

Treasury of Minyas at Orchomenos.

The remains of this extraordinary relic of antiquity is far more imperfect than that of Mycenae ascribed to Agamemnon. The object or purpose of these structures I can not conceive to have been for the deposit of treasure, though they may have subsequently for convenience been so used, situated as they both are so far apart from the protection of the fortified walls of the adjoining town or castle, covered also as they were by a conspicuous tumulus, and so easily accessible to be dug into and robbed. If they were sepulchres, valuable articles might nevertheless be there deposited, and that no human bones were found, incineration may account for. By whom erected is not distinctly ascertained. They may relics of the ancient Pelasgi, of whom so little is known beyond the massive character of their tumuli & subterranean structures except that they are more artistically built, than the rude holliganic building. I have not met with any satisfactory theory concerning these structures.



Entrance to the Treasury of Minyas. Orchomenos.
— 173. —