

he can reconstruct the original as infallibly as a zoologist can draw the picture of an animal upon being shown a bit of his skeleton.

May he stick his spado deep into Philistia and bring up great spoil!

CAMDEN COBERN.

Detroit, Michigan,

June 16th, 1890.

THE DEAD SEA VISIBLE FROM JERUSALEM.

JOSEPHUS ("Wars" v, iv, 3) seems to imply that the Mediterranean was visible from the Tower Psephinus. Some, however, take his words to refer to the Dead Sea. The Russian buildings can hardly be high enough to command a view of the former, so that as to that sea one suspects Josephus of inaccuracy. In 1875, my brother and I believed we saw the Dead Sea from the battlements of the (so-called) Zion Gate. In my diary for April 12th, I find noted, "We next entered by the Zion Gate, climbed the tower from which we had a most glorious view of the Moab Mountains (with just two strips of *the Dead Sea visible*), through the most pellucid atmosphere, as the slanting rays of the sun shone upon the country from behind us."

After searching many books, questioning a native of Jerusalem, as well as an English resident of 20 years, and others, I find now no corroboration from them of my belief, but rather the suggestion that we mistook the haze for the sea. One is reluctant, however, to accept this explanation as final.

W. F. BIRCH.

THE DEAD SEA VISIBLE FROM JERUSALEM.

THE Dead Sea *can* be seen from the roof of the London Jews' Society's Boys' School, and also from that of Christ Church, but only at a certain hour of the day during the summer months. I have often noticed it about 8 a.m., shining like a small speck of molten silver through a small gap amongst the bare hills towards Mar Saba. This was all that, *till a few years ago*, could be seen of it. However, since the erection of the large church of St. Salvador in the Franciscan convent in the north-west part of the city, several large portions of it may be seen at all hours of the day (unless the weather be hazy), if one will take the trouble of climbing into the clock-tower.

J. E. HANAUER.