

2 feet 6 inches from the bottom. The tunnel is very winding, and its width was greatly lessened at one or two places by projecting masses of rock or large stones. Probably the numerous turns were made to avoid such obstructions. All the way there was a stream of running water from the spring.

Dr. Schick, who is very interested in the find, has kindly pointed out to me his notes about the "Second Siloam Tunnel" in the *Quarterly Statement* for 1891. It seems natural to conclude that this is the upper part of that tunnel, especially as Dr. Schick pointed out the very spot at which it might be expected to leave the Virgin's Fountain. At the same time it may be noticed there are several points of difference. *This* aqueduct contains a good stream of running water, is in perfect condition most of the distance traced, has a very regular width (much narrower than Dr. Schick's tunnel), and, as far as we have seen, contains none of those doors, obstructions, caves, &c., described in Dr. Schick's paper.

It occurs to me that it is most probable that the first 34 feet of rock-cut tunnel was open to the air originally, and it *may* be that this was the original exit of the water . . . down the Kedron Valley until it was stopped by Hezekiah (2 Chron. xxxii, 4) spoken of in the "Memoirs" ("Jerusalem" volume).

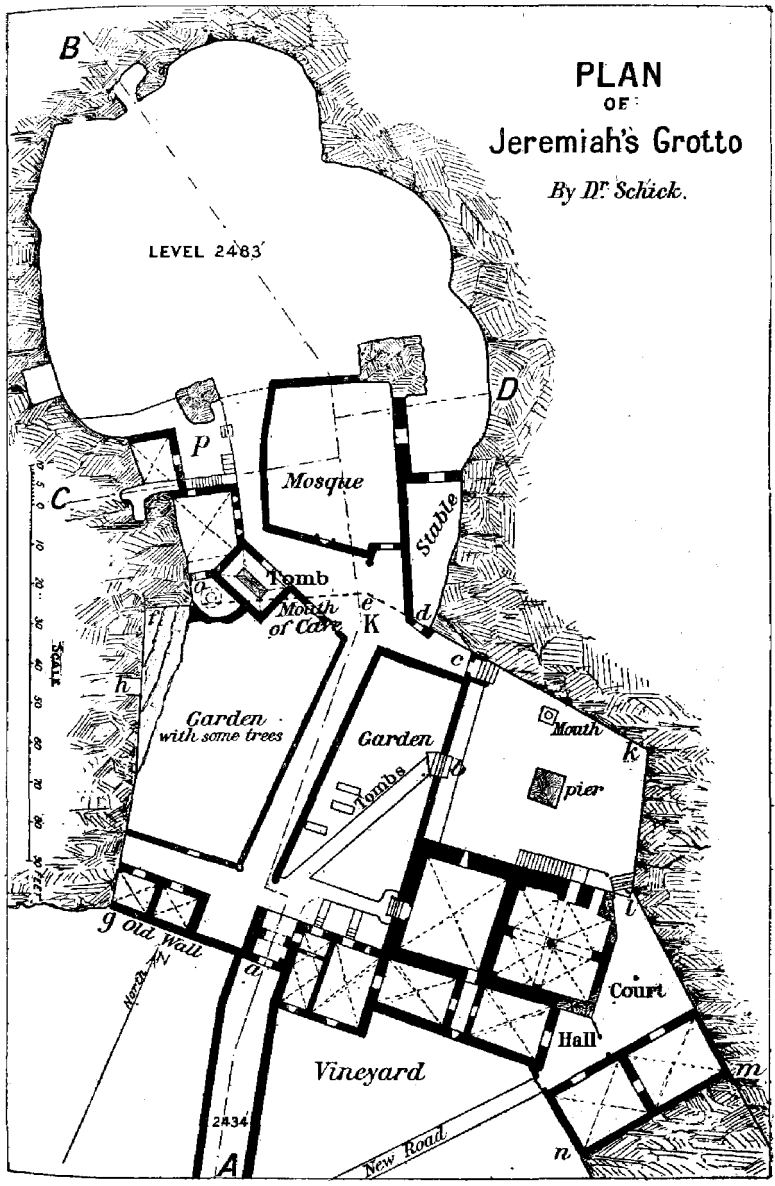
N.B.—References to the Second Tunnel will be found in *Quarterly Statements* as follows:—Vol. for 1836, pp. 92, 97; 1837, p. 104; 1890, p. 257; 1891, pp. 13, 199.

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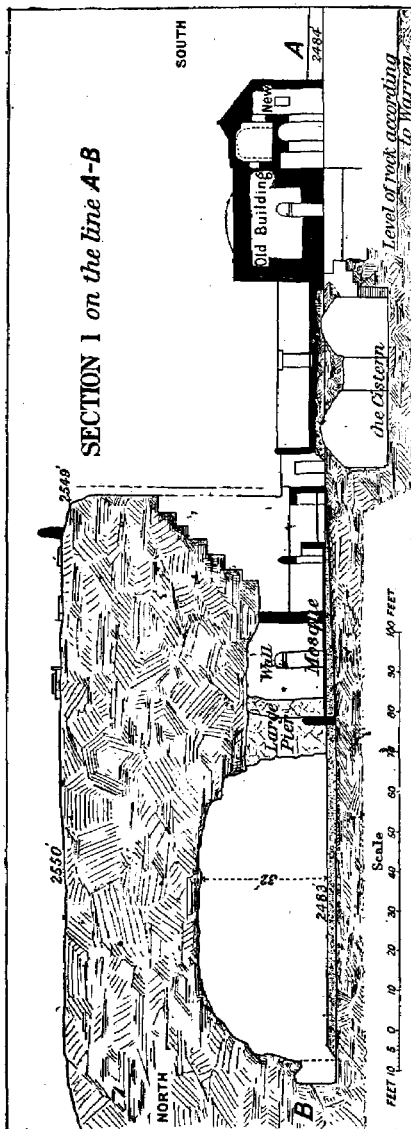
## NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE PLAN OF JEREMIAH'S GROTTO.

By BAURATH DR. CONRAD SCHICK.

ON reaching the door (*a*) in the old wall, one sees to the right a new building which projects southward into a vineyard. Passing through this door and a small hall, in which are shafts of pillars, one notices several paths, and a garden enclosed by new whitewashed walls about 5 feet high. The principal path does not run direct to the new entrance to the mosque, but turns west and then north to avoid three tombs. Entering the garden, and following a path which leads past the tombs, we come to a gate (*b*) in a higher wall and reach a paved court by a small flight of steps. Beneath this court is a remarkable rock-hewn cistern, which has, in its centre, a massive square pier of rock to support the roof. The mouth of the cistern is near the rock-scarp at the north end of the court, and its floor is reached by a flight of steps



at the south end. South of the court there is an old rectangular building divided by a wall of masonry. The western portion is certainly



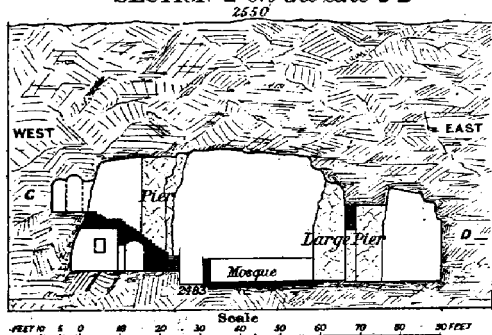
Byzantine. Its floor is a little higher than that of the paved court, and there may be an underground chamber, but I could detect no opening. At the west end a door opens upon a flight of steps. The floor of the eastern part is fully 6 feet below the roof of the cistern. It has a pillar in the centre, and its eastern and southern walls are partially rock-hewn. The chamber is rather low and its roof is of masonry. It seems to have been a small church, with an apse at the east end, which was destroyed and never rebuilt. Baedeker and others consider it to be an ante-room to the cistern; but cisterns never have such ante-rooms, and the approach to the cistern from this chamber is narrow, low, and bad, with steps 2 feet high.

Passing now to the north-west corner of the paved court, we descend some steps to a door (c), which gives access to a path running west. Following this, past a door (d) that leads to an enclosure, which I call "the stable," we reach the northern end of the principal path. Standing here (at K on plan), we see the great scarp, with its two wings, towering above us, and wonder at the labour bestowed upon it. The scarp does not run in a

straight line from west to east, but forms a re-entering angle (e), as shown by the line on the plan. The angle is near K and at the

highest part of the opening to the cave, marked by the dotted line on Section 1. The western arm of the angle (*e, f*) is 54 feet long, and the height of the scarp above the present surface of the ground is 64 feet. The west wing (*f, g*) leaves the scarp almost at a right angle, and runs southward for more than 70 feet at the same height. At the southern end the scarp of the wing is not perpendicular. At the north end, in the fourth stratum from the top, there is a square opening (*h*) which has never been examined; and at the bottom there is a projecting mass of rock that rises about 10 feet above the level of the garden. There are young trees in the garden: the trees described by Tobler and others about 50 years ago do not now exist. The eastern arm of the angle (*e, k*) is 80 feet long and the same height as the western. The east wing (*k, l, m, n*) leaves the scarp at an obtuse angle, running 35 feet to *l* and 50 feet to *m*, and there turning west to *n*, where it ends, and is of no great height. The strata exposed in the high scarp differ in height. The upper one is

## SECTION 2 on the line C-D



not solid rock, but a sort of natural conglomerate, above which there is a little earth. There are several of the usual cracks in the strata, but some are remarkable, as, for instance, one in the face of the scarp and one in the east wing.

Entering the cavern we pass through a door to the mosque, which is nothing more than a paved court of somewhat irregular form enclosed by a low wall. The north-east corner is formed by one of the rock piers which support the roof of the cavern, and in the south wall there is a plain mihrab. A little south of the mosque is a small building with, as the Sheikh said, the tomb of Sultan Adhem, from whom comes the name Edhenieh. The tomb is covered by a green cloth. Behind is a domed building (*o*), which possibly contains another tomb. North of it there is a room, and north of this again a sort of platform (*p*) about 3 feet high, upon which stands another room built against the rock. A flight of steps leads to the roof of the last room, and to a recess in the rock, which is said to be the resting place of some saint.<sup>1</sup> The rock-pier is partly

<sup>1</sup> I understood him to be "Assar" or Lazarus.

cut away like that to the east as if the mosque had once extended from one pier to the other (*see* dotted line on plan). At that time the entrance to the cavern and to the mosque was through the "stable." Former writers mention a bench of some length on the west side of the cavern. This has disappeared, and the Sheikh told me that it had been quarried away for building stone. At the north end there is a small recess, the bottom of which is a few feet lower than the floor of the cavern. The latter, as I remember it, was an uneven surface of rock, but it is now quite level and is apparently formed of quarry chippings set in lime. The height of the roof from the floor is 32 feet, the various levels are shown on the sections. The apse and mihrab-shaped recesses in the rock walls of the cavern seem remarkable, and in the west wall there is a square niche, that can only be reached by a ladder, which looks as if it might have been a cell.

As some advocates of the new Calvary say that at one time there was a church on this green (rather rocky) hill, of which traces can still be seen, I examined the place and found nothing. A little north of the end of the cave and on the northern slope of the hill there are rude traces of a moderate sized square enclosure which certainly was not a church, and probably belonged to some Moslem tomb.

It appears that the floor of the cavern was levelled in expectation of a visit from the German Emperor, and that the stones for the new walls were quarried inside the cave. The marks of the powder used in blasting are plainly visible.

## THE MURISTAN, OR THE SITE OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN AT JERUSALEM.

By BAURATH DR. CONRAD SCHICK.

### (A)—HISTORICAL NOTES.

It is well known that the site of the former Palace and Hospital of the Knights of St. John now bears the name "Muristan," an Arabic expression (derived from the Persian) for a hospital.

Some fifty years ago it was, besides some buildings and ruins round its boundary, an elevated meadow or arable field, quadrangular in form and tolerably level, on an average 480 feet long from west to east, 430 feet broad from north to south, and raised some 25 feet above the streets where shops and arches penetrate into it, indicating that the whole might consist of similar buildings covered with a great mass of earth.

In the year 1867 Sir Charles Warren, on behalf of the Palestine Exploration Fund, made some excavations in the hope