baths of Euryklides praised by Pausanias as the finest in the city. Farther s., beyond a Public Latrine with some seats in situ, is the PERIBOLOS OF APOLLO, an open court 106 ft by 77, surrounded by a marble Ionic colonnade, 16 ft wide, upon a stylobate of Acrocornith limestone. Some columns have been re-erected and parts of the entablature assembled. The heavy foundations in the centre may have supported the bronze statue of Apollo mentioned by Pausanias. A dyeing works occupied the n.e. quarter in the 5C n.c. Below runs the overflow of Peirene, which served the quarter as a main sewer. On the w. side, by the Lechaion road, are the foundations of a small Greek Temple (Pl. A) of the 4C n.c.; this was soon replaced by an open shrine in which a covered statue faced its altar across a cobbled pavement.

On the n. side of the Peribolos is an Apsis, which has been cut into by the apse of the Peirene court. At an earlier level are scanty remains of a Doric hexa-style Stoa and, near the foot of the steps ascending to the Peirene court, some basins from the earliest water system of the Tyrants.

The "Fountain of Peirene," the lower one of that name, the upper fountain being on Acrocornith, is a natural spring of immemorial antiquity, which has been so much elaborated and remodelled that it looks like an artificial fountain. The water is stored in four long reservoirs fed by a transverse supply tunnel. The reservoirs are hidden by a fountain-house, having a six-arched façade, "with chambers made like grottoes, from which the water flows into a basin in the open air" (Paus. II, 3, 3). This basin measures 30 ft by 20, and is sunk below the level of the court of the fountain.

Peirene "was a woman who was turned into a spring of water by the tears she shed in bewailing her son Kenchrias, whom Artemis had unmercifully killed" (Paus. II, 3, 2). The fountain-house has undergone several modifications. In front of the reservoirs are three deep draw-basins, immediately behind the six chambers of the arcade. Before the arcade was built, the front wall of the basins formed a parapet over which the water was originally drawn in jars. Then the clear space in front of the draw-basins was divided into the existing six chambers. Later (5C n.c.) Ionic columns were erected on the old parapet of the draw-basins, which ceased to be accessible. When Corinth was rebuilt by the Romans the old façade was masked by a new two-storied poros façade—the present series of stone arches. Their engaged Doric columns supported an architrave and a second story of engaged Ionic columns. This arrangement was continued at right angles to the façade and made to enclose a court 50 ft square. At the same time the open-air fountain was built in the courtyard. Towards the end of the 1C n.c. the walls of the court were lined with marble. In the 2C a.d. the court was remodelled (probably by Herodes Atticus) to the form which exists today with massive vaulted apses on three sides. About the same time the south openings of the façade were narrowed so as to allow of blind arches between each of them, giving 11 arches instead of six. The front walls of the chambers were reinforced and the side walls decorated with paintings of fish swimming in dark blue water (best preserved in Chamber 4).

Finally, in early Byzantine times a row of columns was built across the façade, and alterations were made to the court. An iron pipe now taps the fountain for the villagers' use.—Corinth was known in verse and to the Delphic oracle as "the city of Peirene." Euripides mentions its "august waters" (Medea', 68).

At the end of the Lechaion Road, approached by a flight of three steps, followed by a landing and a larger staircase, rose the Propylaia, the gateway to the Agora. Originally a long shallow building, in poros, with a large central arch and two smaller ones on each side, the portal was replaced in the 1C a.d. by a typical Roman triumphal arch in marble, surmounted in the time of Pausanias by two gilt bronze chariots bearing Helios and his son Phaethon. Little remains beyond the foundations of the outer arch and a portion of the façade of the earlier one.

Beyond the Propylaia stretches the so-called Agora, more accurately the Forum, since what we see is a Roman market-place. Its vast extent (c. 230 yds by 100) was determined by the existence of the South Stoa (comp. below). The Greek and Hellenistic agora is now being sought elsewhere since no earlier buildings of importance have been found below the area between the temple hill and the South Stoa. This seems to have been occupied by a race-course and various cult places. In a radical Roman replanning the former declivity was transformed into two unequal but more or less level terraces, the upper portion being c. 13 ft higher at the centre. The division between the two was marked at first by a terrace wall; later, steps were erected in front of this.

North Side. Just to the w. of the Propylaia stood the Captives' Façade, an elaborate two-storied structure of Parian marble. The lower story consisted of Corinthian columns; the upper story had at least four Atlantes of barbarian captives (portions in the Museum). This constituted the final screen of the Basilica flanking the Lechaion road (comp. above), from which it was separated by an open court.

Adjoining is the Triglyph Wall, a low terrace wall decorated with a triglyph frieze, originally painted. It bore tripods and statues, and a surviving base of dark Eleusinian limestone has the signature of Lyssippus. Of the two openings for stairways which divide the wall into three sections, one leads down to the Sacred Spring (closed by a grating; key with the custodian). The spring, which still has its two bronze lion's head spouts (3C n.c.), was originally in the open air, but was transformed into an underground chamber when the surrounding ground level was raised. It apparently ran dry and was unknown to the Romans, being covered by a later basin fed by a conduit. On the terrace to the n. of the Triglyph Wall, and connected with it by an elaborate tunnel, was a small Oracular Shrine. The tunnel, entered by a secret door disguised as a metope between the triglyphs, probably housed the "oracle"—a priest who pronounced through a small hole below the floor of the shrine. The whole of this area was sacred and public access was forbidden; a minatory inscription has been found on its boundary (comp. below).

To the w. stood the colonnade of the 15 North-West Shops (3C A.D.). The large central shop, with its stone vault intact, forms the most conspicuous ruin of the Forum; the concrete vaults of the others have fallen. Behind, the North-West Stoa, in poros, over 300 ft long, earlier formed the n. boundary of the Forum. The front had Doric columns and the interior Ionic. The front stylobate is well preserved and many columns are still in position (3C n.c.).

On an isolated knoll above stands the Temple of Apollo, one of the oldest temples in Greece and the most conspicuous monument on the
The temple of the Doric order, had a peristyle of 38 columns (6 by 15). Seven adjacent columns remain standing, five on the w. front and two more on the s. side; the five that form the corner support part of their architrave. Four further columns lie where they fell; foundations remain of four others removed by the Turkish owner in 1830. The shafts are monoliths, 24 ft high and nearly 6 ft in diameter at the base, hewn of rough limestone. The lower side of the fallen columns shows the well-preserved Greek stucco and the thicker plaster of a Roman restoration. They have 20 flutes. Their flat archaic capitals are characteristic of the mid-6C b.c.

The naos had two unequal chambers separated by a wall, with a distyle portico in antis at either end. Two rows of interior columns supported the roof. The foundations of a statue base have been found in the w. chamber, near the partitions-wall. In the n.w. corner of the Pronaos was found a rectangular strong-box lined with waterproof cement. The precinct of the temple has been cleared, exposing slight remnants of an earlier temple (7C).

Below to the n., partly obscured by the modern road, lie the remains of the North Market, a rectangular peristyle surrounded by shops. Some mosaic pavements survive. The market was rebuilt and used in Byzantine times. Nearby, date a Greek Bath-house stood on the site. Extending to the w. was the long North Stoa; some of its coloured terracotta antefixes are in the museum. The gold necklace and boar of 31 gold staters of Philip and Alexander the Great found here are at the National Archaeological Museum at Athens.

EAST SIDE. We return to the Propylaia and continue to the e. end of the Forum which is closed by the Julian Basilica. The well-preserved remains are of a crypto-porticus which formed the base of a Corinthian basilica of the Augustan period. Four imperial portrait statues were found here.

In front of the basilica the Roman pavement has been removed to expose an earlier Greek one. Parallel to the building and 10 ft in front of it is the starting-line of a Race Course, preserved in its entire length of 60 ft and having places for sixteen contestants. An earlier starting-line with a different orientation lies beneath it. To the s. is a curved retaining wall which may have supported a judges' grandstand. These remains may be connected with the Hellotia, a Corinthian festival mentioned in the 13th Olympian Ode of Pindar.

Near the corner of the basilica stands a Circular Pedestal with a truncated shaft. From this monument, whose function is unknown, a line of buildings extended w., dividing the lower from the upper forum. Its central feature was the Bema, a monumental rostrum upon which Roman officials appeared before the public. Since later a Christian church was built above its ruins, this may be the place where Gallio, the Roman governor, refused to act upon Jewish accusations against the Apostle Paul. To right and left of the rostrum extended rows of Shops, replaced in Christian times by a flight of steps running the whole length of the forum. In the centre of the lower forum are the foundations of an Altar and of an elevated Grandstand.

The UPPER FORUM was the administrative centre of the Roman province of Achaia. The South-East Building had a marble Ionic colonnade. It was rebuilt three times and may have been the Tabularium, or archive respository of the Roman colony.

Before reaching the South Stoa we cross the line of a low terrace wall below the level of the Roman pavement. Cuttings suggest that this supported 100 monuments, all probably carried off to Rome during the sack in 146 b.c. Pausanias mentions marble or bronze statues (reproductions perhaps) of Zeus, Athena, Aphrodite, Ephesian Artemis, Apollo, and Hermes, as well as gilded wooden statues of Dionysos with faces painted red. During the period of ruin a cart road passed diagonally across the forum (traces at the e. end of the wall).

The SOUTH SIDE of the forum is closed by the South Stoa, the largest classical secular building in Greece, dating originally from the 4C b.c. It had already been reconstructed before 146 b.c. Facing the forum was a double colonnade with 7I Doric columns in front and 34 Ionic columns in the middle. Some columns have been collected and restored to position. The rear of the building was transformed in Imperial times.

In its original form it was divided into a row of 33 shops, each giving on to another room behind. All but two of the front compartments had a well, supplied from the Peirene system. From the number of drinking cups recovered from the wells, it is conjectured that the 'shops' served chiefly as places of refreshment and the wells as refrigerators. A second floor, reached by stairs at either end, probably served as night quarters, and the stoa is believed to have been a huge hospitable built to house delegates to the Panhellenic Union which Philip of Macedon convened at Corinth. The building was restored in Julian times, but in the 1C A.D. most of the rear half was demolished to make way for administrative buildings; the colonnades remained. The Greek form is best observed at the w. end, where at one point Greek walls stand to a height of 9 ft; a section of the roof has been reconstructed from tiles found in the wells.

The Roman administrative buildings begin at the e. end with three halls, the third of which was probably the Office of the Agonothetes, who directed the Games at Isthmia. Here (beneath a shed) are preserved a mosaic of a victorious athlete standing before the goddess of good fortune (Eurybia), and the restored roof section (comp. above). Two further mosaics of Dionysiac scenes are preserved farther s. under another shelter. Continuing w. along the stoa we come to the pressure and Office of the Roman Governor, with an antechamber, floors of marble venerate, and the base of a statue inscribed to a procurator of the Emp. Trajan. The next section of the stoa was turned into a forecourt, through which, by a marble stairway and porch, access was given to the South Basilica. This was similar to the Julian Basilica and, like it, once adorned with Imperial statues. To the w. is a beautiful marble Fountain. Through the centre of the stoa a paved Road, constructed c. A.D. 35, led s. towards Kenchreai. Beyond the road are the elliptical remains of the Bouleuterion, or council chamber. Its curved stone benches have been replaced in position. Two adjacent shops retained their character in the Roman reconstruction; finds here included a well-preserved head of Serapis in gilded marble, a base inscribed with the full name of the Roman colonn, and the remains of a cash-box with coins showing the place to have been destroyed by fire c. 267, perhaps in a Herulian raid. The square hall, to the w., perhaps the Duxes' Office, was later encroached upon by a Bath-House (well preserved hypocaust).

From the n.w. corner of the stoa a Roman foundation wall extends at right angles to the building; on it stand archaic columns, taken possibly from the Temple of Apollo, across the top of which a water channel supplied a basin.

The WEST SIDE of the Forum was bounded by a row of Shops. An inscription on the entablature of the colonnade relates to a repair after an earthquake in A.D. 375. Set forward of the shops were six Roman Temples and a monument, all now so ruined as to mean little to the layman.

From excavation and the description of Pausanias these have been identified from s. to n. as a Temple of Venus Fortune (Pl. F); the Pantheon (Pl. G); two
Temple, erected by Commodus, perhaps to Heracles (Pl. 11) and to Poseidon (Pl. 13), the latter replacing the Poseidon fountain seen by Pausanias; the Babylonia Monument, a rotunda on eight Corinthian columns, of which some members are set up at the side of its square concrete base; the Temple (?) of Clarian Apollo (Pl. K); and a Temple of Heracles (Pl. D).

On the way to the museum we pass the foundations of Temple E, an early Imperial building of imposing proportions, possibly the Capitolium or the Temple of Octavia. Parts of the entablature are displayed on the platform, which commands a good general view of the forum.

The Museum, endowed in 1931 by Ada Small Moore in memory of her father, a Philhellene of Chicago, was extended in 1950. Open winter daily 9–1 & 2.30–5; summer weekdays 8–1 & 3–6, Sun from 10.

In the Entrance Court: Part of a dolphin from the Fountain of Poseidon—Vestibule: Small marble table (Roman): restored mosaic. Two griffins attacking a horse (c. 400 B.C., one of the earliest known Greek pebble mosaic). Head of Herodes Atticus—Adjoining it is the Pre-Classical Room, displaying Neolithic, Helladic and Bronze Age finds from Nemea, Zygioures, and sites in the Isthmus of Corinth, including the only group of Mycenaean fragments so far found in the city itself (just a. of the Julian Basilica).

To the right opens the Greek Gallery, arranged to show the rise of Corinth from a small settlement to an important manufacturing city-state. Achaean period: Sphinx of limestone (6C B.C.): inscribed stone from the sacred spring reading in archaic Corinthian letters “Sanctuary boundary; do not come down. Fine 8 drachmai”; perirhanterion (stoup) from the 7C Temple of Poseidon at Isthmia; forepart of a horse (? part of a metope from the Temple of Apollo); small altars, orcaion, etc., from the Potters' quarter.

The cases on the n. side of the gallery contain vases of local manufacture showing the progression of style from Protogeometric (case 8), through Geometric (9–11), to Protocorinthian (cases 12–13; 725–625 B.C.), known throughout the Mediterranean; the aryballos occurs frequently (fine example showing two warriors fighting in case 12). Cases 13–20. Corinthian Pottery (624–550 B.C.) is at its best in the first 25 years (the amphora in case 14 and the oinochoe in 15 are good examples), though exquisite late examples can be seen in the krater with a scene of Herakles and the Centaurs (Case 18) and the aryballos (Case 19) with Pythian award-prize-winning choris. For contrast are displayed imported finds of Etruscan bucchero ware, etc.

Head of a fallen Amazon from a fragmentary terracotta group; painted Sphinx; bronze helmet of Corinthian type; Sarcophagus of the 5C B.C. containing the bones and grave furniture of a youth. Cases 21–25. Black-figured ware (550–450 B.C.) in imitation of the Attic style which was capturing all the markets compared with vases imported from Attica (kylix in Case 23 signed by Nausik). The black glaze did not adhere firmly to the local Corinthian clay. Cases 26–27. Imitative Red-figured pottery (500–350 B.C.) and Cases 27–29, 'Conventionizing' Corinthian to the Roman conquest.

Centre cases: Case 30, misfired pottery; Case 31, Household objects, including an amphora containing coloured glass (6C B.C.); Case 32, Pottery of the 8C B.C. with incised inscriptions in the Greek alphabet; Cases 33–34, Figurines and moulds; Cases 35–34, Strigils, lamps, coins, sherds, etc.

Across the vestibule is the Roman and Post-Classical Gallery. Statues from the Julian Basilica, representing members of the gens Julia, including (4) Augustus as Pontifex Maximus (c. a.d. 13); the head (7), thought to be Nero Julius Caesar, son of Germanicus (executed by Tiberius in a.d. 31), is a subtle portrait. Marble statue of Aphrodite. Three mosaics (2C a.d.) from a villa outside the n.w. wall. Roman copies of classical heads from the theatre, probably the Sappho of Silanion (10) and the Doryphoros of Polykleitos (11); also (14) of an Artemis of the 5C, of a Tyche (16), and of an athlete (after Myron or Kallim). Fragment of a large relief of dancing Maenads (neo-Attic, 1C a.d.). Head of Dionysios (after Praxiteles). Colossal figures from the 'Captives' Façade'. Fragmentary sarcophagus of Hadrian's day with reliefs of the departure of the Seven against Thebes and the death of Ophiates. Heads of Antonius Pius (33), Caracalla (34) as a youth of eighteen, 35. Woman with her hair in braids. *43. Head, a rare example of its period (1C a.d.), 44–46. Marble statues of emperors or generals (6C a.d.), the third recut from an earlier work. Medieval and modern coins, including a hoard of 30 Byzantine gold pieces. Bronze weight in the likeness of the Emp. Constantine. Bottle of blue glass with painted birds imported from Egypt, used perhaps as a model in the glass factory which flourished in Corinth in the 11C a.d. Sgraffito and incised pottery of the 12C and 'Protomajolica' ware (finds so far paralleled only at Athlit in the Holy Land).

In the Cloister. Frieze reliefs from the Theatre (Hadrianic rebuilding) and the surrounding colonnades. Colonnade of the Library (After the synagoge). The Asklepieion Room contains friezes and a relief of Asklepios, and a large stone vase from the Temple of Asklepios, 1C a.d.

As we quit the cloisters we see (r.) a cubit of rock, in which are hewn the four large reservoirs that formed the Fountain of Glaue, a construction similar to the Peirene fountain (see above). Pausanias (II, 1, 6) attributes its name to Glaue, Jason's second wife, who is supposed to have flung herself into it to obtain relief from the poisoned robe sent her as a wedding-present by Medea. Roman alterations, the decay of the roof in medieval times, and the earthquake of 1928 have all but obliterated its porticoed façade and three draw-basins. The reservoir, which was fed by a small conduit from the base of Acrocorinthis, had a storage capacity of 14,000 gallons. After the court was fitted up as a theatre, the entrance to which faced the Sikyon road. Within the court stood a somewhat earlier temple (C), perhaps the Temple of Hera Akraia, though not (needless to say) that on whose altar the citizens of Corinth slew the children of Medea.

Outside the w. exit across the road lie the remains of two theatres. The Odeon, a Roman construction cut largely from the rock, resembles in plan that at Pompeii. It held c. 3000 spectators. Built towards the end of the 1C a.d., it was reconstructed (c. 175) by Herodes Atticus; the interior was totally destroyed by fire and after a.d. 225 was again restored as an arena or beast-pit by cutting away the lowest rows of seats. Even after a further destruction in 375 by earthquake, the building was patched up to serve until Alaric's holocaust. Adjacent to the n. is the Theatre, with a similar but even longer history. Founded in the 5C a.d., it ended by presenting naumachiae. Here the multitude acclaimed Aratos of Sikyon after his nocturnal capture at Acrocorinth (243 B.C.). The Cavea of the Greek period is well preserved because the Romans filled it in with earth to produce a steeper rake before rebuilding.
7

the seating; the central portion has been excavated. When it was dug out in 29 c. B.C. wall-paintings of gladiatorial scenes were found on the late-Roman barrier round the arena; they have since perished. An inscription, scratched in the plaster, was also found recording the story of Androcles and the lion. In the Orchestra several levels of pavement can be distinguished.

To the E. of the stage buildings is a paved square. An inscription on a paving block records that Eratus laid the pavement at his own expense in return for the aedileship. This is probably the Eratus known to St Paul (Romans, xvi, 23).

ACROCORINTH

About 1 m. N. of the theatre are the remains of the Asklepieion, which stood at the edge of the bluff just within the city wall (cars may get close by taking the road which runs immediately below the Xenia Hotel). Rock cuttings show that a small prostyle tetrasyle Doric temple of the 4th B.C. stood in the centre of a colonnaded court. Except on the N. side the spaces within the colonnades are too narrow to have been an ambulatory and probably sheltered the dedications of the gods. Many ex-votos are now in the museum. Near the entrance to the precinct is a stone on which copper coins were found. Behind and below the w. wall of the sanctuary lies the health-centre itself, arranged round a lower court. Off the E. side of its peristyle are three rooms, of which that to the S. preserves its stone benches; they were probably dining rooms. Over them was a great hall, which closed the W. end of the upper court. The S. and W. walks of the peristyle are given access to draw-basins of the Fountain of Lerna, fed by four large reservoirs which extend S. into the rock.—Another copious supply of water, 200 yds E., is known as the Baths of Aphrodite. Here a Turkish staircase and some fortifications date from the late 17C. (These sites are all individually fenced by barred wire; however a reasonable view can still be obtained.)

A road leads W. between the Odeon and the Theatre to the site of a Roman Villa (1 1/2 m.), discovered in 1925 and protected by a shelter (key at the Museum). Some of the mosaics from its five rooms have been removed to the museum. More important are the excavations (15 min. on foot farther S.W.) in the Kerameikos, or Potters' Quarters, on the W. edge of the plateau. Remains of workshops and storerooms of the 7th-4th lie inside the Archaic city wall (? 7C). Through them run the massive foundations of the Classical Fortifications. The later wall with remnants of towers and gates may be traced to the gates of Acrocorinth (see below).

To the E. of the village are some vestiges of an Amphitheatre of the 3rd A.D., of the Isthmian Gate, and of an early Christian Basilica, with a martyrium, that existed in various forms from the 5th to Frankish times. This lay just within the Kenchreai Gate, whence sections of city wall can be traced.

To the S. of the village, just below the road to Acrocorinth and on its lower slopes, can be seen a Sanctuary of Demeter, excavated since 1968 by the American School. The sanctuary dates back to the 7C B.C., and among the finds has been a marble head of the 2C from a cult statue of the goddess.

B Acrocorinth

Approach. A motor road mounts from the Museum to the gate, where there is a Tourist Pavilion. On foot the visit requires at least 3 hrs. From the Museum a track leads due S. to a cluster of houses below the Fountain of Haidri Mustapha; thence a path winds up to the right round the W. face of the mountain to (1 hr) the outer gate. Adm. free; same hours as main site.

*Acrocorinth (Ἀκρωκόρινθος), the Acropolis of Corinth, the limestone mountain (1885 ft) which rises precipitously to the S. of ancient Corinth, is among the strongest natural fortresses in Europe. The citadel was the goal of all who aspired to the domination of the Peloponnese and it changed hands many times. The summit is enclosed by a wall not less than 1 m. in circumference and the only approach is defended by a triple line of fortification. To this construction Byzantines, Franks, Venetians, and Turks contributed; but their walls and towers stand mainly on ancient foundations.

In the Frankish invasion Acrocorinth was besieged by William de Champlâtre for 3 years (1205-08); its defender, Leo Sgouros, flung himself to his death in 1208, but the citadel continued to resist Geoffroy de Villehardouin and Otho de la Roche.
until 1210, when Theodore Angelos fled to Argos with the church treasure of Corinth.

We cross a dry moat, once spanned by a drawbridge, to the first of the three gateways which are connected by ramps. The Outer Gate is largely Turkish, while the Middle Gate is a Venetian rebuilding of a Frankish structure; vestiges of ancient walls can be seen. The Inner Gate is flanked by massive square towers, that to the right little altered since the 4C B.C. The gateway incorporates reused Byzantine columns and had a porticoes worked from an upper room. Students of military architecture will not miss the well-preserved Fortifications to the N. or the Frankish Inner Keep to the right above the gates. Visitors pressed for time prefer to take the path across more gently rising ground amid an evergreen jumble of ruined Turkish houses, Byzantine chapels, and brick-ruelled cisterns, to the S. circuit wall of the citadel. Here, near ruined Turkish barracks at the S.E. corner, is the Upper Peirene Spring. The subterranean well-house is covered by a vaulted roof of Hellenistic date (protected above by modern concrete). A stairway leads down to a pedimented entrance screen and continues below water level. The water, which is clear and cold (but not safe for drinking), is 12–14 ft deep and has never been known to retreat beyond the screen. The higher of the two summits of Acrocorinth, due to Peirene, bore in turn a Temple of Aphrodite, a small basilican church, a watch tower, a cloistered mosque, and a paved Venetian belvedere. The worship of Aphrodite, the Syrian Astarte, was accompanied by religious prostitution, and the temple is said to have been served by a thousand sacred courtesans. Little remains now but the *View, one of the finest in all Greece. It was described by Strabo and extends on a clear day from Aegina and the Parthenon in the t. almost to Navpaktos on the water, embracing most of the Saronic Gulf and the whole of the Gulf of Corinth.

The N. horizon is bounded, from s. to w., by Salamis, the hills of Megara, Kithainon, and Yeranês. The Perachora peninsula is prominent in the foreground, then the distant peaks of Helikon, Parnassus, and the mountains of Aetolia. On the s. side of the Gulf, Killini blocks a more distant prospect to the w.; farther s.w., the sharp point of Artemisium is conspicuous; to the s. Mycenae is hidden amid the ranges of Argolis. The tiny Frankish castle of Pendas Knofi (Mont-Escorte: bare mountain) boldly crowns the nearest precipitous height of Kastraki.

C Isthmia and Kenchreai

ROAD, diverging (r.) from the main road to Athens c. halfway between New Corinth and the Canal bridge; coming from Athens the second turning (L.) after the canal.—[44] m. Isthmia.—71 m. Kenchreai. The Ancient Road ran 1. from the agora to Examilia, where it divided, the left branch making directly for Isthmia while the right branch led to Kenchreai.

From New Corinth we follow the Athens road, join the main highway, then fork r. for Kris Vrissi, passing considerable traces of the Isthmian Wall, which extends for c. 6 m. across the narrowest part of the Isthmus. The fortification which follows a natural line of low cliffs, can be traced for practically its whole length. The best preserved section is that immediately t. of the Isthmian Sanctuary (see below), where the wall is 23 ft high and 8 ft thick. Most of the visible remains date only from the time of Justinian though a wall is recorded by Herodotus.

We pass through the village to the Isthmian Sanctuary which stands

(1.) on a natural terrace between the village and the Isthmian wall.

The Sanctuary of Poseidon at Isthmia, one of the four Panhellenic sanctuaries celebrated in the Odes of Pindar, was famous for its games. Like those of Olympia, Nemea, and Delphi, the games appear originally to have honoured the funeral of a particular hero.

Tradition tells of Melikertes, the Phoenician Melkath, son of Athamas and Io. When his mother leapt with him into the sea from the Molonian Rock (Rte 24), the drowned boy was landed on the Isthmian Wall by a dolphin. Corinth was undergoing a famine and an oracle declared that this would stop only when the Corinthians gave the boy fitting burial and honoured him with funeral games. His name was changed to Palaimon and the Isthmian Games instituted in his honour. The oracle later declared that, to prevent the famine returning, the games must be perpetual.

It would appear, disregarding legend, which ascribes their foundation to Poseidon, the Sun, or Sisyphos, and Attic tradition, which gives the honour to Theseus, that the games were instituted about the time of Periander, the date of the first Isthmian usually being given as 582 B.C. They were held in the 2nd and 4th year of each Olympiad. Their organization was in the hands of Corinth until its destruction in 146 B.C., when it passed to Sikyon; the venue of the games may even have been transferred. They reverted to Corinth after the refoundation of the city by Julius Caesar. The Athenians originally had the place of honour while the Eleans were excluded. In 288 B.C. the Romans were allowed to compete. The athletic contests were second only to those at Olympia, which they resembled.

At the games of 336 B.C. Alexander the Great was nominated leader of the Greeks against Persia; at the games of 196 B.C. Flaminius declared the independence of Greece; and here in A.D. 67 the second proclamation of independence was made by Nero. Scientific excavation of the site was begun in 1952 by the University of Chicago under Oscar Broneer.

By the road, at the top of the hill is the square foundation in opus incertum of the Roman Palaimonion. The temple had a circular open colonnade of eight columns, which is depicted on local coinage of the Isthmian region. It is built over an early underground waterworks, which tradition evidently took to be the tomb of Palaimon. Alongside, beneath the South Stoa, has been laid bare the open end of the Older Stadion (perhaps abandoned in 390 B.C.). The triangular pavement, scored with radiating grooves, is part of a Starting Gate for sixteen runners of the kind alluded to by Aristophanes (Knights 1159). A starter, standing in the pit, operated traps (baldbies) hinged to wooden posts, by means of cords which ran in the grooves over bronze staples.

On level ground immediately to the n. are the remains of the Temple of Poseidon, a 5C Doric edifice which had a peristyle of 6 columns by 13. In the words of its excavator "the casual visitor will marvel chiefly, perhaps, at the thoroughness of its destruction" (O. Broneer). An Archai temple on the same site had been totally destroyed by fire. Another mysterious fire in 394 B.C. damaged the later building (Xen. 'Hell.', IV, v, 4), which was afterwards re-roofed. A colossal statue, unearthed in 1952, formed part of a cult group of Poseidon and Amphitrite.

The sanctuary became derelict after the sack of Corinth and traces of a wagon road can be seen passing across its altar. Reorganization was undertaken by Tiberius. In the 2C A.D. the Temenos was extended and the temple area surrounded by stoa, the cost of which was defrayed by the high priest, P. Licinius Priscus.

The Theatre was situated in an artificial hollow, now a ploughed field, midway between the precinct and the Isthmian Wall. Virtually nothing remains of the building originally constructed in the early 4C B.C. and several times modified. Its roof tiles are stamped with the name of Poseidon or with a dolphin and trident. Here Nero delivered his speech of liberation.

On the opposite side of the road, in an obvious gully to the S.E. of the Sanctuary