

a marsh. His breath could kindle coals, and a flame goes from his mouth. Strength lodges in his neck, and terror runs before him. The flakes of his flesh cleave close on him and are stiff. His heart is hard as a stone, hard as the nether millstone. His rising the deer fear, who stray among the broken banks. Lay at him a sword it holds not, or spear, or dart. He counts iron as chopped straw, copper as rotten wood. A son of the bow cannot make him fly, slingstones are turned to stubble on him, darts are reckoned as stubble, he laughs at the shaking of a javelin. Sharp points are under him, he drags a threshing sledge over the mud.¹ He makes the pool boil like a pot, he makes the lake a (musk ?) pot. Behind him shines a track, he renders the deep hoary. Nothing on earth is like him, which makes him fearless. Of all mighty (beasts) that one sees he is king, over all sons of the wild beast" (xli).

THE VALLEY GATE.

By PROFESSOR THEODORE F. WRIGHT, Ph.D.

In the *Statement*, 1898, p. 168, the Rev. W. F. Birch assails, in his vivacious manner, my suggestion as to the position of the Valley Gate of Neh. ii, 13, by reiterating his belief that the Valley of Hinnom lay within the city, and was not the western and southern valley outside, which it is generally supposed to have been. In support of his view, which he feels that he has "proved," he states that a part of Jerusalem was of Judah and a part of Benjamin, and that therefore the Valley of Hinnom, which is the boundary defined in Josh. xv, 8, xviii, 16, was the Tyropeon. He makes an inference from an inference from Jer. xxxi. 38-40, and understands that he has delivered "three straight blows" which might "suffice to kill the Hinnom myth, if it were mortal"; but he expects that it is only "stunned for a little."

But, on the contrary, the Hinnom idea is rather enlivened by the smart strokes of Mr. Birch. It does not mind proof which runs in a circle. It notes only facts. It meets the declaration that Jerusalem was partly in Judah and partly in Benjamin by asking Mr. Birch to point out Jebus in the list of the towns of Judah. It acknowledges that Judah had attacked Jebus (Judg. i, 8), but it admits no inference from this that Jebus was in part given to Judah because it does not find it named in the list of Joshua xv. However the attack of Judah may be explained, Jebus was not in Judah according to all the Bible statements as to towns and tribal boundaries. As Judah took possession of its territory before the lot was cast at Shiloh for Benjamin, it may

¹ Referring to the sharp stone teeth of a threshing sledge.

be that Judah undertook to conquer the whole southern country, from Jebus to the Negeb and including the district of Simeon, but in no way can this war confuse us as to the localities so distinctly set forth, the north line of Judah in Josh. xv and the south line of Benjamin in Josh. xviii being exactly the same, and both of them passing "south" of Jebus.

A portion of Mr. Birch's reasoning is not plain to me, but I take it that his whole contention falls with his main premise and assumption, that Jerusalem was divided by his Valley of Hinnom between Judah and Benjamin.

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ERRATUM.

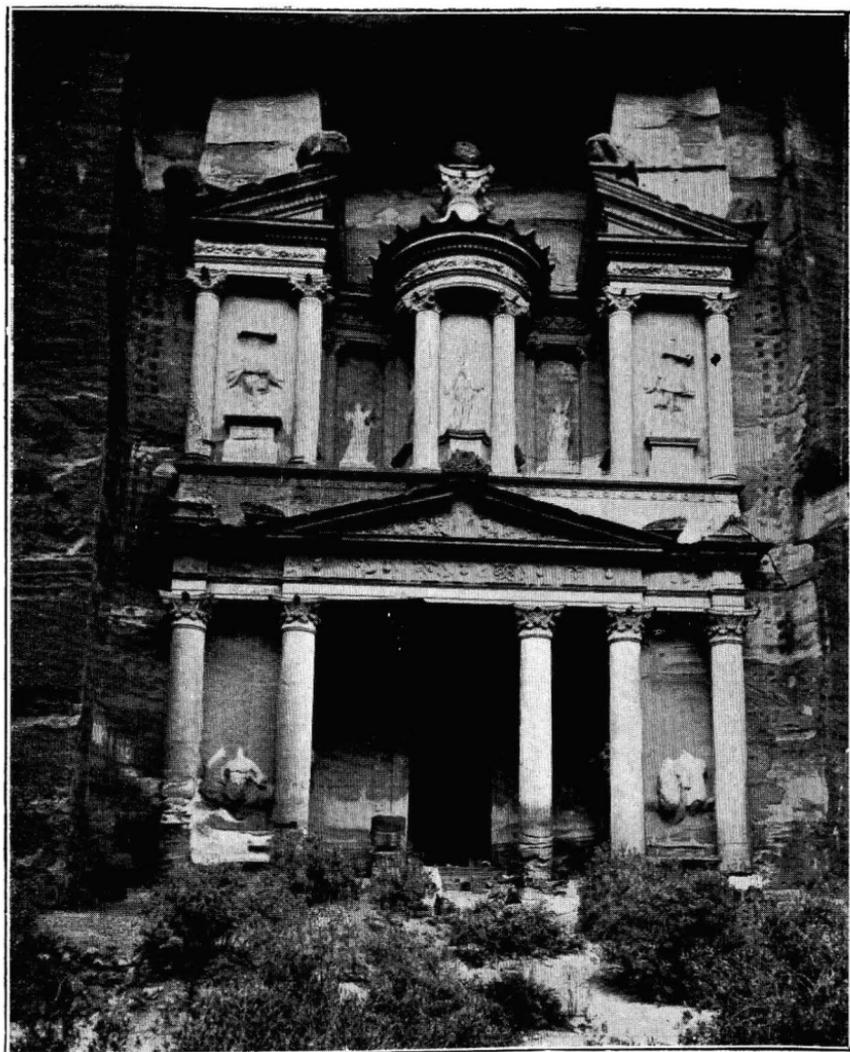
Quarterly Statement, July, p. 162.

For "Wescott" read "Westcott."



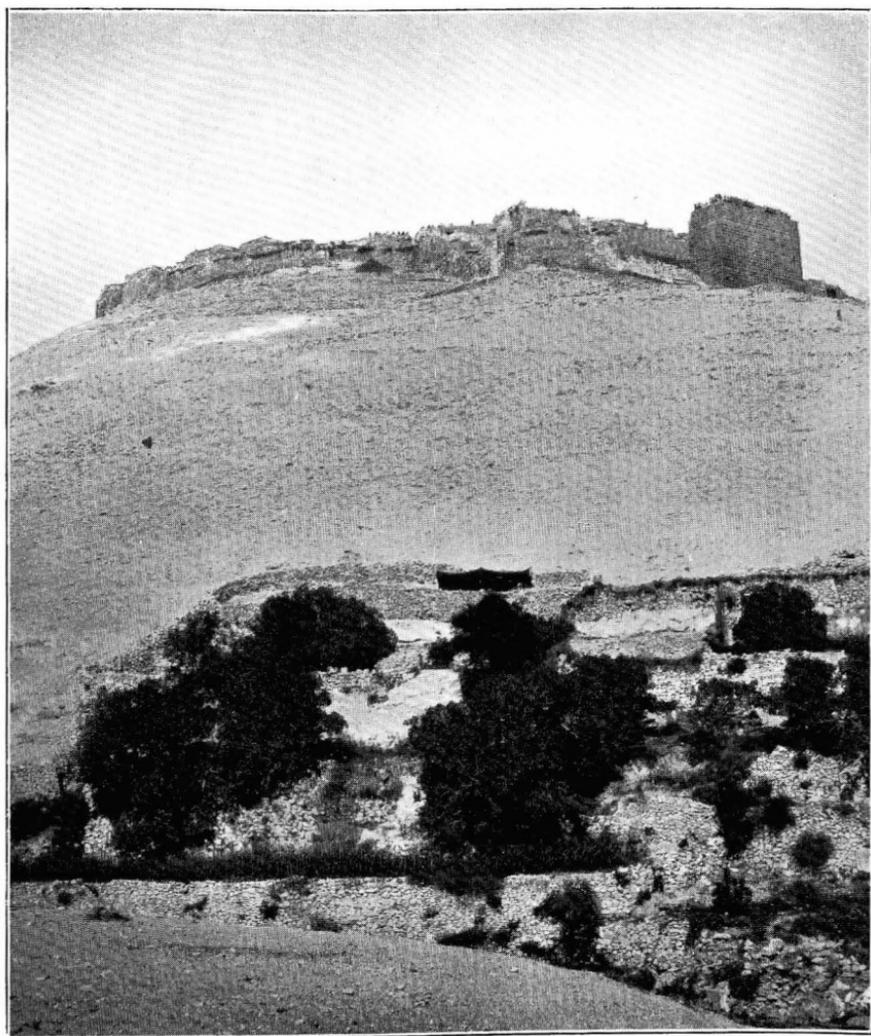
THE SIK, PETRA.

(From a Photo by C. A. Hornstein.)



(From a Photo by C. A. Hornstein.)

KHASNEH PHAR'AUN (PHARAOH'S TREASURE HOUSE).

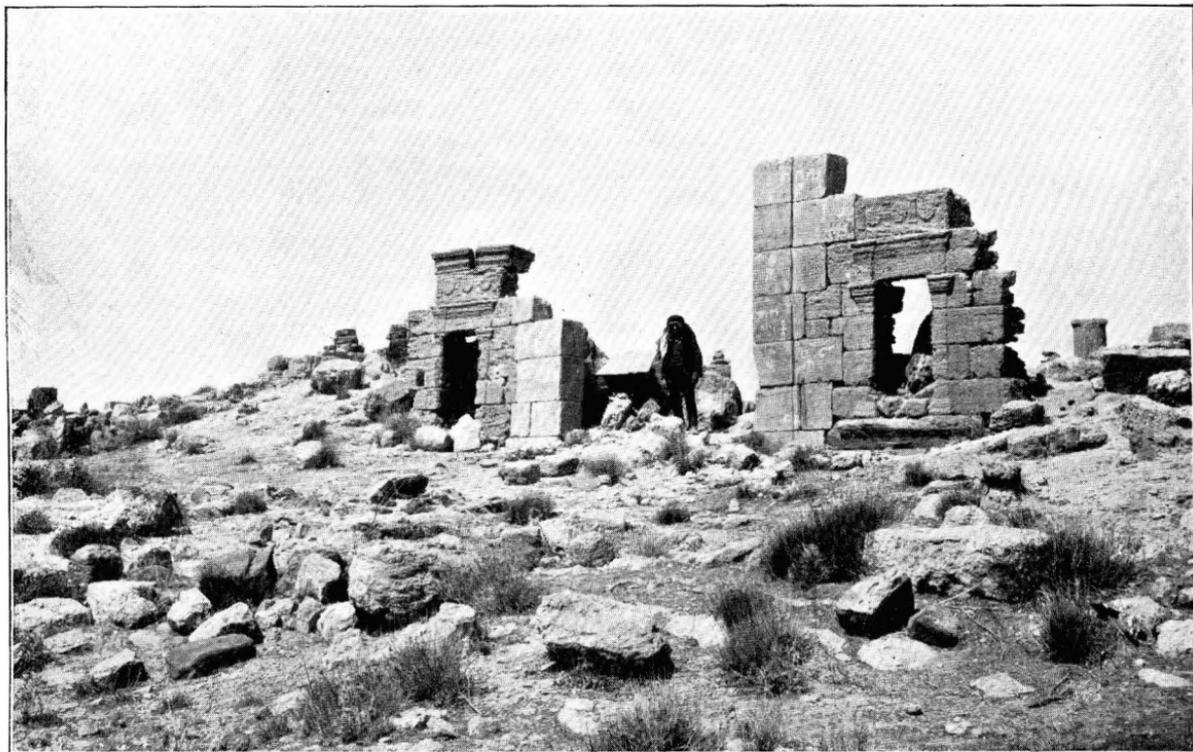


VIEW OF SHOBEK. *(From a Photo by C. A. Hornstein.)*



NOAH'S TOMB, KERAK.

(From a Photo by C. A. Horastein.)



VIEW OF DATRAS.

(From a Photo by C. A. Horstein.)