

and in the *Tetranymphon*, a bath with four porticos—possibly the Pool of Siloam, which, according to the Bordeaux Pilgrim,<sup>1</sup> was *quadriporticus*. The *Dodekapyllon* he regards as the double colonnade of the principal thoroughfare divided by three *tetrapylons*, and its name, "the steps," he explains by the steps in the street. But in this last case an identification with some part of the fortifications, or with some great work connected with the approach from the civil city to the temple of Jupiter<sup>2</sup> would seem preferable.

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## THE CRYPTS IN ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, JERUSALEM.

By R. A. STEWART MACALISTER, M.A., F.S.A.

AT the request of the Rev. Père Cré, of the Monastery of St. Anne, I have examined and measured the crypts found under the ancient Church of St. Anne, and submit herewith a report upon them. Let me say at the outset that I do not share the doubts that have in some quarters been thrown upon their nature, as true relics of antiquity. There can be no question that they are genuinely ancient, and in some respects unique.

A brief notice of the discovery was inserted in the *Quarterly Statement* for April, 1904, p. 99, and there simultaneously appeared in the *Revue Biblique* an exhaustive account of the chambers, illustrated with plans and sections, some of them coloured, from the pen of Père Vincent, of the Dominican Biblical School of Saint-Étienne in Jerusalem. This occupies pp. 228-241 of that journal.

The fulness of this description makes it unnecessary for me to give more than an outline account, sufficient to enable readers of the *Quarterly Statement* to form a fair conception of the exact nature of the discovery.

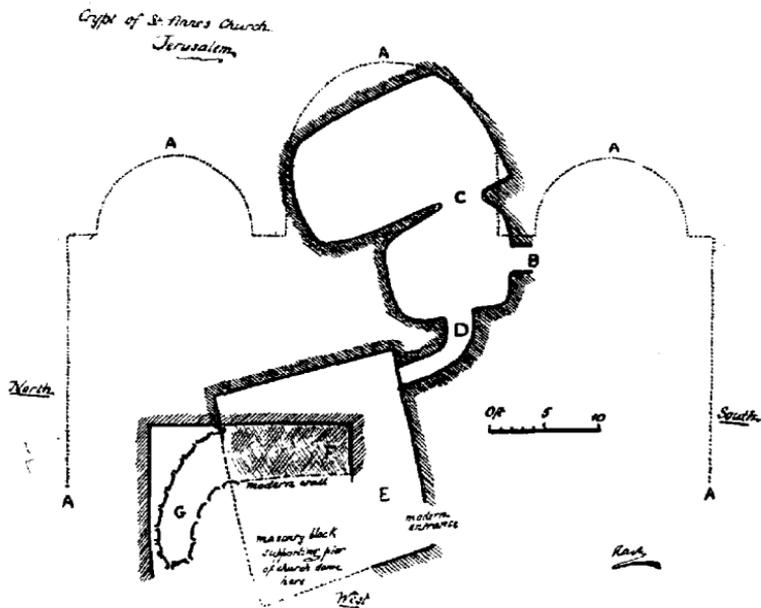
The Church of St. Anne, turned after the expulsion of the Crusaders from Jerusalem into a Moslem school and afterwards allowed to fall into decay, was, as is well known, offered first to

<sup>1</sup> *Itin. Hierosol.*

<sup>2</sup> The approach appears to have been by a viaduct, perhaps reached by steps, at "Wilson's Arch." The *Dodekapyllon* may refer to the columns in front of the temple of Jupiter, and the steps that led up to the platform upon which they stood.

England and then to France by the Sultan at the end of the Crimean war. It was accepted by the latter Power, and restored for Christian worship in a conservative spirit all too rare, and deserving the highest praise. It is difficult to realise when entering the building that it is not standing exactly as the Crusaders left it.

The restoration included the refitting of the rock-cut crypt, in which an ancient tradition had localised the birth of the Virgin. It was a large cistern-like chamber, approached from the west by a passage. Into this chamber the restorer, in 1863, inserted an apsidal chapel.



The discoveries of further additions to the complex of chambers have since been made on two occasions—in 1889, when the eastern side of the cistern-like chamber (B C D on the plan) was found to be separated by a wall, only a few inches thick, from another chamber resembling it, and when a tunnel was found, running in a curved direction from the west side of the first chamber to a large square apartment, hewn in the rock a little north of the apsidal chapel; and in 1896, when a small square chamber was found above the level of the apartment just alluded to.

The accompanying plan shows the whole complex, so far as it has been revealed, omitting some portions of the original crypt that have been known from the first. It is highly probable that further remains exist, but excavation would be difficult or impossible owing to the necessity of safeguarding the structure of the church that covers the site. In describing the remains I shall dissociate myself entirely from any discussion of the ancient tradition that has led to special veneration being paid to this place. My conclusions neither prove nor disprove it.

The remains seem to me those of a villa, with a number of associated subterranean cellars and cisterns. In the accompanying plan the inside face of the walls of the modern church is represented in dotted lines (A A A A). A flight of modern steps, leading downward from the centre of the south aisle, conducts the visitor to the ancient crypt, which is situated about the position of the scale in the plan. The modern masonry of the chapel built here obscures this portion of the cutting. From the chapel a masonry doorway (B), leads into a chamber behind the apse of the chapel. This chamber was part of the complex originally known; it is about 11 feet square and 12 feet high. Two rectangular openings in the roof indicate that it was originally a cistern, or at least at some time adapted as such, probably before the passage on the west side (D), to which we shall presently return, was opened out; obviously water could not stand in the chamber while this existed.

In 1889 the first discovery was made in connection with this crypt. The wall on the east side of the cistern-chamber just described was found to be only a few inches thick in some places, and on breaking through at the point C a second chamber, also originally a cistern, was brought to light. This chamber is longer and narrower than the first, being 20 feet 8 inches in length, and 6 feet 2 inches in breadth; it is about 8 feet in height. There is a hole in the centre of the roof, and another at the south end; the shaft with which the latter communicates curves considerably in its course, so that the upper orifice of the shaft is not vertically over the floor-area of the chamber at all. The walls are covered with ancient cement.

The passage D, which is partly cut in rock and partly runs through rough rubble masonry, is about 2 feet in height and 10 feet in total length. It breaks into the wall of the chamber (E) to which it leads, at a height of 6 feet 4 inches above its floor.

The latter chamber must have been cut through at the time of the restoration of the church for the building of a pier to support the great north-west pillar of the dome, but being full of earth it was not noticed. The pier exists as a great block of masonry masking the north-west corner of the chamber. It is 17 feet north to south, 19 feet east to west. The compass-bearing of the eastern wall is  $334^{\circ}$ .

Above this chamber is another (F), also square, and also interfered with by the substructures of the pier. The east wall of this chamber is 20 feet 5 inches long, and standing in a direction indicated by the compass reading  $350^{\circ}$ . The length of the room from east to west cannot be given, as no part of the west wall has been uncovered.

The walls of this chamber are covered with ancient cement, upon which are remains of coloured decoration. This is probably the oldest fragment of mural painting remaining in Jerusalem. Traces of painting have also been seen on the wall of the chamber E below, but I was unable to detect them.

The painting, as it remains, consists principally of vertical stripes of colour, each stripe 3 inches wide. The colours are green and red, with fine white lines between each stripe. In one or two places a broad band of a dirty brownish-yellow has been daubed, apparently, over the previously-existing colour scheme. There are traces of other devices, but I could make nothing definite of them. Père Cré suggested to me that one of these might be a fish; this is possible.

The floor of this chamber is covered with mosaic. The tesserae are white or greyish-yellow, with a *semée* of red, not arranged in any definite pattern.

At some period later than the original use of the chamber, a furnace, or oven (G) has been constructed within it. This is built in a semi-circular form, in very rough masonry. The walls are blackened with smoke, and the tesserae of the mosaic in the neighbourhood of the mouth of the furnace are calcined. The original walls of the chamber appear behind those of the furnace where these happen to be broken. As the floor of the furnace is cut to sink lower towards the back, the mosaic floor has been removed within the area of the furnace.

An indication of date is afforded by the fragments of pottery mixed with the mortar on the furnace walls. These are all Roman,

and as no later pottery makes its appearance we may conclude that the furnace is to be referred to the Roman period. The original chamber is therefore older.

The paragraph regarding these discoveries contributed to the *Quarterly Statement* of April, 1904, was written under a slight misapprehension. I understood at the time that these chambers had been discovered immediately before Père Cré had called my attention to them. As a matter of fact, they were found at the dates already mentioned, but for various reasons it had not been considered desirable to permit their publication till last year.

### NOTES ON "THE ROMAN ROAD BETWEEN KERAK AND MADEBA."<sup>1</sup>

By Professor GEORGE ADAM SMITH, D.D., LL.D.

IN my article on "The Roman Road between Kerak and Madeba" I stated (p. 47) that the name of the ruined town Libb "is not discoverable on ancient maps or records." But on reading since Books xiii and xiv of the *Antiquities* of Josephus, I have found twice mentioned the Moabite town  $\Lambda\epsilon\mu\beta\alpha$  or  $\Lambda\iota\beta\beta\alpha$ , which is obviously the same as Libb. Once it occurs in a list of Moabite towns held by the Jews under Alexander Jannæus (*Ant.* xiii, 15, 4), "Heshbon, Medaba, Lemba, Horonaim, Agelethon (? or Gaathon or Agalain Thona ?), Zoar"; and again in a list of towns which Alexander's son, Hyrcanus, promised to restore to the Nabateans (*Ant.* xiv, 1, 4), "Medaba, Libba, Nabaloth, Arabatha, Galanthon (? Agalla Athone ?), Zoar, Horonaim . . . (?), Alousa, Orubda." After making this obvious identification I find that it has already been indicated by Professor Schlatter in the *Zeitschrift des Deutsch, Palästina Vereins*, vol. xix, p. 230.

On p. 42 of the same article I quote Father Durand's reading on a milestone of the name, Furius Severianus, legate under Caracalla. Professor Brünnow writes me that "the name is really Furnius Julianus. We found one of the milestones, and read distinctly FVRN MIV ANUM. There is only a P. Aelius Severianus, who was legate in A.D. 193 and 194."

<sup>1</sup> See *Quarterly Statement*, January, 1905, pp. 39-48.