

EIGHTH REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS AT JERUSALEM.

By F. J. BLISS, Ph.D.

THE present report is intimately connected with the last, in which I wrote at p. 21: "As half of this report is taken up with Section AB (see p. 9 of January *Quarterly* and plan), which was cut to ascertain whether any other walls ran across the line north of A, I am sorry that at the only two places where a city wall possibly runs the returns are incomplete." These two places were: (1) The large tower immediately north of the aqueduct, and (2) the smaller tower near B.M. 2479. The spade has now made these two points clear. The large tower is not upon a city wall. The smaller tower is at an angle of a city wall enclosing the summit of the western hill.

I have shown how this large tower projects from a system of chambers, with walls of the same general character, but of only half the thickness. A comparison of the present plan with the last will show that we have found this system extending westwards from the tower. Work at B was complicated by the fact that we found a later building, with dry stone walls, resting on the older foundations, which are always on the rock. This later building has walls only 2 feet 9 inches thick, standing to a height of 7 feet, the ruined top being only 4 feet below the surface.

The lower wall is only 6 feet 6 inches thick; a good thickness when taken by itself, but slight in comparison with the tower walls, which, it will be remembered, are from 14 feet to 16 feet thick. Hence it did not seem to be a city wall. To pursue this system of chambers to the west seemed unadvisable. Although I believed it to have been originally connected with the tower, yet there remained the mere possibility that the tower once projected from a city wall of proportionate thickness, which had been destroyed, giving place to a later chamber system and to the large cistern. Accordingly we removed operations to a point (A) 115 feet west of the north-west corner of the tower, where a shaft was sunk, somewhat south of the projection of the west line of wall just described, in order to allow for a possible but extremely improbable divergence of this hypothetical wall to the south-west. I watched the progress of this shaft with interest, as the deeper the rock the greater would be the chance of finding remains *in situ*. To my delight, rock was not struck till we reached a depth of 28 feet 8 inches. At the north end of the shaft was a wall covered with plaster, ornamented with a rude zigzag pattern. Breaking through this wall, we found its thickness to be but slight. It turned out to be the south wall of an open birket, otherwise rock-hewn, with six steps, plastered, descending from the north. We then pushed our tunnel north for 50 feet along the rapidly ascending rock, breaking through rude, thin house walls, none of which showed the characteristics of the masonry of the tower system, which I have shown before to have been embedded in a strong cement, perfectly recognisable.

The tunnel is marked on the plan, and a glance will show that it was driven with a view to exhaust all possible positions for a city wall in connection with the large tower and to the west thereof.

There remained, however, the chance of finding a city wall beyond the system of chambers to the east of the tower. A shaft was sunk at D, 160 feet from the north-east corner of the tower, to allow for a turn to the south-east in case the wall ran down to Siloam. At a depth of 9 feet 6 inches was found the rock-bottom of a drain, with masonry walls covered with plaster, 4 feet high and 1 foot 8 inches broad. From this point an open trench was driven north by north-west, the depth of soil being slight. We passed four small channels, not resting on the rock, evident feeders of the cistern to the east, marked on the map. They are only 4 inches cube, their floor and walls are formed of a concrete of ashes, chips, and lime, smooth inside, and they are covered with small slabs. I descended into the big rock-hewn cistern and found it to measure 19 feet by 29 feet.

After pursuing our open trench for 38 feet the soil, though never more than 10 feet deep, became firmer, and we were able to push on in a low tunnel. Breaking through a channel similar to those just described we followed along thin house walls at two levels. The corner house has a mosaic of white tesserae in the rock. The later is only 3 feet above the earlier, has its own white mosaic, and is itself buried by a stone pavement. Hence we have three systems of buildings, of different dates, none older than Roman times, none showing the characteristic work of the tower system, and all in a depth of soil of only 10 feet. The length of trench and tunnel north by north-east from D was 90 feet.

To recapitulate : (1) our work immediately to the east and west of the large tower shows that in its present state it is not in connection with city walls ; (2) our trenches at A and D have proved that if the large tower ever projected from a city wall, such a wall is entirely destroyed 115 feet west and 160 feet east of the tower ; (3) the wall looked for was one having the characteristics of the tower walls. These were from 14 feet to 16 feet thick, faced with rubble built in courses averaging 20 inches high, pointed with strong mortar made of lime and ashes. In following the scarp to the west of the rock-hewn chamber under the tower (*see plan facing p. 16, January Quarterly Statement*) we were obliged to quarry through the breadth of the west wall. So hard was this same mortar all through the interior of the wall that it would have been easier to quarry through the solid rock. It is hard to see how such a wall could have been destroyed beyond all recognition at any point, especially where it would be crossed by the tunnel from A, where the accumulation of soil is almost 30 feet ; (4) to prove a negative in archæology is difficult. To show a thing does not exist is one thing, to prove that it never did exist is another, but all the evidence is strongly against the idea that the large tower ever projected from a city wall. The position is against it. Two hundred feet to the south we have found a city wall (probably of Jewish times), in places covered with *débris*, separating it from an upper line of wall representing Roman or Christian times. These walls occupy the

best strategic position, following the top of the steep slope above the valley. The tower, from various considerations discussed before, appears to be Roman. Why should another and less favourable position for a city wall have been chosen so near the old line?

The tower, then, appears to be merely a feature in a system of chambers, the extent of which was not determined, and the nature of which remains a mystery. The rude character of the masonry is shown in "Specimen at C."¹ Only the corner stones are dressed, but the line traced represents the original face, *i.e.*, the rubble shows absolutely no traces of ever having been faced with dressed stones.

In my last report I showed how the rock-hewn chamber, over which the tower was built, was entered from an open court to the south. Later investigations have shown that another similar chamber was entered from the east side of this court. The rock had been much quarried away before the tower was built, the roof is gone, the rock sides are partly destroyed, and we were able to recover only one dimension, the length of the north side, which is 10 feet 3 inches. As seen from the plan, the place occupied by this second chamber was in later times built over by the south wall of the tower. In the north side is a recess, 4 feet high (its bottom stepped up from the floor of the chamber 10 inches), similar to the recesses found in the other chamber. The fact of the destruction of this chamber before the building of the tower increases my belief, expressed before, that we have here only ordinary rock-hewn dwellings that occurred by chance at the spot where a lofty tower was to be built.

We now come to the wall discovered north of the fork of the wall that comes from Bâb Neby Daûd. Part of the corner tower has been described before. From the plan it will be seen that we have a massive wall coming from the west with a tower projecting from the south-east angle. It then runs northward to the point N for some 70 yards, and then appears to turn to the east in line with the wall O, of similar thickness and construction, found by the Augustinians in their land, and followed by them for some distance east. There are also indications that, beyond, it turns towards Burj el Kebrit.

An account of the steps leading to these discoveries may be instructive. I have shown how (p. 20, *January Quarterly*), we first struck the tower near its south-east corner, but the facing stones of the south side were all gone. We then followed along the ruined top of the east wall, which was buried by scarcely 4 feet of soil, just inside, and not observing its east face, till we found the north face IH, and returned in a tunnel on the rock along the east face to within a few feet of the ruined corner G. The masonry at IH is shown by the specimen.¹ The courses are from 14½ to 25 inches high. All the stones are well dressed and set in lime. Many are margined, the rest are plain-faced. The margined stones are chiselled all over, and their projections are flat, in contrast with the rough boss so often found before. The plain-faced stones are dressed with a peculiar sharp tool, some showing a re-dressing with the comb-pick. This masonry occurs along the line HG, dwindling down to one course and

¹. Not published.

disappearing within a few feet of the corner. This explains the absence of facing-stones at the point where we had struck the south side.

From H to I is 16 feet, and at I the dressed masonry came to an end, but not in a straight joint. It appeared to be bonded into a wall of rough foundation work, but with no definite face, which ran north. But a new shaft at J revealed a satisfactory *inner angle* of a wall, coming from the west and turning to the north, built of similar irregular-sized rubble set in mortar. To prove the identity of this wall running north from J with the foundation wall running north from I, we broke through at J, finding the masonry continuous to I, giving a thickness of 12 feet for the wall. Meanwhile, shafts were sunk near L and at a point south of E. The first revealed a wall at L in line with I, which was traced north for 23 feet, when we left it, and transferred operations to M. Though consisting of courses of small rubble, set in lime, it has a thickness of 9 feet. The second shaft, sunk at a point enough to the south of E to catch a possible projection of the line FG (for F was not then known), did not reveal that projection, but a tunnel driven north struck a wall of rough rubble similar to L, which was traced westwards for 34 feet. We ascertained its thickness to be 13 feet, which brings its inner face at K in a line with the wall running west from J. Hence, E is the outer face of the wall whose inner face was seen formerly at J. The wall at E is built in some places on a scarp 2 feet to 3 feet high. My reason for not pushing this wall beyond E was that we had done just enough work on it to prove it to be a city wall, and as we could not follow it much nearer the Cenaculum, a halt could be called just as well at one point as another.

At M we again struck the wall running north, in line with the part seen at L. Here the rubble was not set in courses. The thickness is over 8 feet. We followed it north for 35 feet, to a point where it is much ruined, but from certain remains we believe that it turns south in line with O, the bit found by the Augustinians. This point will be settled when I return.

The last point to be determined was the south-west corner of the tower. A shaft was sunk to the part of the road in a line with G. Resting on the rock we found one course of the same face masonry which had been seen at IH, and along HG, and which was missing from this same line, FG, immediately under the road. Pushing west, we found much confusion in the remains. The lower courses of the wall were buried by a block of fallen masonry, the stones still bound together by mortar, and showing an inner angle, *i.e.*, the corner of a chamber. The only explanation was that an earthquake had loosened the upper part of the tower, and that a portion immediately above the lowest courses had slid forwards in a mass, for about 10 feet, without turning over. The thickness of the tower walls was supposed to be from 8 to 10 feet. Assuming that this dislodged mass had not altered its north and south axis, the south-west outer angle of the tower was to be looked for 8 or 10 feet to the west of the point where the inner corner rested on the buried courses. To break up the fallen mass was undesirable, so we sunk

another shaft at F and were fortunate enough to come down immediately upon the desired outer corner. At the date of my former report I had ascertained only the length of the east side HG, and had assumed the tower to be square. The inner face of HG was not seen, and as its thickness was at least 8 feet, I argued that the supposed square tower must be solid, as no space would be left for a chamber within such thick walls. Further investigation, however, has shown that the tower is not square, and that the outer walls would leave a space within for a chamber at least 25 by 10 feet. Moreover, the earthquake has relieved us from the necessity of an especial search for this chamber, as the mass of masonry which it caused to slide forward brought the desired proof under our very eyes.

From F we could not push along the west side of the tower northwards to its junction with the main city wall, as in our path stood a cistern which the proprietors guarded jealously.

The determination of the line of this interesting wall was the most trying task we have ever had. Land-owners and crop-owners were constantly in evidence. These difficulties were overcome from day to day, but the process was wearing. Our chief foe was the weather. The main features of the wall were quite clear on January 2nd, and we then needed only six or seven days' work to complete the detailed proof. But how to secure these days? Night after night the sky promised to clear, and morning after morning the descending torrents filled us with chagrin. Now and then we snatched a day's work, or were thankful for even a half day's work. But there were certain points to settle before we could leave these proprietors, and I determined to hold out rather than to risk a return upon their dubious hospitality in the spring. On Saturday morning, January 18th, we were still looking for the last link, the corner F. At noon the weather was so bad I told Abu Selim to stop the works, but he pleaded for a few more hours. At 2 a messenger came to the hotel announcing that there were signs of the corner. At 2.10 came another announcing that it had been found. A few minutes after Mr. Dickie and I were on the ground, verifying the joyful news.

Having proved the wall to be continuous from E to M, we may now call attention to the following points:—It always rests upon the rock, but the accumulation of soil over its ruined top is nowhere great. At J it stands to a depth of 16 feet, with 4 feet 6 inches of accumulation above it. At L its face is only 10 feet under the road; one tunnel revealed 4 feet of its height, how much more may be preserved was not ascertained; its thickness varies from 9 feet to 13 feet, a variation not to be wondered at in such rough work. Mortar is used all through the thickness of the wall. The main wall (in distinction from the tower) consists of rough rubble, which presents no evidence of ever having been faced with dressed stones except at one point. At J there is one course of dressed stones, 14 feet above the rock. These project 9 inches from the rubble, and are of small size, as might be expected along the *inside* face, *i.e.*, within the town. The wall is evidently late, and as there are signs that the district was occupied before it was built, the parts seen may have been always

underground, the upper dressed courses having entirely disappeared, except the single inner course at J.

The faces of the tower, however, show dressed masonry down to the rock. But we have in ancient Jerusalem precedents illustrating this discrepancy. The Ophel wall of rubble, discovered by Warren, has towers of well-dressed masonry projecting from it, and the beautifully-built tower discovered by us near the gate by the Pool of Siloam was added to a wall of ruder work.

That this wall is late is proved by the fact that while boring through it at L to ascertain its thickness, we found a bit of zigzag Romanesque moulding built into its foundations. It may be part of a wall built by the Crusaders to enclose the Cœnaculum, or it may have been thrown up by the Saracens.

The question of the line of this wall beyond E, to the west, opens up a problem that was started more than a year ago. The wall traced by me to Siloam properly starts from the top of the fosse, 105 feet north-west of the first gate discovered. (See plan in *Quarterly*, January, 1895.) This fosse separates it from the tower connected with the wall of Mr. Maudslay. From the tower I traced a masonry wall along the top of the scarp for some distance to the north-east. The fosse, which is deep around the tower, follows the north-east scarp, but becomes shallower. I attributed this fosse to an inner wall or to an inner fortress, preferring the latter view at the time. It was traced as far north-east as I could approach the Cœnaculum, a point marked P on the present map, which should be compared with the former. Do these two lines join? This is a question which can probably not be definitely settled, owing to the position of the Cœnaculum. In favour of the union is their direction. Apparently against it is the difference of the masonry of the tower near fosse and of the tower just found, the former consisting of two courses of drafted stones with the rustic boss, and with margins dressed with the "pock-marking," but, as I noticed on p. 251 of the *Quarterly*, October, 1894, many of the *fallen* stones around the tower show on their margins the diagonal comb-pick dressing characteristic of Crusaders' times. Again, there is no fosse in front of the wall at E, which stands on a scarp only 3 feet high, but the rock, followed for 40 feet to the south, falls so rapidly as to allow of no ditch. Hence the absence of it is no proof against the identity of the two bits of wall.

In our work about this wall we came across various remains. Parallel with the east side of the tower runs a drain, with rock-hewn sides, 3 feet broad. This was seen again near L, where its walls are of masonry, 3 feet 6 inches high. It may be identical with one or more of the three bits of drain found in the same general line to the south and shown on the last plan.

At L it cuts through a previously-ruined rock-hewn birket, which has five steps descending from the east. This birket is similar to the one south of the tower, described in the last report, to one over which the wall is built at J, to the one near the point A, and to the one discovered during our first season near the fosse. A section of the latter has been

sent to London. They are all open, having rock-hewn sides, plastered, with descending steps, which leave a small pit at the bottom from 2 to 7 feet wide. Outside the wall, south of L, there is a small room, perhaps older than the wall, as it has a white mosaic flooring, itself buried by a pavement. At L there is a fine rock-hewn cistern, the discovery of which brought joy to the proprietor. Near by was found *in situ* the base of a column. Near E the city wall was plastered and covered with a bit of rude, coloured fresco, in the Gothic style, with vine-leaf pattern, probably belonging to a later dwelling built up against the wall. There were also signs of rude buildings to the south of E.

In my former reports I have dwelt little upon the pottery, as I wished to guard against drawing hasty conclusions. Now that I have carefully observed many thousand specimens during more than a year and a half of work over a large area, noting their distribution, I am able, with the aid of Mr. Dickie's accurate drawings, to state certain definite results of our investigations.

The pottery is divided into three general types: (1) Jewish, (2) Roman, (3) Byzantine, and later. The Jewish types have been found almost



No. 2.

exclusively in connection with the older city wall, traced, at different points, from its south-west to its south-east angle, and along the base of the great scarp which protects this wall at the south-west. Those found most commonly and always associated are Nos. 1, 2, 6, and 11. No. 2 is a pot with a globular body, rounded at the bottom, with a short neck and small handles springing from the brim. It is made of fine paste of a

purplish brown, is wheel-turned, showing a very faint ribbing. The specimen drawn was found with two or three other whole ones at the base of the old wall a few yards north-west of the gate near Siloam. These pots were usually smoked, showing that they were used for cooking. This type occurred frequently at Tell el Hesi in cities 6-8, which cover a period from 800 to 400 B.C. Some specimens occurred still earlier, merged with Phœnician types. The ware and the shapes are identical. The only difference is that the type at the tell show no signs of the faint ribbing. The type is shown in Fig. 240, in my "Mound of Many Cities." This differs from the specimen drawn here in the position of the handles, which, though springing from the neck, rest further down on the body of the pot; but I have a photograph, taken at the tell, of another and more characteristic specimen, which shows the small handles similar to those found at Jerusalem.

No. 1 is an open lamp, a coarse development of a Phœnician type, from which it differs by springing from a stand. This type was also found with the Jewish pottery at the tell (*see* Fig. 237 of my book). No. 6 is of the Pilgrim Bottle type, known in Cyprus. It is of red paste, wheel-turned, with the handles streaked down by the fingers. A similar shape, but with more circular handles, occurs in the Tell el Hesi photograph, just mentioned, which represents the pottery of cities 7-8, ranging from 500 to 400 B.C. Petrie notes that this shape is found much earlier at the tell (*see* Figs. 159-160 of his Tell el Hesi). The photograph also shows a third type of jar, of which fragments were found at Jerusalem, but not drawn here.



No. 4.



No. 6.

No. 4 is found at Jerusalem in connection with Nos. 1, 6, and 11, but not so frequently as these. It is made of fine red paste. Nos. 3 and 5 are small open lamps of a type in use during Phœnician times, and not unlike those used in Palestine to-day! The beautiful shape No. 7 was found inside the tower. It is made of a very fine grey paste; I do not recognise the type. No. 8 is of the light-red paste, characteristic of Phœnician ware. No. 9 is similar in material, but its shape, as well as that of No. 10, is uncharacteristic. No. 11 is most common, and, as I

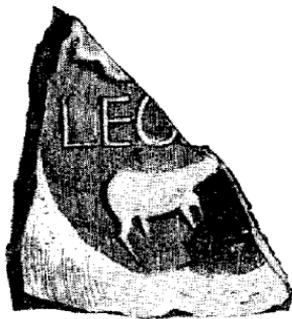
have said, always found in connection with Nos. 1 and 6. It is made of very thick reddish paste. No specimen was found whole, but the shape of the vessel may be reconstructed from the three bits, which evidently belong to the same type. It is a thin flask, with long neck and stand and a small body. The bottom of the stand is always curiously marked.

No. 12 was also found along the old wall. It is a handle similar to those found on early Phœnician bowls (*see* No. 181, "Mound of Many Cities"), but differing in having a hollow circular end. In connection with these old types, we also found bits of the high Greek vases with knob-like terminations (*see* Fig. 236, "Mound of Many Cities"), and with handles springing from the neck and descending perpendicularly to the body. These at the tell come down to 400 B.C. from earlier times.

Nos. 13, 32, and 33 suggest Phœnician types. Nos. 49 and 50 recall the well-known Phœnician female figures, with pointed breasts and beak. No. 14 represents a type of twisted moulding found on Jewish pottery at Jerusalem. At the tell it occurs on the earliest Amorite ware (*see* Fig. 92, "Mound of Many Cities").

Another characteristic of the early pottery was found in the *burnished facing* occurring on many small fragments. Petrie shows how this lasted from the earliest Amorite time down to the Jewish period, when it occurs in a debased form. He says: "The earliest burnishing on the red face is in wide open crossing lines, which yielded to closer patterns, and in late times a mere spiral burnishing made on the wheel." Figs. 83 and 88, "Mound of Many Cities," illustrate this type. The two other specimens found in connection with the old wall are the inscribed jar handles Nos. 46 and 47. The former was found at a depth of 26 feet in front of the wall crossing the mouth of the Tyropœon valley. The inscription is somewhat defaced.

We now come to the Roman pottery. This was found (1) near the surface of the ground almost anywhere; (2) inside the old wall at any



No. 36.

depth in connection with Byzantine and Arab pottery; (3) embedded in the packing inside the tower north of the aqueduct and around that tower; also in the *débris* around the wall discovered near B.M. 2,479;

(4) never near the base of the earlier or lower wall, including the part branching north from the main wall crossing the mouth of the Tyropean valley.

The well-known types showing the pronounced Roman ribbing have not been drawn. Numerous tiles turned up, some of them having the stamp of the tenth legion—*LEGIO X FRETENSIS*, but in abbreviated form, shown in Nos. 36–38. On No. 36 may be seen a boar, which was a



No. 37.



No. 38.

symbol used by this legion. No. 35 is a bit of a bowl ornamented with heads in a late Roman style. The fragment of a dish, No. 51, appears to be made of mock-Samian ware, and shows the figure of a horse.

The rest of the pottery is mainly Byzantine and Arab, and was found at various points inside the old wall. Nos. 15–27, are lamps, and represent the same types discovered by Sir Charles Warren. Nos. 15 and 16 were found in the sepulchral cave under the mortuary chamber with beautiful mosaic, which dates from the fifth or sixth century, A.D., discovered north of the Damascus Gate and illustrated in the *Quarterly Statement* for January, 1895. No. 16 has a Greek inscription. No. 17 is more richly ornamented and may be later. The ornament in No. 18 is



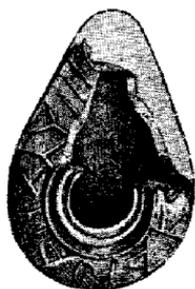
No. 16.



No. 18.

made by the repetition of two letters. No. 19 is stamped with the well-known inscription *ΛΥΚΝΑΡΙΑ ΚΑΛΑ*—"pretty little lamp." The fragment, No. 20, also has an inscription in highly ornamental letters which I cannot make out. This was found above the outlet of the drain which runs under the gate at the south-west corner of the old city. The

round lamp, No. 21, may be older than the above, and may be a development of the plain No. 22, which was found in connection with older pottery. Nos. 23 and 26 appear to be Arab. The type of No. 27, with its several wicks, is well-known in Greece. The tiny jars, Nos. 28 and 29, were found inside the house which was built over the old paved road leading to the south-west gate. Accordingly they are late. No. 30 was found in a birket in the same vicinity. In regard to the curious object, No. 31, I should be glad of suggestions, as I can make nothing of it. No. 34 seems to be Arab. No. 39 is a slab of marble, evidently part of



No. 19.



No. 20.



a mould for casting metal crosses. The incisions are one-sixteenth of an inch in depth. Provision is made for the liquid metal to run out at either end. Nos. 40-45 are interesting, as they show various forms of old crosses. No. 48 is a marble fragment with vine-leaf ornament.

The above facts in regard to the distribution of the pottery throws light upon the age of the walls we have been tracing. We have shown that more than half of the types found in connection with the old wall were also found at Tell el Hesi, representing Jewish and other work, dating from 800 to 400 B.C. Moreover, these types include no Roman work, which was common inside the tower. This fact, taken in connection with the failure to find any other ancient wall in our great section, AB, points to a Jewish date for the lower line of wall running down to Siloam, as well as for the wall branching north to the west of the pool. The presence of Roman and Byzantine pottery immediately within the old line of wall shows that the whole western hill was occupied after the Christian era, a fact which the numerous mosaics substantiate. The wall superimposed upon the lower, shown in the Plan for January, 1896, probably belongs to this period. The absence of Jewish pottery, and the prevalence of Roman and later ware in connection with the tower north of the aqueduct, show it to be late, a conclusion drawn before from other considerations. The wall described in this report, which encloses the top of the western hill, shows also the same late types. The scarcity of Jewish pottery inside the Jewish wall, and its prevalence near the outside base of the wall, may be explained by the fact that the Roman and later towers never extended beyond

the line of the old wall, which was buried in earlier *débris*, but within this line the later dwellings, founded on the rock, had caused a disappearance of the earlier remains.

There remain to be described a few general objects. No. 52 is a type which occurred at the tell at various levels. (See Fig. 256 of my book.) It is a polished article in bone, shaped like a pointed paper cutter, perhaps used in arranging a pattern in weaving. This specimen was found by the old wall, as was also No. 53, also of bone, which resembles a flat spoon. No. 54 represents a type found universally in Palestine, and also in Greece. At the tell I called similar objects in slate spindle-whorls. The present specimen is of bone, prettily ornamented. No. 55, found near the tower north of aqueduct, is a needle of bone. The thumb from a statue of native marble, No. 56, has been referred to on p. 256 of the *Quarterly* for October, 1894. Nos. 57 and 58 are spear-heads, the former of iron, the latter of bronze. The massive iron nail, No. 59, was found under the road coming from Bab Neby Daüd. No. 60 is an instrument of bronze, with a flattened-out head. The brass lamp-handle, No. 61, was one of the first objects found; it is late. No. 62 is a dish-handle in bronze. The bronze buckle, so like a buckle of to-day, occurred inside the gate near Siloam.

The coins found, in our excavations from the beginning, have all been of copper, much corroded. Of the 130 coins examined by the Rev. Theodore E. Dowling, only 28 are at all legible. They have been found, as a rule, within the old city wall, and in no case near the base of the wall. Mr. Dowling's identifications of the 28 legible coins are as follows:—

1. Coin of Herod the Great, B.C. 37-4.
2. Coin of Coponius, or Marcus Ambivivus, or Annius Rufus (Procurators), A.D. 6-15.
3. Coin of Annius Rufus, Third Procurator, L.M. (year 40), A.D. 13-14.
4. Possibly a coin struck by Valerius Gratus, **ΙΟΥΛΙΑ**, Fourth Procurator, third year, A.D. 16-17.
5. Coin of Herod Agrippa I, A.D. 37-44.
6. Coin of Antioch. Roman emperor (obverse), name doubtful.
- 7-8. Two late Roman coins.
- 9-12. Four Arab coins.
- 13-15. Coins of Constantine I, A.D. 307.
- 16-18. Coins of Constantine II, A.D. 337-340.
19. Coin of Romulus Augustulus, A.D. 475.
- 20-21. Coin of Justin I, A.D. 518.
22. Coin of Justin I and Justinian I, A.D. 527.
23. Coin of Justinian I, with full-face portrait, A.D. 527-565.
24. One late Byzantine coin.
25. Roman coin; Colonial? (Palestine).
- 26-27. Two Saracenic coins.
28. Coin showing (possibly) the cross of a Count of Edessa, c. A.D. 1068.

It has been an unusually stormy winter. During December we lost only seven days of work from the weather. During the first week of January we secured five days for work, but the second week we could work only two and a half days, and the third only two days. Accordingly we decided to take our holiday at a time when work was impossible. For even when there is no wet, these fellahin are paralysed by the cold. They do not know how to resist it by putting more vigour into their work, but stand shivering about. I have never seen them prostrated by the heat.

My plan was to go to Beyrout. Mr. Dickie was to accompany me to that point, and then sail on by the same steamer to Smyrna. But a half hour after we reached Jaffa, a telegram announced that Turkey had declared quarantine against Egypt. Hence there was no steamer to take us north. For three days we saw steamers passing by, and for a time it seemed as if we should have to ride to Beyrout along the coast. But a Turkish steamer appeared from Beyrout on the third day. The accommodation was of the poorest, but we were glad to arrive at Beyrout "clean," in a technical sense. While Mr. Dickie awaited his opportunity to go north, I took him up the slopes of my favourite Lebanon, to stop the night with our foreman, Yusif, Abu Selim, who gave us a cordial welcome. It was a day of glorious views, to the west the great blue expanse of sea, to the east the main ridge of the Lebanon, of a dazzling white, against which the cedar groves showed dark.

Two days after Mr. Dickie left for the north, the *St. Lunniva*, Mr. Perowne's excursion steamer, came in. On his invitation, my father and I joined the party after their return from Damascus, and we sailed direct to Smyrna. The first face I saw there was Mr. Dickie's, who at once joined the party. We had a pleasant day at Ephesus. At Constantinople we had only one day. I had but one object, and that was to see the Imperial Museum and its Directors. Unfortunately, Hamdy Bey had just left, but his brother, Khalil Bey, the Sub-director, received me most cordially, and I passed a delightful hour. Considering the multitude of matters that must come under the observation of the director of a museum, I was astonished as well as gratified at the touch which Khalil Bey has kept with the many details of our excavations. His Excellency took me all over the museum, including the archæological library. As to the Sidon sarcophagi, they surpass in beauty anything that one could imagine of them. One might well go to Constantinople with the simple object of seeing these treasures. Unfortunately, I could pass only hurriedly through this most interesting museum, merely glancing at the Siloam inscription, the Hittite remains, with a look at my Tell el Hesi tablet.

I made another attempt to see Hamdy Bey at his other office, but was sorry to miss him again. So little can be done in one day! But it is a great comfort to feel that to this well-arranged, well-managed museum are to go such treasures as we may hope to find.

At Athens we left the large party. My father and I had six days here. It was pleasant to meet the Directors of the British and American

Schools of Archæology. I had several valuable walks with Mr. Dickie, taking many interesting notes of things which throw light on points in our own excavations. We left Mr. Dickie to study in Athens, and arrived here last week, when I at once began this report. Though we had been followed by good weather, during our absence there had been hardly one clear day in Syria and Palestine. My sixteen days' trip was very beneficial. It took me away from the Arabic language, which I had heard every day for two years and a half; it took me off into Europe, if not into a full Western civilisation; it took me into a colder, more bracing atmosphere; and it brought me back feeling as if I had been away for six months.

BEYROUT, *March 3rd*, 1896.

ERRATA : JANUARY "QUARTERLY STATEMENT."

- P. 12, line 15 from top, *for* "establish" *read* "substitute."
 P. 16, " 20 " " "separation" " "reparation."
 P. 17, " 3 from bottom " "course" " "corner."
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REPORTS FROM HERR BAURATH VON SCHICK.

I. *Deir el 'Adas*.—For several months I have been searching for churches and similar buildings in the Holy City alluded to in old records, and to find out under what name the churches may have been mentioned in various writings. So I came also to the so-called "*Deir el 'Adas*." Its small but nicely shaped dome I had often seen from a distance, but never had a near view of the building itself. As it stands not on any road or street one does not easily come to it, but can see it from a distance, projecting above the roofs of the houses. So I knew very little about it, especially as it is not mentioned in the many books on such subjects,¹ nor entered in plans or maps of the city. I found it only mentioned in Tobler's "*Topography*," I, p. 445, as a "deserted mosque," and as near to the so-called "*Medinet el Hamra*" (the Red Minaret), so I had always the idea that both belonged together, and that it being a Mohammedan ecclesiastical place it would not be easy to go there and examine it; but when recently making some enquiry I learned that they are two different places, and that "*Deir el 'Adas*" was in possession of the Greek Convent, so I went there to examine the matter.

When passing along the eastern part of the so-called *Via Dolorosa*, and coming east of the *Ecce Homo Arch*, to the corner of the barracks,

¹ In the *Quarterly Statement*, 1889, p. 10, Dr. Chaplin remarked that the Church of "*St. Peter ad Vincula*, from the situation indicated on the plan, can hardly be other than the *Deir el 'Adas* now in possession of the Greek Church."—(ED.)