

The question is one of considerable interest in connection with the monumental history of Palestine, and an instance of the uncertainty which must exist in judging the dates of inscriptions merely from the forms of the letters or from arguments as to supposed history. We have indeed much yet to learn concerning the history of the alphabet, and the new inscription of Panammu, now in Berlin, and said to be as old as the Moabite Stone, must, therefore, be awaited with much interest, as casting a light on the earlier times in which alphabetic texts are so few. It may, also, perhaps, serve to further the comparison of the Phœnician alphabet with the Cypriote syllabary, to which I called attention a year ago (*Quarterly Statement*, January, 1889, p. 17).

C. R. C.

### THE OLD WALL OUTSIDE JERUSALEM.

TRACES of the wall mentioned in the October number of the *Quarterly Statement* were clearly visible when I was in Palestine. I always understood that this was regarded as the Crusading Wall. It appears to be connected with the towers outside the Damascus Gate, investigated by Sir C. Warren, and the use of a sort of concrete in parts of the foundations, visible above ground, seems to show that the work may be Mediæval.

The exact line of the Crusading Wall towards the north-west seems to me rather doubtful, the question being whether the Kalât J'alûd stood on the line of wall or not. It may of course have stood as a sort of "keep" inside the wall.

C. R. C.

### THE TSINNOR.

It may be useful to refer to what Gesenius says of this word—

תִּנּוֹר m. "a cataract" (so-called from its rushing noise), Psalm xlii, 7, "a watercourse," 2 Samuel v, 8.

Gesenius had no special theory as to the Jerusalem Tsinnor. The word as used in the Psalm is rendered "waterspouts" in the A. V. It would hardly seem in that passage at least to apply to any underground channel.

Ewald appears to have given an extraordinary rendering of the passage—2 Sam. v, 8.—"Whoso smiteth the Jebusites let him hurl down the waterfall (or cliff)."

I have never seen the operation of hurling down a waterfall performed.

C. R. C.