

errors which an excessive veneration of Josephus has chiefly produced, Strange as it may seem, Sion, Moriah, Akra, Ophel and Millo—are all names applied to one ridge. Be it observed, however, that the Hebrew Zion of the historical books is identical with the Greek Akra ; Millo is part of Sion *i.e.*, of Akra ; Ophel really was not the name of a *hill*, but of a certain part of it, a locality apparently near the south-east corner of the Haram ; while lastly Mount Moriah, the part of the eastern hill on which the Temple stood—is only mentioned *once* in the Bible, for the term commonly used by the Jews was “the Mountain of the House,” which is equivalent to the Mount Zion of the first book of the Maccabees. The only other decided hill which I believe could fairly be reckoned into the Jerusalem of Nehemiah was the south-west hill, that of the upper city, and this is called in the Bible “the hill (Gibeah) of Jerusalem” (Isaiah, x, 32 ; see also xxxi, 4 ; lit. “against the hill”).

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IT IS REQUIRED TO FIND THE ENTRANCE TO THE TOMB OF DAVID.

(1.) It is here assumed (as I think it may be demonstrated) that the City of David was on the eastern hill, south of the Temple. The following points are also assumed (though all are not at present capable of proof, while all (to me) seem highly probable) viz, that :—

(2.) The Tomb was *within* the City of David, facing from west to south.

(3.) The pool of Siloah (Neh. iii, 15) was in the Tyropæon between the south wall of the Haram and the present (so called) pool of Siloam.

(4.) The stairs of the City of David (Neh. iii, 15) were near the pool and ascended some part of the west side of Ophel (so called).

(5.) The entrance to the Tomb was in a vertical face of rock, as is common in Jewish tombs.

(6.) The entrance was not covered over when Herod built the S. W. corner of the Haram Area.

(7.) It was in the great malaki bed, 40 feet thick, mentioned by Colonel Wilson.

To economise labour and expense it is desirable to ascertain how the malaki bed lies south of the Haram. Excavation must *decide* this ; but excavation may be guided by the following considerations.

Colonel Wilson (Ordnance Notes) says (31) the upper beds of missæ dip 10° to east, and 15° to south.

(34 p.) The rock has a dip of 12° in a direction 85° east of north.

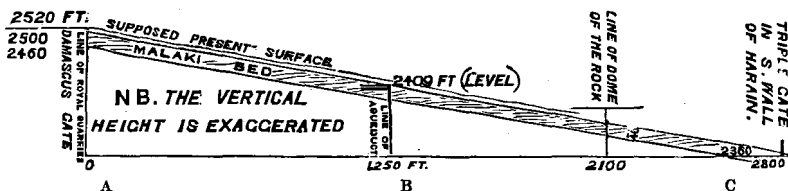
(3 p.) Strata near Jerusalem dip to E.S.E. at about 10°.

No doubt Colonel Wilson means these data to be taken for the *malaki* as well as for the *missæ*, as Lieutenant Conder adopts them in *Quarterly Statement*. 1881, pp. 57, 58.

As however any dip of from 10° to 15° would cause the *malaki* on the eastern hill to bury itself, while as a matter of fact it keeps for a long distance near the surface, the data of Colonel Wilson seem (to me) to fail to help us in endeavouring to find the position of the *malaki* on the old rock surface of the western side of Ophel (so called).

Assuming therefore a uniform slope in the *malaki* and a uniform thickness, the average of the dip to south seems to be nothing like 10° (*i.e.* 17·3648 feet in 100 feet) still less any further approach to 15° (*i.e.* 25·8819 feet in 100 feet) but rather (so far as I can make out) about 7 feet in 100 feet at the most.

This conclusion is arrived at thus :—



The top of the *malaki* (which is excavated near the Damascus Gate, Ordn. Notes, p. 63) may be said to be about 2,500 feet above the sea, and the aqueduct, 1,250 feet distant from that point and near the N.W. of the Haram, is at a level of 2,409 feet (*Quarterly Statement*, 1880, p. 36), and the passages in the *malaki* near the Triple Gate (Ordn. Notes, p. 76) are about 2,360 feet above the sea.

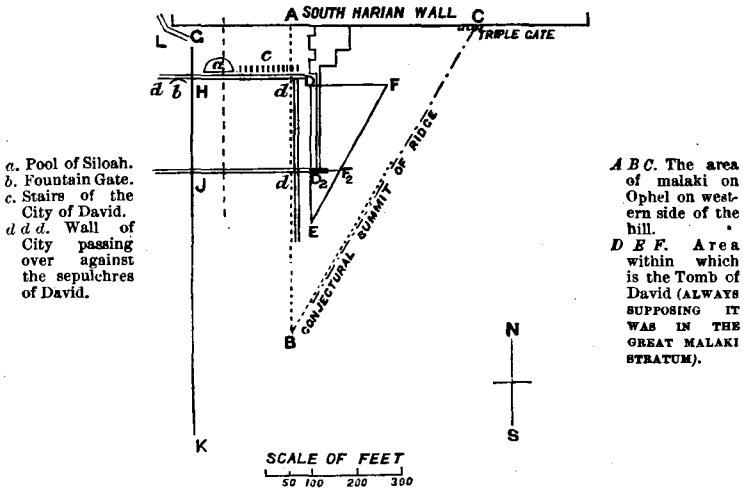
- (a) Therefore we have a fall from A to B (*i.e.*, in 1,250 feet) of 91 feet.
 (b) and " " " A to C (*i.e.*, in 2,800 feet) " 140 " but at a dip of 10° we ought to have (*see above a*) in—

(a) A fall of $\frac{1250}{100} \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ = or of more than 210 feet, and in

(b) " " $\frac{2800}{100} \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ = " about 480 "

Here the discrepancy between the theoretical and actual fall is so great (*viz.* 210 feet instead of 91 feet, and 480 feet instead of 140 feet) that I think it will be apparent that the incline of the *malaki* southwards cannot be from 10° to 15° (*i.e.* from 17 feet to 25 feet in 100 feet) but about 7 feet in 100 feet.

It is uncertain where the wall crossed the Tyropæon (*see Quarterly Statement*, 1879, p. 174). If the aqueduct L be (as I suppose it must be) as old as the time of Hezekiah, it seems (to me) that it must have been within the walls, and, therefore, in order to find room for the pool of Siloah within the walls (may it not have been without?) the point H where *dd* intersects G K is apparently marked on the plan as far north as is prac-



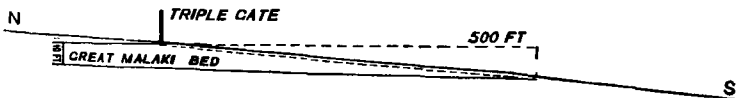
ticable for it to have been. The crossing wall however may have been further south, even as far as J, in which case the area to be searched is reduced possibly even to $D_2 E F_2$.

Thus so contracted may probably become the possible area of malaki to be searched for David's tomb, that one is forced to contemplate the possibility of its not having been made after all in the malaki bed.

That the line of Robinson's arch cannot have been that of the stairs of the City of David seems to me impossible on account of the aqueduct "L" (see above). Nor can I think that Herod covered David's Tomb by his addition at the south-west corner of the Haram.

As the malaki falls to the east, and as it is not proposed to question the accuracy of Col. Wilson's statement that the passages underground at the Triple Gate are cut in the malaki, it seems we must allow that the malaki crops up at that gate, and thence southwards is for some unknown distance the surface rock on the top of the natural rock-ridge of Ophel so called.

Still assuming that the fall of the malaki is uniform, we must (as the Ophel hill falls very rapidly south of the Triple Gate) conclude that at 600 ft. south of the Haram wall, the malaki has already come to an end.



I question however whether it reaches as far as 500 ft. (as in plan), and of this length] the last 100 or 150 ft. would be too thin a layer to be

probably used for a tomb. In like manner in the previous plan, it is necessary to leave a considerable distance between the parallel lines E F, B C, since it is not likely that the Tomb would be excavated near the top of the malaki bed, lest the roof of malaki should not be sufficiently strong.

The *scarp* (*Quarterly Statement*, 1879, p. 175) seems, however, to offer a short cut. Ten pounds spent by Mr. Schick would (I think) settle the question as to whether a wall ever stood at the top of it. If no city wall ever did, then (I believe) the face of the scarp (if bared) would reveal the entrance to *a*, if not to *the, royal tomb*. The cost might perhaps be £50.

N.B.—The discovery of the wall crossing the Tyropæan would be valuable on its own account, and would not, I imagine, be a difficult matter.

The same may be said of the consequent discovery of the stairs of the City of David, and of the Pool (of Siloah), and these would show that we were on the right track for the Tomb of David, and would (probably) vastly reduce the area of malaki to be searched by giving us the right positions of D F or D₂ F₂.

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EBEN-EZER.

As sparks of topographical truth are likely to be elicited by the collision of different opinions, I hope that the identification of Mizpeh with Neby Samwil will be attacked by those who disapprove of it. Confident that this is the real position of Mizpeh, we next turn to the Survey Map to search for the other places named in 1 Sam. vii, 11, 12, viz., Bethcar, Shen, and Ebenezer. Mizpeh witnessed a trying hour for penitent Israel when the Philistines drew near to battle as Samuel was crying to God: the smoke of the burnt offering was still going up to heaven, when suddenly the black clouds burst in a terrific thunderstorm over the heads of the unfortunate invaders. They reeled, turned, and soon before the well-known Jewish rush were flying panic-stricken down the long slopes towards Yesin, nor did the pursuit along Wâdy Beit Hanina cease until they came under Ain Kârim.

Let us stand in imagination upon the octagon tower at Neby Samwil and survey this most interesting scene of Samuel's victory.

There, due south of us, just three miles off on the high ground, we see Shen (Yesin). More to the right (*i.e.* west) appears Ain Kârim (Bethcar) under which the Philistines passed in their headlong flight. Still further to the right we detect Apek (Küstül) three and a half miles off. Below us (between us and Shen), on the ridge running towards Lifta—is a ruin (about a mile from where we stand) called Khurbet Samwil. There it was that "Samuel took a stone and set it up, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

I hope the New Expedition will accept the omen, and begin its valuable