

FIFTH QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE EXCAVATION OF THE EASTERN HILL OF JERUSALEM.

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§ 1. *Progress of the Work.*

DURING the past three months the work has been carried on partly in Field 9 and partly on the face of the Eastern Wall. In Field 9 we have continued the exposure of the outer and the inner walls, clearing the space between them to a depth of about 20 feet or more. In the course of this clearance we have again uncovered the Sewer which we found passing over the "Crematorium" in Field 7.¹ All through this part of the site pottery and small objects have been found in considerable quantity. The section of the field south of the sewer has, however, yielded other results of great importance. These are described below. Unfortunately, in November, heavy rain came unexpectedly, and this sewer, which is not in good condition, threatened to give way. The rock-cut Cistern, described below, became three-quarters full of sewage. After consultation with the sanitary engineer we decided to fill in that section of the pit, as there was no time for his men to wall in the sewer with stone and lime. When we reopen it, this will probably be done.

The North Bastion and the Tower have been exposed to view to a depth of 33 feet from the present level of occupation above the tower; but at one point we cut a deep trench from the face of the tower out to the face of the slope. This trench is 15 feet deeper than the platform before the tower, and is intended to

¹ This sewer is apparently that described by Dr. Selah Merrill in the *Quarterly Statement*, 1904, pp. 392-394. There is a sketch plan. I ascended it a great part of its length when the people of Silwan first opened it. It appeared to be mediæval Arab work.—E. W. G. M.

drain away the winter rains. When a stone drain has been built in the bottom of it the trench will be refilled. The trench, however, yielded much important information in the matter of stratification, as bearing on the date of the building of the tower.

There still remains a section of the slope to be cleared away in front of the outer wall and South Bastion. The fact that the public pathway to the Virgin's Fountain and Siloam passed over this point hindered operations, but a new pathway has now been made a little further down, and this clearance will be the first work undertaken when we resume in the spring.

Field 9 has been excavated almost to the extreme southern limit, and in the last section we have gone down to the rock.

North of the sewer, however, we have yet to go a little deeper in order to expose the foundations of the outer wall. The eastern front of this outer wall is also only partially cleared; and, as will be seen below, just before closing down we were much surprised by the discovery of a second and later outer wall, built on the ruined summit of the older rampart.

Though the soil is very hard and progress has to be careful, the inflow of pottery, etc., has proved a ceaseless stream, which I have sometimes found it hard to deal with day by day. The inrush of water from the sewer into Pit 9c made it impossible to get an exact plan of this section done, but I have done a sketch plan, and it has all been carefully photographed. When it is reopened we hope to clear out the cistern to the bottom, and a correct plan of all the rock-cuttings in this pit can then be secured.

We are fortunate in having avoided both accident and friction in the carrying out of operations, where either might have occurred at any moment. The discovery, which perhaps aroused most curiosity among our Arab neighbours, was a human skeleton found in a heap of stones a few feet out from the north corner of the tower.

I had intended to give here a description of the Roman and Arab strata, but these will have to be postponed till next report, when I hope also to be able to give a more detailed account of the pottery of the various periods.

It is my pleasant duty again to record my indebtedness to Prof. Garstang for kindly assistance, and to many other friends who continue to take the deepest interest in the progress of the work.

§ 2. *The Continuation of the Eastern Walls in Field 9.*

At the point in the two walls where our Report in the October *Q.S.* leaves off, we struck again the sewage drain which passed over the "Crematorium" in Field 7. The sewer of Fields 7 and 9 has been cut right through the ancient Jebusite wall, crosses the 27 feet space between the two walls, and breaks through the outer wall which we have tentatively attributed to Hezekiah, after which it

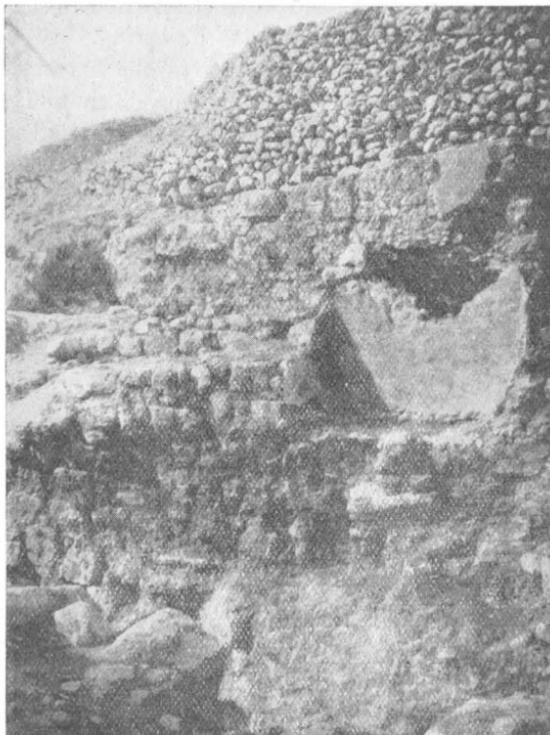


Fig. 1.—Jebusite Wall, section North of Sewer.

descends steeply into the Kidron Valley. It has therefore caused considerable injury to both walls. In fact, while the Jebusite wall is found abutting close on the north edge of this sewer it completely vanishes at some 12 feet on the south side of it.

Just north of the sewer we have found one of the finest specimens of Jebusite masonry yet secured (see Fig. 1). Immediately



Fig. 2.—Early Hebrew Wall, in line with old Jebusite Inner Wall.



Fig. 3.—Rock-chamber, showing Broken Roof and Circular Shaft, with Steps leading down to Roof.



Fig. 4.—Hellenistic Wall, South end.



Fig. 5.—Hellenistic Wall, East face, upper end, with facing removed.

south of it there are undoubtedly remains of Jebusite walls for the distance of about 12 feet; but they are so cut up by the builders of the sewer, that the shape and dressing of the boulders left are our only proof that they belonged to the outer face of the ancient Jebusite rampart.

At this point, 12 feet south of the sewer, the original outer face of the Jebusite wall has been replaced by a stretch of finer masonry, 18 feet high, of which a length of $21\frac{1}{2}$ feet has been uncovered. This wall rests on the rock scarp and runs in direct line with the face of the Jebusite wall further north. We venture to attribute this wall of fine masonry to the time of David for reasons given below.

The chief characteristics of the masonry of this wall are:—
 (1) It is built of hammer-dressed stones of no great size, and not squared, but of rough contour. (2) The interstices between the larger stones are filled up with the chips made in breaking down boulders, which probably belonged originally to the old Jebusite wall. (3) There is a 6 inch projection or false break at $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet, similar to what we noted on the Hezekiah or Outer Wall, intended to bring the wall round to the proper direction. Here the building is noteworthy for the fact that the corner-masonry is good, showing the long face and the narrow face of well-shaped stones alternately, exactly as we should expect in first-class masonry. As the photograph shows, the masonry presents a finely finished appearance. Mortar has been freely used between the courses and in filling the interstices, but the face is not plastered over. (4) The courses are not regular as in the Solomonic building on the upper portion of the tower, but resemble rather the lower courses of the tower, though the blocks are smaller. It differs also from the Hezekiah outer wall in that the latter had apparently been well plastered over the surface. (See Fig. 2).

As the pottery found at the level of the rock scarp underneath this wall and below that level was all very early Hebrew or Third Bronze, and the layers of the stratification above this showed regularity of deposit, we infer that this wall is a Hebrew wall of early date. It is probably a Davidic repair on the outer face of the old Jebusite wall.¹

¹ It will be noted that the term "Hebrew" is used instead of "Israelite," which is preferred by some.

The outer or Hezekiah wall has apparently suffered destruction for some 8 to 10 feet north of where the sewer cuts through it, and the gap has been filled in by later builders. On the south side of the sewer we find 15 feet of the face of a fine wall. About 4 feet from the south edge of the sewer—a space filled by one block almost 4 feet square—there is an opening 5 feet in width. It is possible that this opening may be due to two blocks having been removed, but the remains of a side jamb makes it much more likely that this was a gate: either that of a large house or possibly a postern in some late repair of the cut wall.

A peculiarity of this section C of Field 9 (the section south of the sewer) is that both the inner and the outer walls *stand on the rock-scarp*, which runs several yards outwards towards the east at this point. So far we have not excavated deep enough to be certain, but the Hezekiah outer wall in section 9A appears to rest on accumulated debris. Nor have we found the rock-surface under the large tower, though we have gone down to a depth of 48 to 50 feet.

An Ancient Cistern.

This rock-surface in 9C is of great interest. About the centre of it, just south of the sewer, we have found a rock-chamber measuring about 13 feet by 12 feet. This chamber has been cleared to a depth of 10 feet, but at that point we had to stop work on account of water, which was filtering in from the sewer. Originally the chamber was hollowed out of the rock. At its south-west corner, and quite outside its area, is a circular shaft (see Plate 1, Fig. 3), which measures about 3 feet in diameter and goes down to a depth of 4 to 5 feet. At that depth an irregular opening leads into the chamber. It would appear that the whole chamber had been carved out of the solid rock beginning from this opening, and the debris was passed through this opening and out by this shaft. This left a completely enclosed chamber in the solid rock, the only entrance to which was by the circular shaft, which could very easily be closed.

Three steps were cut in the rock-surface just south of the shaft leading down to the roof of the chamber. A little to the south of this shaft is another circular cutting which had been begun and left unfinished. Probably the roof of this rock chamber had been smashed in, probably by quarriers, in Roman times. The Romans



Fig. 6.—West face of Hellenistic Wall and Gate Tower.



Fig. 7.—West face of Hellenistic Wall, showing how it stands on the Older
“Hezekiah” Wall.



Fig. 9.—North Bastion, view from North.



Fig. 10.—North Bastion, view from South.

had also filled up the chamber with stones and debris from close by. The latest pottery found in it, as far as we went down, was Maccabaeian, a fact which inclines me to think that the chamber was filled up in late Maccabaeian or in Roman times. The south-east corner of the chamber had been roughly walled off. This rough wall begins about 5 feet down and continued as far as we excavated. The masonry indicates that this was added later, though we have found nothing so far to indicate what was the purpose of this walled-off corner.

The chamber had been covered over its whole interior surface, *including the roof*, with a strong plaster of ground lime and chips of stone. This plaster is about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick; there was only one coat. This plaster indicates that the cults was a cistern. It is, however, possible that the original purpose of the chamber was something different; it might, for instance, have been a burial chamber. We found bones of at least two human skeletons in the filling at about 10 feet down; but, as we presume the chamber was filled up at a late date, nothing can be inferred from these. Round the entrance to the chamber the whole surface of the rock has been extensively quarried.

The tooling on this perpendicular scarp differs from that on early cuttings inscribed in connexion with Fields 5 and 7, only in the fact that a broader pointed tool has been used. Otherwise the surface effect is similar. As we have not yet removed the plaster from the walls of the rock chamber we cannot say if the tooling on them is the same or not.

Field 9.—The Continuation of the Hellenistic Wall Northward.

Just a few feet north of the point where the sewer cuts through the outer wall, and in the last three or four days' work, we uncovered the outer face of this Greek wall for a distance of 25 feet. This outer face consists of large oblong blocks of stone carefully dressed and all cut to the same depth. They are only about 12 inches in thickness. In the first stretch of 15 feet from the sewer end there are only 9 blocks in the three courses left. There are 6 blocks in the lower course of these dressed stones. Thus the blocks average $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length and each block is 27 inches high.

Above this lower course is another course, only two blocks of which remain. These two together are 7 feet 2 inches in length and stand 27 inches high. All these 8 blocks of the southern section A

(see Fig. 4) are not only dressed with a pointed tool, but have been (afterwards) combed with an eight-tooth comb. The third course consists of only one block *in situ*. This section (A) rests on a foundation course of well-dressed stones. These project underneath the wall 12 inches at the south end, and 6 inches at the north end of this section, and the blocks average 15 inches in depth. Whether this foundation goes deeper or not, we have not yet ascertained.

This section (A) extends for about 15 feet. At its north end there is a break, stones having been removed. The northern section of this outer face is slightly different masonry, as the photograph



Fig. 18.—Stone of Hellenistic Wall left *in situ*.

shows. The blocks are massive and similarly dressed, except that there is no combing, but the courses are irregular, and there is no projecting ridge foundation. The blocks rest simply on the accumulated debris. It covers a stretch of 10 feet, and joins on to the section of Greek wall, already spoken of in the *October Quarterly Statement*, p. 169, thus solving the problem of this narrow wall built on the surface of the Hezekiah outer wall (see Fig. 5). This Hellenistic wall is only $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad. It had been faced on both sides with these beautifully dressed and large blocks above described.

The wall ran from the Gate Tower at the south end of Field 9 to the boundary of Field 7, and on the top of the Hezekiah wall; but neither its outer, nor its inner face, coincided with the inner or outer face of the Hezekiah wall. In fact, its inner face does not run parallel with the inner face of the latter. At the north end of Field 9 its inner face is only 2 feet back from the face of the Hezekiah wall, while at the sewer it is quite 6-8 feet. Thus this later wall runs diagonally along the Hezekiah wall, but in Field 7 it has reassumed the proper direction, for the only block found there *in situ* (buried under a fig-tree which we removed) is placed flush with the inner face of the Hezekiah wall in that field. (See Figs. 6, 7 and 8).

Thus we find that this later wall, which we suggest is Hellenistic, runs from the tower straight down the surface of the older Hezekiah outer wall through Field 7, and as far as we have excavated in Field 9, a distance of about 100 yards. Further, the builders of it, in Field 9 at least, do not seem to have known that they were building on the top of an older wall, or, if they knew, they did not choose to follow its direction, for at 40 feet from the north boundary of Field 9, the outer face of their wall is several feet east of the outer face of the older wall, while at the north boundary it is seven or eight feet inside of it.

The foundations of this Hellenistic wall are only about $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the present level of occupation, which however has been considerably denuded in this part of Ophel in late years. At that depth on the face of the walls we were finding Maccabaeon pottery, many fragments of Greek black burnished ware and some fragments of early Hebrew pottery. At a higher level we found fragments of Roman and Arab ware. This seems to date the wall in the Hellenistic period.

§ 3. *The North Bastion and the Tower.*

Part of the last three months has also been spent in clearing away the debris from the face of the North Bastion and the Tower, down to the level at which the Department of Antiquities desired them to be exposed. We have cleared away to a depth of 35 feet below the present surface level of occupation at the face of the tower. This means the clearance of a triangular section measuring about 100 feet long, with a perpendicular depth at the tower face

of 35 feet, and a base of about 45 feet. As the debris was very hard packed and full of large stones, and as the problem of dumping was difficult all through, this meant slow progress. A great part of the debris had to be carried up the slope and deposited in Field 5 behind the tower, until permission was given to throw it down the slope of the Kidron Valley.

In front of the tower the stratification has proved very useful and instructive, an enormous quantity of potsherds of every period being recovered from the various layers, which follow the natural sequence. In front of the north bastion, however, the stratification, as already indicated, gives evidence of a great sweep out of the city about Maccabaeian times: Maccabaeian pottery being found mixed with Hebrew and even Third Bronze, as far down even as 25 feet. Below that depth, however, Maccabaeian pottery disappears, and only early Hebrew and pottery of the Bronze Age were found at 25 to 33 feet depth.

An interesting feature of the stratification in front of the tower is the fact that on the outer fringe we found very early Canaanite and Hebrew pottery at 30 to 33 feet beneath the surface level above the tower. This simply means that when the tower was made the builders cut a deep trench, extending to at least 8 feet out from the face of the tower, and spread the rubbish on the outer fringe of the slope.

The outer fringe of the slope, however, at that period was only a little over 20 feet out from the face of the tower. To-day the outer fringe is 45 feet out from the tower face. In the inner section of this outer 24 feet fringe, therefore, we found the early pottery, which had been thrown out with the debris from the foundation trench. But beyond that layer we found later pottery, Greek, Maccabaeian and Arab in their respective sequence. Practically no Roman pottery was found here, though ballista balls were picked up in numbers. Byzantine remains are completely absent. The sweep-out of the city therefore dates prior to the Roman occupation.

At the level of the top of the foundation wall of the tower the stratification is broken by a broad flat belt of debris. This is obviously the debris levelled down by the builders after they finished.

Above this belt and beneath it, we find the stratification layers in their proper sequence. The upper layers are the debris



Fig. 11.—Hebrew Ring-burnished Water Jugs.

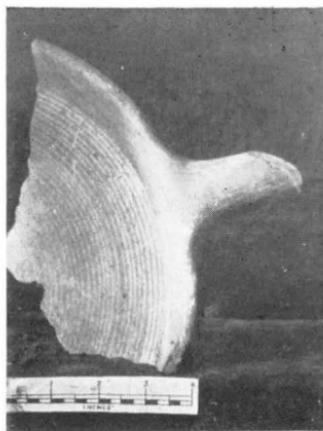


Fig. 12.—Hebrew Ring-burnished Dish.



Fig. 13.—Hebrew Lid and Spout.

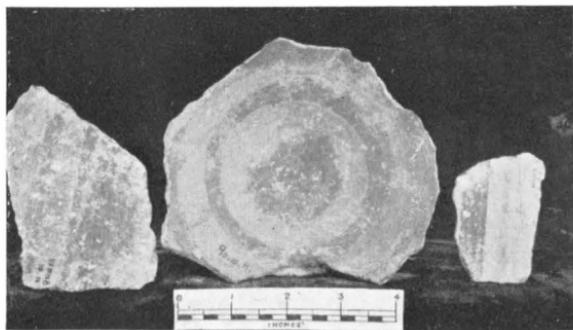


Fig. 15.—Hebrew Painted Pottery.

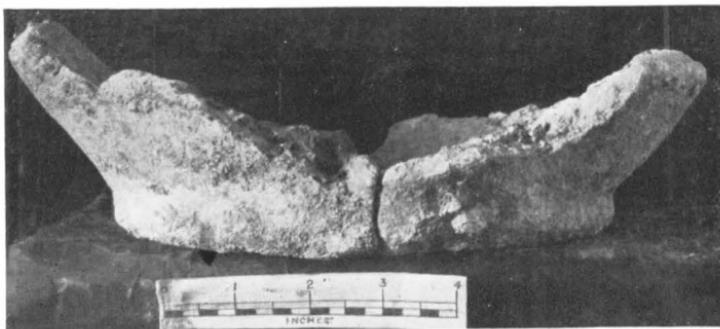


Fig. 14.—Hebrew Heavy Ware.



Fig. -16.—Hebrew Potter's Stamps, various periods.



Fig. 17.—Hebrew Potter's Stamps, various periods.

accumulated after the tower was completed, and the lower layers are the debris accumulated before the tower was built, and which the builders of the tower did not disturb.

We may here briefly summarise the results of our examination of these: (1) In the lower and older stratification at the level of the lowest course of the foundation wall of the tower (c. 40 feet depth from present surface level of occupation), and only close in to the tower, we found Hebrew pottery of the very earliest period, mixed with pottery of the Transition Period, and Third Bronze Age. In the remaining 8 or 10 feet of the trench, which was cut to carry away the drainage of the tower (that is, 40-50 feet below the present level), we found only Canaanite pottery of the Bronze Age with very few fragments of the earliest Hebrew pottery. It is thus clear from this stratification that the foundation wall of the tower was laid in the earliest period of the Hebrew occupation.

(2) In the upper stratification we found, in a regular sequence, on the surface layer beneath a 10 feet layer of later debris, Arab pottery of the earliest period, and above that Arab pottery of the later ages, till on the surface we were finding only quite modern Arab fragments. Beneath the Arab layer we found Maccabaeian, mixed with Greek black burnished, in abundance; followed by post-exilic, and pre-exilic Hebrew, and Transition Period pottery, or Third Bronze Age pottery as made by the Jebusites who continued to abide in the city. The lower or Hebrew layer of this upper stratification, therefore, confirms our inference, that the tower was built in early Hebrew times, inasmuch as it indicates constant occupation from pre-exilic Hebrew times down to modern Arab days.

The photographs (Figs. 9 and 10, facing p. 13) of the North Bastion and Tower from the north and from the south give a better idea of the imposing nature of the structure as it originally stood, than those published in the July number, when only about 20 feet of debris had been removed and the "Steps" had not been swept. Fig. 10 (photo taken from the south) shows also at its extreme north end, marked X, the small Maccabaeian turret with a few feet of a Maccabaeian repair on the top of the wall just south of it. The foundation of this turret rests on the debris only, 14 feet beneath the present surface level.

The inverted order of the pottery in front of this small tower has been noted in the October *Q.S.*, p. 170, note.

§ 4. *The Hebrew Period.*

Pottery continues to pour in. It has been no uncommon experience to pass as many as 1,000, and even 1,500, fragments through my hands in one day's work. This pottery represents every period, except Roman and Byzantine, but pottery of the Third Bronze period, the Transition period, and Pre-exilic and Post-exilic Hebrew pottery are specially well represented.

Of Transition period and Early Hebrew pottery the following are some of the more notable types found :—

1. A fine collection of lamps. Some of these are the flat base lamps with pinched spouts, and the others are of the same type but with heavy bases attached. These have been picked up in great numbers, some quite perfect. They are illustrated in the October *Q.S.*, Plate IV, p. 175.

2. Next to these in quantity is our collection of red ring-burnished ware. Most of these specimens are pebble-burnished though some are wheel-burnished. Two specimens of one-handle water jugs of this ring-burnished ware are shown on Fig. 11. The most interesting specimen, however, is the ring-burnished red flat dish with smooth horizontal project handle attached, shown on Fig. 12. It had originally measured 13 inches in diameter, and the ware is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. The handle had been about $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. It is pebble-burnished inside. The handle has been pebble-burnished by hand, and the potter also burnished a portion of the underside. Its depth is 1 inch. This specimen was found at a depth of only 8 feet in front of the small tower north of the North Bastion, where we found the sequence of the pottery had been inverted.

3. Jar handles and sherds of the heavier types of Early Hebrew pottery have been found in great numbers.

4. The rims of neckless meal-bowls are also very numerous. These vary in breadth from 1 inch to $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The older specimens are all smooth and plain, but those of post-exilic date and of the Persian period are frequently fluted and usually narrower.

5. Fragments of pottery lids with bevelled edge (Fig. 13 above), and a knob handle are not of uncommon occurrence.

6. One uncommon specimen is the long "pouring" spout with acute bend close to where it leaves the body of the jug (Fig. 13 below).

Several of these have been found. Some are almost exact reproductions of the shape of a ram's horn, and I have named them accordingly.

7. Many sherds of very heavy ware, such as is illustrated on Fig. 14, have been picked up. These are often covered with a coat of lime plaster. The illustration shows the base of some such vessel. The ware averages 1 inch in thickness.

8. Fig. 15 shows three specimens of Hebrew painted ware. The specimen in the centre is the interior of the base of a large basin. The other two are fragments of vessels painted externally.

9. Specimens of Hebrew pottery of the Persian Period with its bright yellow slip are of frequent occurrence.



Fig. 18.—Syro-Egyptian Heads.

10. Figs. 16 and 17 show twenty different varieties of Potters' Stamps on jar handles of both the post-exilic and the pre-exilic periods.

11. Fragments of terra-cotta figurines continue to be found in considerable numbers, especially at a certain portion of the wall, where most of the inscribed jar-handles have been found. Figs. 18 and 19 show two Syro-Egyptian heads of such figurines. The larger one was painted white with the braids of hair picked out in red. The smaller has been painted white, but shows no trace of red paint. These probably date about 600 B.C. A third and fine Egyptian head has just been brought in. Traces of white and red paint are visible on it.

12. A pseudo-Egyptian scarab, found in the layer 30-33 feet down the face of the large tower, purports to bear a name which

some here think may be an attempt to reproduce the name of Thothmes III, Ra-Men Kheper. If so, the artist has been singularly unsuccessful in his imitation. It is, however, beautifully carved and shaped. The colour is a light blue, and the letters, etc., on the face of it had been coloured red. It is certainly not a genuine Egyptian scarab.



Fig. 19.—Egyptian¹¹ Head:
front and side view.

13. These are some of the more interesting features among the remains of the Hebrew occupation discovered. The most interesting, however, are the inscribed Hebrew jar-handles, which we continue to find, most of them from the same spot. Our collection now numbers over sixty, and these represent eight different types of inscription and stamp. (a) Those with only the letter *yodh* deeply stamped. These are late pottery, showing that, as the custom of stamping them with the name Yahweh got to be known, the first letter came to be regarded as sufficient. (b) Those with the two letters יה; (c) those with יהו; (d) with four letters arranged round a circular stamp—apparently יהבע and יהבט. (e) Seal of Solomon stamps with five letters. (f) Stamps with the double-winged figure, and letters arranged round them; למלך stamps as found elsewhere; (g) one which in the October Q.S. we described as probably Hittite, and (h) stamps bearing the figure of a

lion with no inscription. It is possible that there may prove to be more types in our collection, and I hope to be able to give a complete account of them all, with drawings or photographs, in the next number of the Q.S.

§ 4. *The Selucid and Maccabean Period.*

In the pottery found outside the face of the Eastern Wall the Hellenistic period has never been unrepresented, but in our later work it has been very much more in evidence.

1. The most striking and conclusive specimens belong to the *highly-burnished Greek Black Ware*. Many fragments of platters, and saucers of this type of imported pottery have been found, some of them almost complete. Specimens of this ware have been found also between the inner and the outer wall in Field 9, but especially outside the face of the Hellenistic Wall above described.

2. Along with this highly-burnished ware, we frequently find specimens of a coarser ware which appears to be painted black. These very frequently have fine embossed designs on them and are Maccabaeian work. The surface is glossy black, but the makers have not had the proper material or have not known the method, for the work is poor in comparison with the Greek original, and easily recognisable. The colouring and designs on these can best be reproduced in drawings.

3. An even poorer class of ware of the Maccabaeian period is what I have named burned-black, since the ware has been baked black, or carbonised all through probably by the exclusion of air in the baking, no attempt being made afterwards to burnish or paint it. The surface is therefore a dead black and somewhat coarse. Bowls and saucers of this ware are of frequent occurrence.

4. Many black lamps of this period have been found—some with double knobs on each side, others with a single small knob projecting near the spout on the right side.

5. Specimens also of brown painted pottery of this period are frequent. Fig. 20 shows the rim of a large platter of this brown-painted ware with a flower and scroll decoration in white running round the rim.

6. The highly-burnished red ware is illustrated on the same photograph.

7. We have picked up also several basketsful of a thick roughly-baked dark red ware, which are apparently slabs of Maccabaeian ovens. These are so invariably found with pottery indisputably Maccabaeian that their date is practically certain, and they have become a sure means of dating other pottery found with them. They measure from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness, show always very slightly convex and concave sides as if they belonged to very large vessels, and are frequently rubbed or burnished to a fine smooth hard surface in the interior. As no trace of any handle belonging to this ware has ever been found, we conclude these were ovens, especially as we find them so frequently blackened with smoke.

8. Another type of Maccabaeian pottery of which we have found only a very few specimens is a mottled greenish-grey ware. The mottled effect is due to the presence of finely-ground white grit spread all over its surface. This ware is only about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or less in thickness.

9. A few specimens have been found of ribbed pottery of a ware closely resembling 8, and with white bands painted over it without any particular design, and the ordinary ribbed pottery of the usual thin Maccabaeian type is found all over the site.

10. Another unusual type, of which only a very few specimens have been found, is a somewhat coarse ware, about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in thickness, with punched hole decoration all over it. (Fig. 21.)

11. A rather fine small bowl of pottery with incised pattern, is shown on Fig. 22; it seems to show clear traces of Greek influence.

12. Rhodian Jar Handles—Altogether 600–800 of these Inscribed Handles have been picked up, all of them within a space of 200 to 300 feet along the outside of the Eastern Wall. They date from about 300 B.C. down to Christian times perhaps. All of them are of interest for their bearing on Greek Epigraphy of that period, but some are of special interest.

§ 5. *Greek Carving.*

Several objects of carved ivory and bone, such as fragments of handles, etc., some of which, at least, belong to the Hellenistic period, have been found. Of these the best are reproduced in Fig. 23. One is an ivory handle on which the carved design is coloured black. The other is a very fine piece of carving in ivory, and evidently represents a warrior king holding a captive maiden, who, by the position of her foot, seems to be struggling for her freedom. The right knee and the left foot of the maiden are all that remain of her figure, but the position of both indicates a struggling posture. The short dagger in the warrior's right hand indicates that he is leading her to an unwilling death. Is it possible that here we have got a representation in ivory of the sacrifice of Iphigenia by her father?

§ 6. *Objects in Stone.*

Among stone objects found are three boxes of the Seleucid period, or earlier, such as are illustrated in Hancock, p. 163, Fig. 41, No. 3. One of them is of slate stone and has panelled sides. The other



Fig. 20.—Maccabean Ware.



Fig. 21.—Slate Mould.



Fig. 22.—Maccabean Bowl.



Fig. 23.—Ivory Carving (Greek).



Fig. 24.—Moulds.



Fig. 25.—Cone Weights.



Fig. 26.—Pottery Weights with Strange Marks.



Fig. 27.—Skeleton, found in front of the Tower.

is of a black stone, and is smooth and unadorned. Both of these are, however, hollowed underneath, so that the four corners serve as four feet. The third is of rough limestone, and is decorated with two roughly incised parallel lines running round the body. The base is flat. Each of them is about 3 inches square and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches deep.

A Hebrew stone bowl (*cf.* Hancock, p. 159, Fig. 40, No. 12), carved from a rough round lump of limestone, was also found. No effort has been made to give form to the exterior, but the interior is finely hollowed, so that it presents a very delicately smooth surface.

Several stone moulds, which seem to belong to the Maccabaeon period, have been found both in Field 7 and Field 9. The finest of these (Fig. 24) is very carefully carved in slate-stone, and seems to be a mould for making gold ornaments. The reverse has a mould, somewhat similar but on a smaller scale, for making finer pendants. On both sides channels are carved for the gold to run down into the moulds proper. Another is a very much rougher mould in hard limestone, evidently for the making of rough brass discs, the moulds being connected by channels for the molten metal to flow from one to the other.

The Maccabaeon layer, on the face of the Tower, and at other points where the stratification has not been disturbed, has yielded valuable evidence as to the date of the round-flat stone weights and the cone-shaped weights, which have been found in great abundance all over the site. It now appears that these weights, which we were inclined to date as probably Byzantine in our account of Field 5, belong really to the Seleucid and Maccabaeon period. It seems, therefore, that I was right in referring these to the latest Hebrew standard. There remain still some hundreds of these stone weights to be dealt with.

A number of small stone weights have been found chiefly at the face of the North Bastion and Tower. These are of hematite, and naturally weigh heavy for their size in comparison with the others which are of white marble, quartz, or limestone. All the marked weights have the familiar mark χ ; *cf.* Macalister, *Gezer*, vol. ii, p. 287. Further particulars will be given later.

Fig. 25 shows what seems to be a white marble weight of unusual shape. It is a cone weight with a sort of wing-handle attached to the side. Two weights in pottery bear marks which are puzzling

(Fig. 26). These seem to be of quite an early period and come from a considerable depth (c. 16 feet) between the walls in Field 9A and 9C. It would be premature to speculate upon the meaning of the marks on them.

§ 7. *A Skeleton.*

In cutting the trench in front of the Tower to serve as a drain, on the north edge of the trench, at a point 26 feet out from the north corner of the Tower and 12 feet perpendicular depth from the sloping surface of the debris, we found a Skeleton lying above a mass of stones and covered by a mass of stones of the same size. These stones are rough sharp-edged lumps such as would be broken off larger boulders by builders in shaping blocks. None of them are larger than can be easily thrown about by hand. The skeleton which is 5 feet long is perhaps that of a woman (?) with drawn up shoulders and bent spine. The head lies lower than the feet. Every bone was found in position and only the ribs and the right femur show any trace of breakage. No trace of jewelry or clothing was found, not even the slightest discolouration on the scanty sand below the skeleton. If we judge by the depth and the pottery at that level, the skeleton may have lain there since late Maccabaeon times, but it is equally possible that the woman was done to death and secretly put away at a much more recent date.¹ (See Fig. 27.)

JERUSALEM,

December, 1924.

¹ Prof. Macalister holds that the skeleton is decidedly male; it is difficult to recognize the pelvis on the photograph.