NOTE ON VASES FOUND AT BIRKET ISRAIL.

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In "The Recovery of Jerusalem," p. 479, mention is made of certain vases of massive black ware discovered at Birket Israil and elsewhere, which I there ascribed "with very great hesitation as belonging" to the Graeco-Phoenician period, and of which I stated that "considerable doubt exists as to their proper appropriation." I am now able to assert positively that these vases are of early Arabic manufacture. Among the vast pottery-strewn mounds of Fostat, Musr-el-Ateekah, or Old Cairo, I found in January in the present year a vast number of broken vessels of the very same description, and immediately associated with lamps and other Arabic pottery. One perfect specimen of conical form, which I have placed in the British Museum, is coated with a glaze of greenish blue identical with that found upon numerous Arabic lamps found in the same mounds, which are formed of the débris of the Arabian city of Fostat, and contain antiquities of no other period.

NOTE.—The translation of the Talmud Tract on the Measurements of the Temple, published in the January number of the Quarterly, was written by the Rev. Joseph Barclay, D.D., lately of Jerusalem.