

E. Ancient paved court near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. *Quarterly Statement*, 1888, pp. 19, 60.

F. Cave to the east of Church of the Holy Sepulchre. *Quarterly Statement*, 1889, p. 67.

G. Rock-cut tomb north of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. *Quarterly Statement*, 1887, p. 154.

H. Pool of Bethesda. *Quarterly Statement*, 1888, p. 115, and ruins of a church.

RECENT DISCOVERIES IN JERUSALEM.

I.

REMAINS OF OLD WALL OUTSIDE THE PRESENT NORTHERN WALL OF THE CITY.

(*The Nos. indicate the parts from west to east.*)

IN the work of reconstructing the carriage road along the outside of the northern wall of the City, as I reported in my last, some earth near the wall was removed for filling up the road in some places, bringing to light some old remains hitherto unknown (*see plan of Jerusalem*).

D 1. Is an old corner of comparatively large hewn stones; on the earth being removed from it, the corner of another wall more ancient is seen behind it.

2. Is a rock-scarp with a rough face of about 8 feet deep, but as the top of it is still covered up with earth the exact height could not be ascertained; between this scarp and the first mentioned corner there is an edge indicating the continuation of the scarp.

3. South of the last is a large stone, originally forming the angle of the scarp or wall.

4. Is a similar rough-faced scarp partly topped with masonry, its depth is unknown, but it appeared to be higher than 2.

5. Is a large hewn stone *in situ*, in the same line as 3 and 4, and 13 feet from the face of the present wall.

6. The ruins of a tower.

D 7. The ruins of a chamber measuring, inside, 40 feet long by 19 feet wide, with walls of small masonry 3 feet thick. The eastern wall is partially destroyed; the northern has an opening in the middle 3 feet wide, originally a window (?), as the door would probably be in the east wall, as I suggest from the fact that opposite, in the western wall, there is a recess forming a bench or seat 10 feet long. The walls are only to be seen from the top. To decide the position of the door and what the chamber has been, the earth would have to be cleared out of the ruin.

8. Are some remains in line with the corner of the present wall, and looks much older.

9. Is certainly more ancient than 10.

11. The stones in this corner are not jointed.

Looking at these remains on the plan, it is quite evident the wall anterior to the present one lay further out.

Medjer ed Din (129) speaks of the "Bab el-Amud," or Damascus Gate, as the *second* gate in this northern wall from west to east, hence a door existed between the Damascus Gate and the north-western corner of the city. And Gumpersberg (444) speaks of a block stone situated in this gate (the Lazarus or Lepers' Gate) so highly polished "that when anyone looks to it, another one standing behind him at some distance, sees him as he would be to the side before him;" through this gate the pilgrims entered. In the time of the Christian kingdom, 1099-1187, there existed, on the north wall west of the Damascus Gate, the gate of Lazarus, also sometimes called Lepers' Gate, for outside of it there was a home for lepers (*see* Tobler I, p. 172).

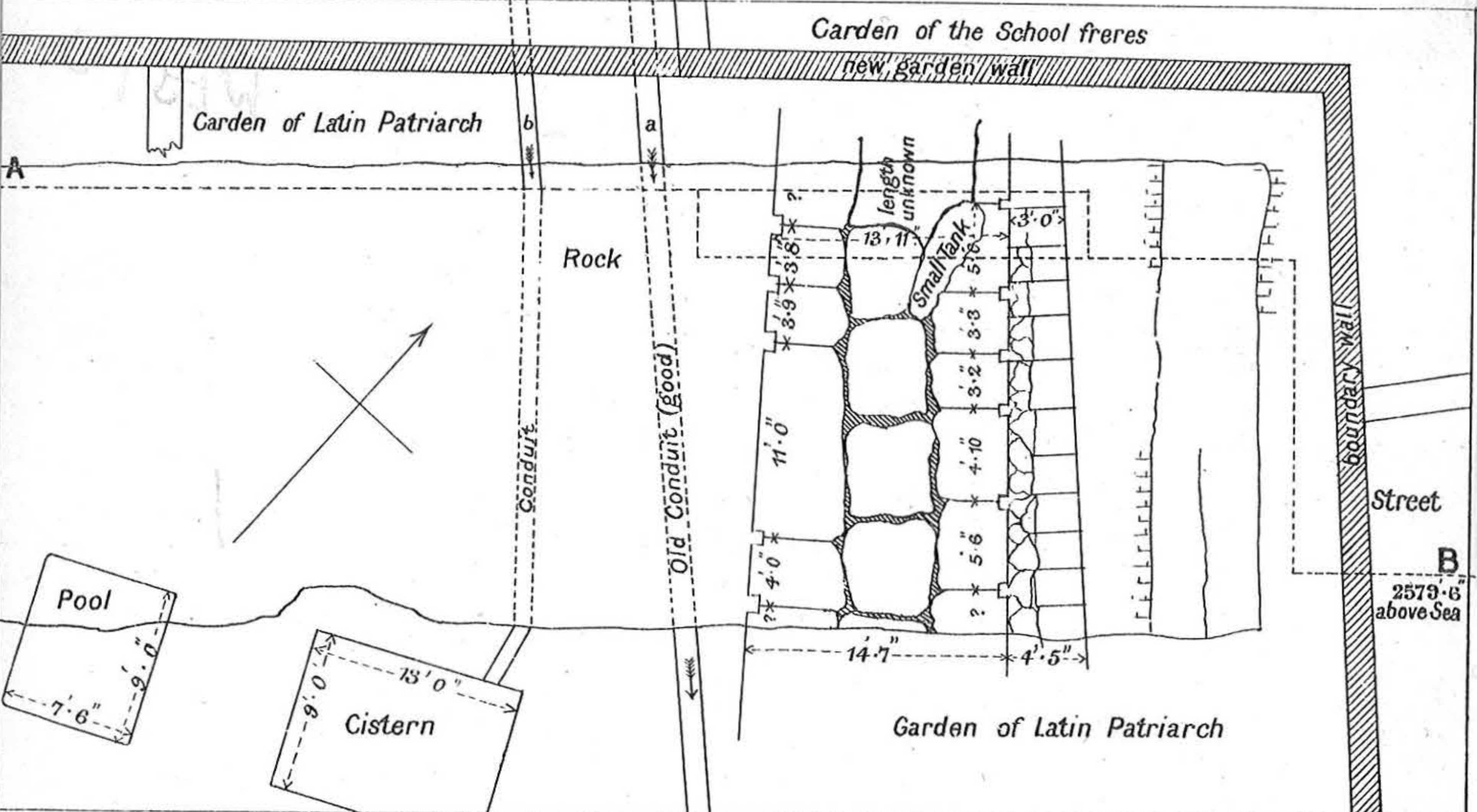
Subsequently, when the Moslems had conquered the city, they forbade the pilgrims to go in by the regular northern gate (Bab el-Amūd), in order that they should not see the fortifications, but were allowed to enter by the Lazarus Gate, a more shut up way and through the buildings of the Patriarchs, in order that they should see nothing of the city; and thence to the Church of the Sepulchre by a private gate, not through the regular entry in that holy building. It seems that this Lepers' or Lazarus Gate was of an inferior kind, and no traces of it in the wall are now to be seen; at a later restoration of the wall it was either walled up, or is under the surface of the ground.

According to Tobler Deutsblätter, p. 414, the Empress Eudoxia built, in the fifth century, a house in which 400 lepers were lodged, and when the Crusaders got possession of Jerusalem (about 1100) they arranged also a hospital for the lepers, which lay outside the town at the Lazarus Gate, between the Damascus and the Jaffa Gate. The house was called the "Maladrerie," in which these poor sick, full of pain and misery, were kept as in a prison, and from everywhere came such poor people to this house. We see from all this that there was once a gate between the Jaffa and Damascus Gate, and one would think that it was somewhere in the neighbourhood of the north-western corner of the town. But according to Medjer ed Din, more likely between that and the Damascus Gate. I fancy that it is very likely to be found at 6, there having been a projecting tower, and in it a gate, forming an angle like all the other city gates of Jerusalem, and connected with a street leading direct to the convents (now in Latin and Greek possession) of the Christians, and so on to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

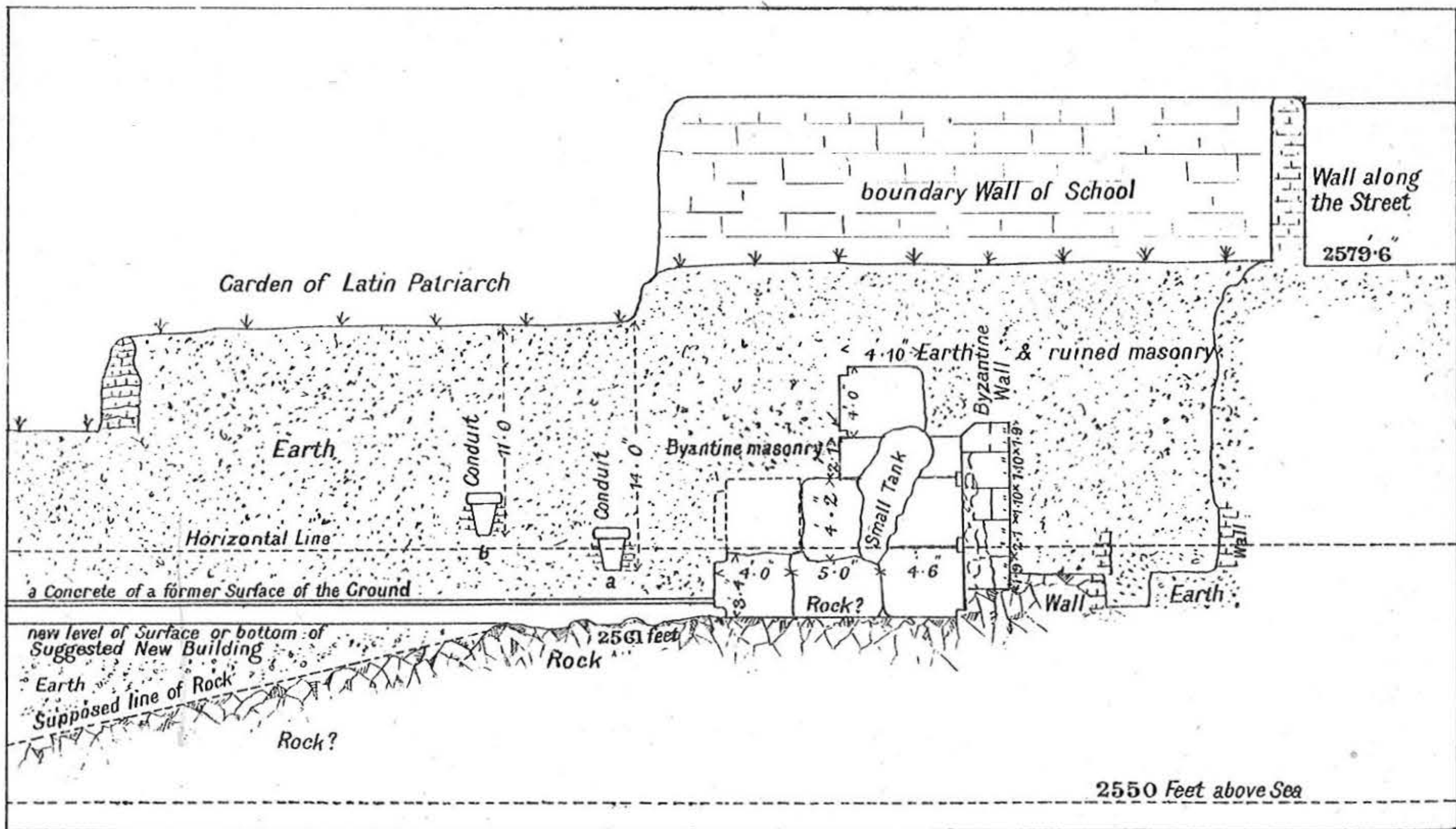
It is probable that this Lepers' Gate was situated even more east, and that the ruins of a former building (No. 7) formed its wash-house, or some building of that kind, and from here pilgrims could have gone on to the church in a nearly straight way, and the same distance.

In order to settle these questions, it wants digging close to the wall down unto the rock, at the said points. When looking at the Ordnance Survey Map, $\frac{1}{25000}$ scale, one sees there (at 7) a mound of earth which is now removed, exposing the ruins of a former building.

PLAN OF OLD WALL. Recently discovered.



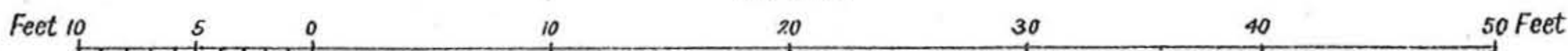
SECTION A. B.



Vincent Brooks Day & Son lith.

C. Schick.

SCALE.



II.

REMAINS OF OLD WALL NEAR THE NORTH-EAST CORNER OF
THE CITY.

IN removing the earth off a space of ground 100 feet long by 100 feet wide and 16 feet deep, in the garden of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, preparatory to enlarging the palace and making other improvements, the workmen found a portion of an old wall (*see* plan of Jerusalem, C), very probably a remnant of the ancient city wall. I had full liberty to examine and measure everything minutely (*see* plan of old wall and section).

The remains are of a wall, on an average 14 feet thick, of large Jewish stones, and laid bare for a length of 26 feet. The stones are, on an average, 4 feet high, like those at the "Haram" wall, and have also the same draft. The stones on both sides of the wall are drafted. On the western—once the outer face—I counted (besides those which are at both ends, and of which I could not take their measurements) four stones, one 4 feet long, the next 11 feet, and the two others 3 feet 9 inches and 3 feet 8 inches, and above 4 feet wide, and nearly the same height. On the east side I counted five stones of the same description, one 5 feet 6 inches, the next 4 feet 10 inches, then two nearly equal, 3 feet 2 inches and 3 feet 3 inches, and the next 5 feet, also nearly 4 feet broad and high.

Between these two rows of stones there are four larger filling stones, not properly cut, simply dressed roughly to a square form, of the same height as the others; they are, on an average, nearly 5 feet broad and 5 feet 6 inches long. Over this layer was a second one, but not so complete; on the western side of the wall several stones were missing, but their size could still be ascertained. They were higher than the first, *viz.*, 4 feet 6 inches—in breadth and more, but the filling stones narrower (*see* section) towards the northern end; a small pool or cistern had been made by widening the joints (which were comparatively wide in the middle of the wall and without any mortar), as shown in the drawings.

On the top of the two courses at the northern end is a very smooth stone of the Byzantine period, measuring 2 feet 1 inch in height, over this is placed a drafted stone both off which pieces were broken to form the cistern or tank.

The overseer of the work told me that they found a similar stone, near to the last-mentioned one, but lying on the earth.

The faces of these large stones are not smooth hewn, but in some degree rough. The bearing of this old wall is 41° N.W. It is curious that the thickness is not all alike—in north something narrower than in south. But what is more curious is an attached wall of quite a different kind, of very smooth hewn stone, on an average of about 2 feet high and a little more long. I counted five layers; between these and the old large stones is a filling with rubble and black mortar. But the top stone has a slanting bevel towards the old wall (*see* section). There is

even more difference in the thickness of this wall than in the old one—at the north end it is 3 feet thick ; at the south end, 4 feet 5 inches. The reason of this cannot yet be explained or understood. It looks exceedingly strange that to a wall of very large stones and 14 feet thick, another wall of smaller stones was put alongside of it, and leaving thus, as the slanting bevel proves, the old wall without. How far northwards this old wall extends I cannot tell, nor is there any hope of finding out now, as the excavations will not be carried on northwards, but probably southwards. Whatever will be found there I will report upon in due time. They think a corner of the old wall will be found. These old remains are certainly in connection with those Dr. Robinson first reported upon (and spoken of in Sir C. Wilson's Notes, page 73), which were broken in pieces, and removed when the school brethren erected their large building—those running exactly due north, and, as it was found out afterwards, forming a right angle. The distance between the two is about 65 feet only. For the situation of the newly discovered wall, *see* plan of Jerusalem (C).

These old remains have been removed, and the large blocks broken up for building stones.

It is remarkable that west of these old remains, for a distance of 64 feet, no old masonry was found, simply earth, and into it built comparatively modern tanks, &c. East of it and everywhere are hewn stones or walls of former buildings, and it would seem that the rock was then partly removed, as on the west side the rock is in its old condition, and following down in a decline 12 or 13 feet in 100 (*see* section).

West of the old wall, 6 feet 8 inches distant, a water conduit was found, the continuation of which was also found by the school brethren west of their new building inside the city, near the northern present town wall, and was also found at several places outside ; most probably it once brought the water from the north-western high ridge into the town and into the pool formed, when the Latin Patriarch built his palace about twenty-five years ago, which was about 50 feet long and 30 feet wide, and about 20 deep. Close to it is another one, but of smaller dimensions, as I am told, for I have not seen it. This conduit is well built—measuring on the bottom 1 foot 2 inches wide, on the top 1 foot 5 inches, and 2 feet high, and covered with flagging stones. Six feet distant from it westwards another one was found, but of lesser importance and inferior work, situated a few feet higher. Its bottom is 11 feet under the surface of the garden, whereas the former is 14 feet. It is recognisable by a hard concrete, lying horizontal over the whole place, as far as it is excavated, towards the west and south. This concrete stops at the old wall on the rock (*see* section), 2,561 feet above the sea.

There were also found two cisterns, one 9 feet long by 7½ wide, and without a roof, the other larger, 9 feet wide by 13 feet long, still in good preservation but full of earth, into which the conduit *b* brought the water. Both cisterns are of no interest, were built simply in the *débris*, and will now be destroyed.

III.

NOTES ON THE PLANS AND THE CAVE EAST OF THE CHURCH OF
THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.

I reported previously that I wished some excavations should be made on the Russian property, east of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (*see* plan of Jerusalem); this was not done at the time, when the work of the "Cisterns," a new building, was going on. However, in the beginning of May (1888), there came an order from St. Petersburg to the leaders of this work, that they should make the excavations where I desired. So I pointed out three places desirable where they should excavate. The first was to make a shaft at "B" (*see* plan), and dig down till they found the rock, which was done; but as I left Jerusalem on the last of May, for a journey to Europe, I gave full instructions to one of my men to always note everything that was found, and take all necessary measurements. A few days after I had left they struck the rock, a piece of which was broken off to show it to me. It proved to be the usual Jerusalem "Meleki" rock. The shaft went down through earth and *débris*, and near the rock a sediment of fine earth was found. The rock was found to be 47 feet 6 inches below the surface of the present street, or at a height of 2,326 feet above the sea. My orders were: that when the rock was found, the shaft should be filled up to about the half height, and then strike a gallery eastward. They did so, but 6 feet higher than the middle, and a little below the rock appearing there; the rock is a ledge of about 4 feet thick (*see* Nos. 12 and 11). Under it there was a wall 9 feet 10 inches thick, which they had to break through; it consisted of rough boulders, large and small, without any proper facing, and without a solid foundation, resting simply on *débris*, the piece of wall above the rock had hewn stones, and on the west side of the shaft at B B there were five nicely dressed stones, but only six layers resting on *débris*.

I told the overseers of the Russians, and the architect, that when they went eastward they would find some "cavity," which they did, but full of earth; however, they cleared a gallery for 12 feet eastward, having the rock as a roofing, slanting downwards towards the east, exactly as the roofing in the Cotton Grotto east of the Damascus Gate, opposite Jeremiah's Grotto. For about 12 feet further east, an iron rod could be put between the rock roofing and the earth; fearing that going on further with the work would involve too much expense, they left the clearings, and so the work stands. So I thought it best to report on it now. As the rock is known on four places (*see* the drawings), and everything looks like the large cave or Cotton Grotto already mentioned, one comes to the conclusion that this was also a large cave. In the street above, the rock is very near the surface, in some parts cropping out. I have shown in dotted lines the supposed extent of the cave towards the east. There may be, possibly, a door or outlet in its eastern end. Sufficient excavation has not been made to indicate the size of the cave, but it appears to extend more in the north and south than in the east and west.

I suggested another point (K) for digging a shaft to find out the edge of the rock, and how far the cave extended in that direction.

The third point for excavation would be at C C in No. 11, and find out the continuation of the blocked-up conduit Cx, in No. 11 and No. 12, which I suppose is hewn through the rock. In No. 12 section I have shown in dotted lines what I presume to be the form of the cave in the eastern and western parts. When excavations are resumed at points K and C, &c., I will continue this report.¹

CONRAD SCHICK.

RECENT DISCOVERIES IN GALILEE.

Nazareth.—Discovery of Large Cave.—At Nazareth, very few ancient remains are found, excepting the "sanctuaries" shown in the convents and in the vicinity of Nazareth, the explorer has few other proofs but those guided by faith and tradition, which are not always reliable; it is, therefore, welcomed if a discovery as the following is made.

In the convent yard of the "Sœurs de S. Joseph," at Nazareth, a cistern was to be dug, and in the course of the work an ancient cave was discovered, choked up with rubbish and mud which had to be removed at great expense, until the character of the subterranean room was seen. Signs of a well, the dampness of the interior, and the soft humid rocks, from which, even in summer, water was dropping, seemed to suggest the vicinity of a spring, which, according to local tradition, once flowed on the north of the "*beidar*," or threshing-floor of the city, which lies a couple of hundred yards south of the convent and the cave mentioned, and is said to have been in connection with *Ain Miriam*, the spring on the north of the city which supplies Nazareth with drinking water. The discovery of a fresh spring would be a matter of great importance at Nazareth, as it suffers from the want of water very much during the two hot months of summer. I was, therefore, asked by some priests and the abbess of the convent to examine the interior of the cave, and find out whether any spring was probable or not. I found the mud and rubbish only partly removed, while signs of large rooms adjoining were visible, and consequently recommended the continuation of the excavations. This advice was followed, and in October last I again examined the place, planned the caves, and now give the following account of it (see plan and sections):—

From the paved convent yard we step down the new-masoned stairs into the actual staircase, the floor of which we reach at a depth of about 20 feet below the surface. The staircase is vaulted, measuring 11 feet each side. The cross vault is carefully built with large soft limestones

¹ When the cave has been thoroughly explored the plans and sections will be published, at present they are in an incomplete state.