

(*ta*), "beat," "cause," or "power;" 13, rain (*re*), "flow," perhaps phonetic; 14, two faces opposed, "twins;" 15, deer's head (*tarka*), "chief;" 16, jar (*pe*), probably phonetic; 17, hare or rabbit, probably the moon; 18, water pot (*a*), "water," and used phonetically; 19, two feet opposed, possibly "send;" 20, a bundle, or scroll, perhaps "charm." These conclusions in many cases seem independently established by other considerations (see my previous paper on the "Hittite Language"), but we obtain several valuable hints by observing the signification of similar emblems in the other systems, and there is at least a possibility that they all really grew out of one primitive picture system which was invented by the Turanians in Asia. Among the most certain Hittite signs we may now enumerate those for "god," "country," "sun," "king," "female," "male," "bull," "lion," "chief" (*Tarka*), "sheep," "tablet," "flame," "have," "go," "house," "spirit," "water," "beat," "grow," "ship," "head," "flow," "majesty," "moon," "life," "power," "word," "tree," "twin," "snake," with the personal pronouns, case endings, plural, verbal ending (*mak*), adjective ending, and negative—as mentioned in my previous paper ("Hittite Language"). The system is ideographic with phonetic additions—or agglutinated particles—but apparently with very few, if any, determinatives, and the signs enumerated above as explicable amount to 60 in all out of 120, including all those most commonly found, the sound being known in 40 cases.

C. R. C.

KIRJATH JEARIM.

By an oversight, which I fear is my fault, on page 113 of the "Names and Places," the claim of the Rev. A. Henderson to the identification of Kirjath Jearim at 'Erma has been left unnoticed. In "Tent Work in Palestine" I proposed Soba, but Mr. Henderson convinced me that the border of Benjamin must have passed far south of the points then supposed to have been long since fixed. In 1881 I revisited 'Erma to ascertain the character of the site, and found (as noted in the Memoirs) that Mr. Henderson's view agreed well with local indications. A reference should be made in future editions to his papers, *Quarterly Statement*, January, 1878, p. 19, October, 1878, pp. 196-8.

C. R. CONDER.

THE CONDUIT NEAR THE POOL OF BETHESDA.

HERR SCHICK, in his account of the Pool of Bethesda, describes the conduit lately discovered on the north of the Birket Israel; he says it is "in some places covered with thick flagging stones, in others with a kind of arch, consisting only of two stones placed in a slanting position one

against the other." This I take to be a very old form of an arch, if that term can be applied to it. The Queen's Chamber, in the great pyramid, is roofed with large stones placed exactly in this position, and above the lintels of the King's Chamber is a covering of the same kind. The entrance to the pyramid, although covered with flat stones, is protected by others above placed in the slanting position described by Herr Schick. In Stuart's "Athens" there is a representation of an old arch at Delos, which is similar. When I visited Solomon's Pools near Bethlehem, I was much interested in finding a rock-cut conduit, near to what is called the



With this is a reproduction of my sketch of the Rock-cut Conduit at Solomon's Pools.

"Sealed Fountain," which was roofed in this manner. The entrance to this conduit was roofed with an arch, which I supposed was modern in comparison with the more primitive construction of slanting stones. Sir Charles Warren has pointed out from the Talmud that one of the gates of the Temple—the gate Tadi—was formed in this manner—"all the gates had lintels except Tadi; there two stones inclined one upon another."

It is impossible to assume any definite age from this peculiar form, but we may accept it as an indication of at least some antiquity; if even an approximate date could be formed, it might be of considerable value in some of the archaeological questions connected with Jerusalem.

WILLIAM SIMPSON.

THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD, IN THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

HERR SCHICK has sent home very careful drawings of the particular object which marks, in the Greek Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Middle of the World, or, as it is at times called, the Centre of the Earth. It stands on the mosaic floor under the dome of the Greek Church, a few paces to the east of the Holy Sepulchre, and is formed now of a vase, 1 foot 9½ inches high, with a stone ball placed on the top; this stone is round on the top, with stripes of another kind of stone inserted to mark the cardinal points.