

have been removed to supply materials for the new Turkish barrack, situated half a mile distant in the direction of Nablûs.

“S. A.”

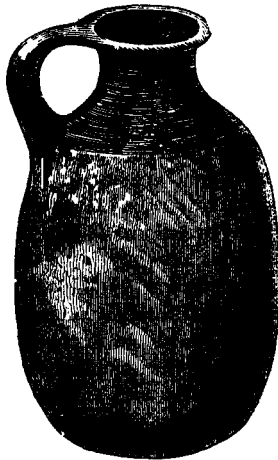
Mr. H. A. Harper, another member of the Executive Committee, has kindly consented to contribute to the next *Quarterly Statement* a sketch, taken in 1875, of Jacob's Well and the adjacent slope of Mount Gerizim.

AGE OF THE TEMPLE WALL.

A QUESTION having arisen as to the possible date of the small jar of Phœnician pottery found by Captain Warren in a hole scooped in the rock, three feet east of the corner foundation-stone of the south-east angle of the Temple wall, the Committee have referred the jar itself to their colleague, Dr. Birch, probably the highest living authority in relation to such matters. Dr. Birch's report is as follows:—

“January 10th, 1877.

“MY DEAR SIR,—The little vase which you left accompanies the



present letter. It is of rather rude shape and coarse terra-cotta, and closely resembles some in the British Museum, said to have been found in Rachel's tomb at Bethlehem. As there was also found at the same site a shell engraved with figures, and partly carved, which might be as old as the fourth or fifth century B.C., it is just possible that the vase, which resembles Egyptian ware in shape, might be as old as that period, but there are no data to my knowledge from inscriptions on this class of pottery to determine its actual age.

“Believe me,

“Yours very truly,

“WALTER BESANT, Esq.”

“SAMUEL BIRCH.