



Lieut. Kitchener's Reports

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with the approval of the Committee. All discoveries of antiquities, &c., are to be handed over to Greek Patriarch by agreement. Corporal Brophy is ill, but will be well enough to start to-morrow, I hope. I have seen the German Consul about his visit to Moab. The Baron was extremely civil and obliging in giving me a detailed account of his expedition. The question seems, however, still an open one as to the genuineness of the pottery. A curious point was on a cave they dug open; there was vegetation on the earth and rocks that had to be removed to effect an entrance. They found a broken idol and some pots inside.

Nablus, Nov. 4.—I have just received the *October Quarterly*, and wish to notice a mistake in punctuation which makes my description of *Malia* nonsense. It is on p. 177. Will you alter it thus:

“A modern Christian village now occupies this site. It is situated on a narrow top, forming the south-east corner of the ranges of hills coming from the north and west, from which it is slightly detached by small valleys. A steep descent on the south leads to a broad valley.”

I was very much gratified at the way the Committee mentioned my work at the General Meeting.

I hope, if we are not further delayed by wet weather, to finish up by the end of November. The revision has been the hardest work I have done yet, and not at all the pleasant trip it has been described to be.

Beit Ur el Tahtâ, Nov. 10.—We are getting on very well with the revision. I have discovered *Ai*, I think—*Khurbet Haiy*; I do not think any one has found it before, but am not sure. It is one mile east of *Michmach*. I think all the sites proposed hitherto for *Ai* have been west of *Michmach*.

LIEUT. KITCHENER'S REPORTS.

VII.

JERUSALEM, 7th September, 1877.

THE work of this month has been entirely office work and travelling. In order to send home the map of the north everything had to be made in duplicate for fear of loss on the journey. Early in the month I took a short trip in the Lebanon, leaving the non-commissioned officers at work at *Aleih*. I first visited Mr. Jago at *Bludan*, and then rode round by *Baalbek*, the Cedars, and *Nahr el Kelb*, back to *Aleih*. This route is so well known that a description of it would be superfluous. On my return I found the resolution of the Committee, recalling one of my non-commissioned officers with the map. I selected Sergeant *Malings* to go, as he had been suffering from fever for some time, and he left by the Austrian steamer of the 23rd with all the originals of the map complete. A duplicate of everything has been kept in this country. On the 24th I started from *Aleih* for Jerusalem. Our first day was to *Sidon*.

We suffered considerably from the heat. For over ten years so hot a day has not been known in the country. At midday I got a slight sunstroke, and I did not get into camp at Sidon till 1.30 a.m. Everybody was much exhausted, and my dogs nearly died, though they were carried all the way. At Aleih the thermometer stood at ninety-three degrees in the shade, and at Nazareth at 114 degrees. Next day we started at six p.m., and travelled by moonlight, which was much more pleasant. In the next three days we camped at Râs el 'Ain, Acre, and at Nazareth. At Acre I saw H.E. the Pasha, who was very polite and obliging. I stayed two days at Nazareth to rest the animals, and then left for Jenin. On the way I paid a visit to the sheikh of the Beni Sakr—his camp was close to Solam. The tribe have come from the other side of Jordan, and now occupy the country between Beisan and Tiberias; their large troops of camels are seen grazing over the plain of Esdraelon. The fellahin have to take up whatever crops remain on the ground before they are ripe, or have it eaten by them. Fendy el Feis is the chief sheikh of the tribe, and can muster 4,500 spears in case of necessity. His tent was much longer than any of the others. The sheikh is a very fine old man, and was better dressed and cleaner than the others. We received Arab hospitality, in the shape of excellent coffee, preserved dates, &c. The sheikh showed us his sword, a Damascus blade kept with great care, also a coat of mail, which probably dated from early Saracenic times. They had none of their trained falcons with them, having left them all on the other side of Jordan. The sheikh said he would be very glad to help us if we came to make a map of his part of the country. Next day we arrived at Nablus, and I visited Jacob's Well, about which I send you a few separate notes. The day after, the 2nd September, I rode into Jerusalem. The mules had to make two days of this journey, so we put up in the hotel for one night.

I hope soon to be able to start for the southern portion of the Survey. The country is now quiet in that direction for the first time for three years. I send you some special notes on recent discoveries at Jerusalem.

VIII.

CAMP AT JERUSALEM, *October 2nd, 1877.*

I am glad to be able to report that the work of this month has finished the map of Palestine from Dan to Beersheba. There remains only the revision of the earlier portion of the map, and when that is completed all the data necessary for the publication of the map will be safely in England.

On the 12th September we left Jerusalem with the object of surveying the desert between Gaza and Beersheba. Our first day's march was to Hebron, where I attached two soldiers to the expedition. The acting kaimacam replied to my request for the soldiers that two were quite insufficient. However, on my asking for his reply in writing to submit to the pacha, the soldiers were immediately forthcoming. I found out

here that the next village I was going to, Dhoheriyeh, was entirely deserted. Owing to the bad year, the inhabitants were not able to pay taxes, and found it better to desert their homes. There is also a great want of water in the country.

I therefore changed my plans, and marched to Beit Jibrin. Here we found barley and provisions very dear, owing to the bad harvest. I could learn little or nothing about the country I was going to, as the fellahin and Arabs have always a feud with each other, and neither dare venture into the other's territory. However, I found out that there was water at Tell el Hesy, and determined to find my way there. Next day we marched to Tell el Hesy, and encamped there. We were now entirely in the Arab country, having left all villages some hours behind us. The principal sheikh of the Jubarât Arabs, Sheikh 'Aid ed Dibs, came, and was very civil, promising all sorts of assistance. The Arabs were naturally extremely astonished to see us, as no travellers had ever been in their country before. I found it was necessary to establish an Arab guard on the tents, as the Taiyâhah Arabs make frequent raids in this part, and by this means Sheikh 'Aid ed Dibs was made to a certain extent responsible for anything that might be stolen.

The whole country was as bare as a freshly-ploughed field, and, far from being a dead level, as shown on existing maps, not a tree or house to be seen in the wide prospect of rolling ground. In the spring, however, all this country is green with barley. Last year the crops entirely failed. We had luckily come to the only place with water for many miles round, and here it was very brackish, and the colour of weak tea.

On Saturday, the 15th, we started the triangulation, and were able to finish in one day after observing from three points. On Monday the surveying commenced. Our Arab guides were a cause of some difficulty, as they were afraid of going far south, and were most exorbitant in their demands for backsheesh. Luckily it is Ramadan, the month in which the Moslems are not allowed to eat or drink while the sun is up, so that we escaped being obliged to feed a large number of visitors.

All the week the work went on steadily. Coming back from the south, or enemy's country, in the evening, we often scared the Arabs with their flocks of camels, and once Corporal Brophy was charged by an Arab with a spear to within a few inches of his face.

Our principal discovery was the ruins of Ziklag, which still bears the name of Khûrbet Zuheilakah. Lieutenant Conder first heard the name, and suggested the identification. The ruins occur on three small hills in the form of an equilateral triangle, nearly half a mile apart. The highest hill of the three is to the north, and forms the apex of the triangle. There are a number of ancient ruined cisterns at the ruins, but, as in almost every case in this part of the country, the stones have all been removed, the sites ploughed over, and they are only visible now by the white patches on the dark soil, which show well even at a distance at this time of year, though in the spring they are completely

hid by the crops. The site is in the open rolling plain, some distance from the low hills of the Shefalah. It is 11 miles distant from Gaza, on a line bearing 25 degrees south of east, and is 19 miles south-west of Beit Jibrin.

Three miles south of Khûrbet Zuheilikh runs the broad Wâdy Bashkhah, or Wâdy Sheri'ah (both names are used for it by the Arabs). This may be the brook Besor mentioned in 1 Sam. xxx., where the 200 faint and weary stayed from following David in his pursuit of the Amalekites. South of this is the country of the Azzazimeh Arabs, the modern representatives of the Amalekites, and even now continual raids are made across the wâdy into the northern country, from which they carry off all they can lay hands on. One hundred and sixty government soldiers are now stationed on the wâdy to prevent these incursions. It is evident that this portion of the country is in a very similar state to what it was in the time of David, when this wâdy probably formed the boundary of the kingdom of Gath.

Another fine ruin, Khûrbet Zebalah, five miles east of Khûrbet Zuheilikh, appears to me as likely to represent Baalah or Balah of the list in Josh. xv. It is a large and important ruin on the banks of a wâdy, with many cisterns and an ancient well.

On Monday, the 24th, camp was moved to Kuweilfeh, where there is a fine well of water. Our Arab friends, though very strong in their protestations that they could not let us go to Bir es Seba alone, at the last moment shirked off, and would not come, which I was not sorry for.

We had one hard day's work amongst the low hills of the Shefalah; which are studded with large ruins, principally of early Christian times, judging from the remains of churches found at them. Kuweilfeh itself is a large and important ruin commanding a pass through which the main road leads from the hills to the plain. A large partially artificial plateau was probably the site of some important fortress, of which there are now no traces except cisterns. The valley down to the well shows many traces of ruined buildings.

Three quarters of a mile south of Kuweilfeh is another important ruin, Khûrbet Umm er Remâmin, which has been identified with Rimmon. Here there are foundations of many buildings. On the top of the hill there are the foundations of an important square building of large well-dressed stones, and lower down there are the bases of three columns *in situ*, which probably belonged to a church, though without excavations it is impossible to say exactly. There are numbers of caves and rock-cut cisterns at all these ruins.

On the 26th we moved camp to Bir es Seba. We had been warned of some danger from the Arabs in this part, but found the country entirely deserted. The fact being that this portion of the country is equally feared by both tribes, therefore neither dare venture into it except for raids. We had considerable difficulty about the names, and I am convinced that in less troubled times more might be collected in this part.

From this camp we finished the map commenced almost exactly six years ago.

Our journey back was rapid, owing to all our bread having gone mouldy and our provisions run short. Our first day took us to Dura on the road. At the wells near El Burg some fellahin were watering their flocks of goats. Seeing a mounted party arriving from the Bedouin country, they raised a shout of "Bedouins!" Away went the goats at a gallop up the hills. This we were used to, and rode on trying to reassure them by shouting "Soldiers!" when about fifteen men ran together behind some stone walls, and after gesticulating frantically, opened fire upon us. The balls whistled by and threw up the dust under our horses' feet, so we pulled up, and after some difficulty succeeded in making them understand who we were. After all, we ran more danger from our friends than from the much-dreaded Arabs. At Dura some boys threw stones at Corporal Sutherland, so I had them publicly flogged.

Next day, Saturday, we marched into Jerusalem, our horses rather done up by their hard work. Our tents and camels did not arrive till after dark. We shall now have about a fortnight's work preparing everything in duplicate. I will then send home the last portion of the map and take up the work of the revision.

The amount surveyed was 340 square miles, making a total since we have been out of 1,340 square miles.

One hundred and four ruins have been examined and mapped in this latter portion of the Survey.

IX.

NABLUS, *1st November, 1877.*

The early portion of the month of October was taken up in preparing the last 340 square miles of the map to go home; this was done at Jerusalem; some revision of the country round was also completed. Arrangements were also made with His Grace the Greek Patriarch of Jerusalem, granting me full permission to repair Jacob's Well.

On the 17th I marched north to Zerin, revising on the road. My camps were Khân Lebban, Jeb'a, Zerin.

From Zerin I sent an expedition to Tiberias to inquire after the name Sinn en Nabiâ, which I had heard still existed on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The name was found to be well known, and applies to the ruins west of the road at Kerak. A description of this site was given in my report on the Sea of Galilee.

On the 23rd the revision of the country round Zerin was complete, and camp was moved to Nablus, where I intended to repair Jacob's Well. Unfortunately, owing to the bad government here, that design has been frustrated; when the matter is settled I will forward a special report on what has occurred.

A special plan has been made of Samaria, and another of the church there; also one of the town of Nablus.

The revision of the country round is almost completed.

The weather has been very bad—heavy storms of wind and rain; two days have been lost by wet weather.

The country is, in my opinion, now in a more dangerous state than it has been any time this year. I attribute it to the elation felt by Mohammedans at having been able to beat so large a Christian power as Russia.

H. H. KITCHENER, Lieut. R.E.

ITINERARIES OF OUR LORD.

ST. AIDAN'S COLLEGE, Nov. 1877.

IN the January number of the *Quarterly Statement* for 1877, Mr. Hepworth Dixon invited attention to this subject. Having studied it carefully myself, I shall be glad to lay the results before the readers of the *Quarterly Statement*, and hope it may call forth further information.

Our Lord's ministry lasted, in all probability, three years and a half. In this opinion, and in my succeeding statements, I follow Robinson's *Harmony*, a cheap edition of which has been published in English by the Religious Tract Society, and forms an excellent manual for studying the subject. We may divide the three years and a half into three periods, reckoning by the Passovers which occurred during our Lord's ministry. The first period will be eighteen months, the second a year, the last also a year. In the first period our Lord's Itinerary would be, so far as the places are mentioned in the gospels: 1, Bethabara to the wilderness; 2, to Cana of Galilee; 3, to Capernaum; 4, to Jerusalem for the first passover; 5, to the Jordan; 6, to Sychar; 7, to Cana of Galilee the second time; 8, to Nazareth; 9, to Capernaum, which became our Lord's headquarters in Galilee, and from which He made various excursions, of which no details are given; 10, to Jerusalem again for the Passover. It should be noted here that instead of Bethabara which appears in our Bibles as the place of Christ's baptism, the best manuscripts read Bethany in John i. 28.

In the second period the Itinerary would begin again at Jerusalem and go (2) to Capernaum; (3) to the Mount of Beatitudes; (4) back to Capernaum; (5) to Nain; (6) back to Capernaum, from which our Lord made a circuit through Galilee, and returned to the Sea of Galilee, where He preached from the ship; (7) to Gadara; (8) back to Capernaum; (9) to Nazareth the second time; (10) back to Capernaum, from which He made another circuit in Galilee; (11) to Bethsaida east or north-east of the lake; (12) to Capernaum, when He walked on the sea.

This ends the second period. Our Lord did not go up for the Passover that year (John vii. 1), but He went up to the Feast of Tabernacles six months later. The third period, therefore, begins at Capernaum in the spring. From Capernaum He went (1) to the coasts of Tyre and Sidon; (2) to Decapolis; (3) to Magdala and Dalmanutha across the lake; (4) to Bethsaida; (5) to Cæsarea Philippi; (6) to the Mount of Transfiguration,