

Hittite sculpture formerly in the collections of the late H. V. Hilprecht [Plate X]. This eagle, carved from what is apparently a species of tufa, is simply executed, yet shows considerable skill and mastery of material. The handling of the curved surfaces, the bold and rugged treatment of the head with hooked beak and staring eyes are particularly pleasing.

The eagle was apparently locally worshipped in various parts of the Empire. According to Garstang such a cult was general within the circuit of the Halys, as is suggested by the great monument which now lies prone in a wild spot overlooking the river near Tamoola and by various smaller objects, as well as by a newly deciphered cuneiform fragment (from Boghaz-Keui) on which mention is made in ideographic writing of the house or temple of the eagle. It is perhaps with such a cult that we can connect the present piece of sculpture.

10. *Certain Coins in the* **I***N* the John Thompson Morris *Classical Collection* Collection of gold and silver coins, on exhibition in the Sharpe Gallery, are many examples from Greek and Roman mints.

According to tradition the invention of coinage may be attributed to the Lydians, probably in the eighth century B.C. We know that Cræsus (568-554 B.C.) issued the first gold and silver coins of Lydia and we are fortunate in having an example dating from his period [Plate XI, B].

A century and a half later come the beautiful Syracuse



CLASSICAL COINS
 A—THRACE; LYSIMACHUS; B—LYDIA; COIN OF CROESUS; C—SYRACUSE; DEKADRACHM

coins. On the obverse of our dekadrachm [Plate XI, C], is the splendid head of Persephone surrounded by the graceful forms of four dolphins, symbols of Syracuse's position on the sea. The Assinaria, games commemorating the defeat of the Athenians by the Syracusans in 413 B.C. on the banks of the Assinaros, were probably the occasions for the minting of this type of coin. The chariot race was the chief event, and on the reverse we have a victorious quadriga, the driver of which is being crowned by Nike. In the exergue is a trophy of arms.

An interesting feature of the Lysimachan coin from Thrace [Plate XI, A], is the Alexandrine head with the horn of Ammon. The cult of this Egyptian deity was strong among the Greeks, as is illustrated by Alexander's visit to an oracle of Ammon established in the oases of Siwa, Libya, where he was acknowledged the son of the god.

On the cover of the Bulletin is a line drawing of a Syrian coin from the same collection, bearing the head of Demetrios I (162-150 B.C.), within a laurel border.

11. The Classical Study Rooms **I**N the new Sharpe Gallery only the choicest pieces of the Museum's extensive classical collections are on public view. The rest are installed in the Classical Study Rooms, one of which is shown on Plate XII. The rooms are open to any credited individuals whose interest leads them beyond the collections in the galleries, and are being put to immediate use by the graduate students