

reconstruct ancient Egyptian vocalization. Dr. Ira Spar is responsible for the cuneiform transcription and translation.



Although THOMAS LOGAN has spent most of his first year at the Oriental Institute with museum administrative matters, he did manage to finish an important article on the origins of Egyptian Pharaonic ritual and the recovery of the decoration on a knife handle at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. This handle parallels the Gebel el Arak knife handle and provides an important link to the early ritual. The paper "The Metropolitan Knife Handle in the Metropolitan Museum of Art: Aspects of Pharaonic Imagery," was coauthored with Bruce Williams and is to appear in *JNES*. Some of the results of that study were presented at the annual meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt in spring, 1986. Work in progress concentrates on a continuation of these early rituals and work on three Neo-Babylonian tablets at the MMA. These important documents contain a list of Egyptian prisoners written in the cuneiform of the 4th century B.C. Some fifty names are preserved. Since the hieroglyphic system of writing does not indicate vowels whereas the cuneiform system does, the tablets are very important in our attempt to