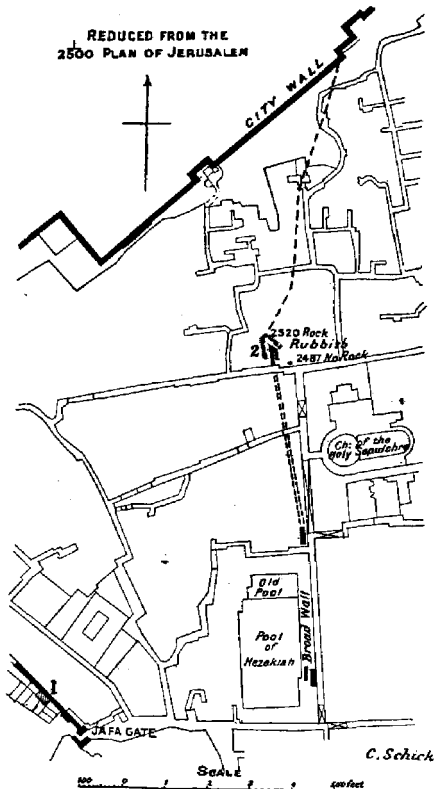


HERR SCHICK'S REPORTS.

JERUSALEM, July 14th, 1891.

THERE are several small things which seem to me of some interest to members of the Palestine Exploration Fund, so I think it right to report on them.

1. *Foundation of Present City Wall.*—I have already on two former occasions reported that the present western town wall from the Jaffa Gate northwards is not founded on the rock, but in some places standing simply on earth. I have now to report that I made this observation again at a third place. The building outside the Jaffa Gate, in which had been the office of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, was taken down and built up



again on a much grander scale, requiring new and better foundations. On digging just in front of the present town wall to a great depth only *black earth* and rubbish were found, no natural soil. They went down about

24 feet below the level of the street and no rock was reached, so it is proved that there the wall stands on a layer of made earth from 25 to 30 feet high. When I saw it I was fearing the wall might fall and bury the workmen. On the map, scale $\frac{1}{25000}$, the surface of the road is there given as 2,530 feet above the sea, the rock where now the town wall stands must, therefore, be about 2,480, or perhaps a little more, rising rapidly towards east.

2. *Remains of Old Wall inside City.*—As I have stated in a former report, the Roman Catholics are demolishing a group of houses and building a large new school at the eastern part of the *Harat Deir el 'franji*, north-west of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, north of the street where on the map the word EFRANJ stands. As several things of interest were found, I send a copy of part of the said map, with the new discoveries marked. The highest point in this square is about 2,520 feet, at other points it is much lower. There was found a kind of passage or road cut into the rock 7 and 8 feet deep and 6 feet wide, its bottom declining towards the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in which direction it runs. It was laid bare for a length of about 15 feet; it ends abruptly in the east at a wall (with an opening) about 6 feet thick of very well hewn, but not large, only moderate sized, stones. At its eastern front there is a great quantity of rubbish. About 20 feet west of the said wall another and still thicker wall was found of larger stones, even 6 and 7 feet long some of them, and about 2 feet high. The direction of both (running parallel) is towards the south, as shown in the plan. These remains have for me a great interest. By studying the walls of Jerusalem (ancient and modern) I found that some Christian writers say that Constantine's buildings, or the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, reached to the western town wall (see "Tobler Top." Jerusalem, i, p. 135, and "Golgotha," p. 16). This "western town wall" could not be Hadrian's, which was at that time destroyed, and which had to be built by the Christians—the part from the Jaffa to the Damascus Gate—in A.D. 1063, from which time this quarter was assigned to the Christians. Without going into detail and argumentation, I wish only to say that I believe Hadrian's north-western wall decayed, and was for a long time not wanted, as in this quarter there were no houses, or only a few. So when Constantine had built the Church, the Church wanted protection, and a wall was built near to it on the west side, which wall was restored and improved by Eudoxia the Empress. This (western) wall began either at the corner of the so-called ancient "second" wall, or as I rather think started from the northern end of the ancient "broad wall," which is the dam or mound wall on the eastern or valley side of Hezekiah's Pool, of which I have in 1846 yet seen a piece, where now a house stands. It consisted of very large stones, which were broken up and used as common mason's stones. Such large stones were met with and broken when Messrs. Bergheim's office was established, north of the said pool and west of the Church of the Sepulchre, and now such a wall is found farther north, as described above. From this latter point it may have gone towards the ancient tower west of Damascus Gate, in some

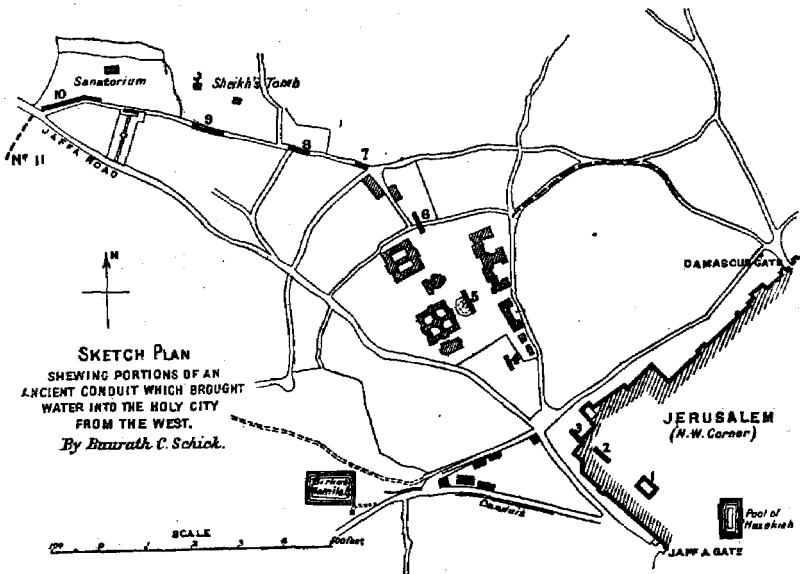
such way as I have indicated with a dotted line. When, afterwards, Hadrian's wall was again restored (as above mentioned) by the Christians, and the space embraced by-and-by filled with houses, the wall immediately west of the Church had no more any importance, and so its stones were used up in building the convents, &c.

3. *Protestant Burial Ground.*—There is an intention to enlarge the buildings of the late "Bishop Gobat's School," for which a portion of the burial ground is asked for, with the promise to give for it a larger piece of ground down in the valley. To effect this change a wall was made by the Church Missionary Society along the road going down to the valley. As this road had to be made somewhat wider, and the wall wanted a proper foundation, the rock which is near the surface was laid bare throughout. At the point where the contour 2,359 crosses the road, the opening of a rock-cut cave appeared. This cave was roundish in shape, about 18 feet in diameter, and more than a man high—as there was much earth in it, I could not get the exact height. It was no tomb, simply a cave, fit for shelter, or to keep things there. I tried to persuade the builders to utilise the cave for some purpose, but as the entrance was situated a little lower than the surface of the road, which caused some difficulty, they walled it up. On the ground lower down I observed very large blocks of rude stones which one might think to be rock, so I made some excavations in the hope to find something of importance, but found simply a kind of dry wall (or fence) along the contour 2,389. These stones are 10 feet or more long and broad, unshaped, not hewn, put upright on the surface of the rock, their smoother sides towards the outside (downwards). As the line kept on the same level, I suppose that a path or road went along (on the out or valley side) eastwards to the road coming down from "Bab Neby Daud," and perhaps even farther eastwards. Such walls, at some distance one from the other, the one nearest the city being always the higher, seem to have girded round the hill slopes of the Holy City, as can be shown also on other sides, and added to the strength of the fortification.

4. *Watercourse providing the ancient City with water from North-west.*—That such a watercourse once existed has been known for a long time. Sir Charles Wilson writes in his Notes: "Ordnance Survey of Jerusalem," 1865, page 81—"There are remains of a conduit coming in on the north-west of the city, first discovered when building the new Russian Convent (5), and since found at some buildings belonging to Mr. Bergheim (4), and also within the town when digging for the foundations of part of the Latin Patriarch's house (1 and 2); at the two last places it was visible during the stay of the surveying party at Jerusalem, but it could not be traced beyond the Russian buildings, or found in the neighbourhood, and it is hard to say from whence the water came. The sketch shows its size and construction."

Since this was written further remains of this conduit were found, and I have always kept an eye upon the matter. In the enclosed plan I give a rough copy of the Ordnance Survey Plan, in which I have

inserted the pieces found until now, and numbered them from 1 to 10, of which 1 to 5 are already mentioned in Sir Charles Wilson's report



above quoted, except No. 3, which was found by a Greek priest, digging in his garden. When in 1865 the English Mission built the boundary wall of their Sanatorium, under my direction, a long piece (No. 10) was found; the continuation towards the town went *under the road* itself, so I could not follow it. When about 18 years ago Dr. Chaplin built a house, a longer piece (No. 7) was found, and the new wall put into it, saving so the foundation diggings. When in 1882 I built my house, and the boundary wall of it, I found a destroyed piece, and also a still preserved piece (at No. 8), and when in 1889 the Russians made the sewer for their building as shown in the enclosed plan with dotted lines, two preserved pieces were met with, No. 5 and No. 6.

Recently the municipality corrected in some degree the road coming from the Damascus Gate, and meeting the Jaffa road at the Sanatorium, when a long piece of this conduit was laid bare (No. 9) into which a branch canal enters, coming from the surroundings of the Sheikh's tomb. Further west, or beyond No. 10, no piece or trace of such a conduit was met with, although there has been much digging and clearing for building houses. From the farthest known point in the west to No. 4, near the town, the decline is very gentle, but enough that the water might run very well. From 4 to 1 the decline is greater, and from 10 westwards, if the conduit continued near the surface, it would rise much, unless there were a tunnel. The

question where the water came from is even, until now, not answered, if one thinks of water from a source or spring. But I think, after taking everything into consideration, that this was not the case, but that the conduit simply acted as a collector of the rain-water, falling on the high, but flat, ground of the north-western plateau, and I hope one day to find traces in the region which I have marked No. 11.

I have also to remark that whilst Sir Charles Wilson's sketch, above referred to, gives slanting sides to the greater part of the conduit, at other places it was found with perpendicular sides, and also in some places deeper, as for instance at my house (No. 8), where it was 30 inches deep : the whole was filled with a very fine earth, the sediment of the once running water. It consisted of *sammaka*, or the common red earth, which was to me a proof that the rain-water of the neighbouring ground flowed in bringing this sediment with it, and that no spring water was running in the conduit.

5. *Some Innovations at Jerusalem.*—As I am not always in a position to report on discoveries of old things, I think it expedient, and interesting, to report also on modern changes and affairs. If one who knew Jerusalem, but has not recently visited it, should now approach it, he would, if coming from the west, hardly recognise it until he enters the Gate. So many new houses have been built, most of them covered with tiled roofs, that the city, and especially the suburbs, have quite a different appearance. Coming out from the so-called Jaffa Gate, one has, on the left hand, a new Custom House, and looking down the valley, towards the south, he sees a large building erected on the heap of rubbish brought there during the last 30 years. It is a kind of playhouse or theatre ; in its lower rooms, horses and carriages are kept. Since the Bethlehem road was made, some years ago, people have built shops and houses along it, and even in the bottom of the valley the Jews have recently erected several houses, small and large. But if the spectator goes on a few steps, looking towards the west, he has, on his left hand, first a khan, and then a row of shops, *all built on rubbish (without foundations)* ; to his right he has a grand building, those which were built 40 years ago, and in which were for many years the Custom House and the English consulate, having been pulled down, and much grander ones erected. Below there are shops and over them lodgings and rooms for offices, &c.

Going on one comes to the point where the road divides. Here is a new building, used as a kind of club house for the upper class and called "casino." Then follow shops, along the upper and lower road. On the left hand of the latter are a few houses, and from the former, a new road or street, going on straight, is made, and just where this begins the Armenian Convent has built a grand new hotel. On the ground floor are throughout shops along both roads. On the upper road there is, at another dividing of the road, a guard-house for soldiers, and further on shops and the coffee house belonging to the municipality. Having come to the crossing of roads, downwards (towards the south) the whole quarter is built over with houses, amongst which is the one belonging to Messrs.

Cook and Son, and a new large, yet unfinished, building of the French Sisters.

On the other or eastern side are some smaller houses, and further on the *new City Gate*, outside of which are new good buildings, and opposite, first the French Hospital, then the very large French Pilgrim Home, and lower down, the new lodgings for the officers of the Russian Consulate.

Farther to the west, along the Jaffa road, are, for a distance, shops on both sides, and behind the more permanent ones belonging to the municipality is the guard-house of the Police and Office of the roads. The remaining empty space there is to be made into a public garden. Behind this are Mr. Bergheim's house and the two hotels, which have by this arrangement greatly diminished in value and convenience. There is no longer a camping place in front of them. On the left is the English Deaconesses' house, the property of the Armenians. Opposite, inside the Russian wall, two buildings have been made: the larger as a hospital for patients with infectious diseases, and the smaller to keep and burn the things of such patients, or of the dead. To the Russian Mission House two additions have been made, and to the Pilgrim's Home also an additional building. Beyond the wall on the west a very grand and costly Pilgrim's Home has been erected by the Russian Orthodox Palestine Society, and further east, inside the wall, a building for the officers of this Society, also to the large Women's Pilgrim's Home an addition has been made, and an upper storey is to be added. The pool, which was formerly open, is arched over and made into a regular cistern. A sewer has been constructed at great expense, carrying off dirty water, &c., from the whole Russian building. It goes down to the Damascus Gate, enters the town sewer inside the wall, and so runs down to Siloah. On the Russian ground this new sewer has two branches, meeting outside in the road going down to the town gate. Opposite the Russian building on the east private houses are now built, in one of which Bishop Blyth resides.

It will be understood that these are only some of the new buildings near the city. Farther out, towards the north-west, many new houses are built, to a great distance. Also on other sides of the city scattered new houses are to be seen, and every year their number increases, especially towards the north.

At present I am making excavations at the ancient pool in the Upper Kedron Valley, or Wâdy el Jôz, of which I will report in my next. The land is now sold to Jews, and I had to measure it, and so I got an opportunity of digging. Leave to do so in other places I have not yet been able to get, and must wait for a better opportunity. The digging for water, and the Siloah Stone affair, have caused all the hindrances.
