



Rock Levels in Jerusalem

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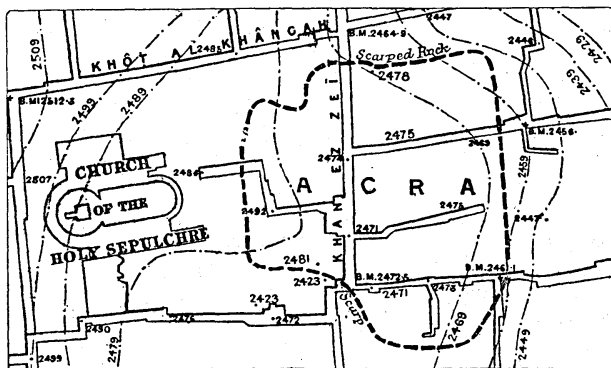
Reis told me that they have now bought all the little houses as far as this tank extends and north of the pool, and will, in course of time, thoroughly examine the locality.

In case there should be found a similar pool to the south, then the rock wall between the two would be thick enough (about 15 feet) to have carried the middle (or fifth) porch, and this would explain how different kinds of water could be in two pools so near together; the one would get water simply from the rain falling on the top and the roofs round about; the other would be fed by conduits bringing rain water from a distance. Such water from outside the town always becomes reddish when it first falls, and afterwards becomes clear.

C. SCHICK.

ROCK LEVELS IN JERUSALEM.

THE better paving of the streets is still going on, although very slowly. It is not in every street that anything of interest is found, but in some this is the case, as I have reported from time to time. To-day I have to say that the so-called "Akkabat al Takiyeh" (going eastward from the Church of the Sepulchre) was recently done. Now, in the Ordnance Survey Plan, scale $\frac{1}{2500}$, stands in about the middle of its length, on the south side, a bench mark, a few feet above the ground, with the height 2,456 feet above the Mediterranean; 45 feet west of this, near the arch going over the street, the scarp of the rock was found, going south and north, facing east, the height or top of the rock there being 2,462 feet above the sea, *i.e.*, 6 feet higher than the bench mark, so that when grading the surface they had to cut the road through the rock.



West of it, about 190 feet distant, the rock crops out from the ground to a height of 2,477 feet.

This new discovery proves that I was right in stating in one of my reports in 1887 that here, east of the Church of the Sepulchre, is a rock terrace, which is surrounded, or nearly surrounded, by scarps to a con-

siderable height. Further north, 68 feet south of the Tarik es Serai, it is known for a long distance. To the south it was found and reported upon last year, on the Russian ground, and now we find it on the east. Opposite the bench mark mentioned, where the letter T stands, the house had tumbled down, and was recently rebuilt, its foundation being laid 20 feet below the surface, and still no rock found, so that the scarp here must have a height of at least 30 feet, and I am convinced it is 40, or even more. The word "ACRA" is on the Ordnance Survey Plan put too far east. The place where c r a stands belonged already to the "Makdesh" (Zephaniah i, 11). All this I have endeavoured to explain by the accompanying plan, in which I show the probable extent and form of the Acra terrace with dotted lines.

C. SCHICK.

REMAINS OF THE OLD CITY WALL.

At the beginning of this year I reported on remains of an ancient and very strong wall found near the north-western corner of the present city, at the Latin Patriarch's palace, and my report was published, together with the drawings illustrating it, in *Quarterly Statement*, 1889, p. 65, where I (p. 66) promised to report whatever further may be found. I have now to fulfil this promise.

Northwards, as I hinted in my last, nothing has been done since, but southwards it was found that the wall existed only for 8 feet further south, with large stones on both sides and the middle filled up, but that beyond this such stones were only scattered here and there, most of them *in situ*, for a short distance; those not *in situ* being turned over or broken. The priest who had the direction of the work told me that a few such stones were found when the palace was built a dozen years ago and that it seems the wall had an angle just where in the Ordnance Survey Plan, scale $\frac{1}{2500}$, stands the letter R of the work, "Tarik." But this is merely a suggestion, and not proved, as he said the supposed angle of the wall gave to the latter an easterly direction, which would bring it into connection with the remains found some years ago, and reported in *Quarterly Statement*, 1886, p. 23, and afterwards; and this seems to me the reason why a corner is suggested, which very likely did not exist. I suppose the wall went straight on, very probably to the tower found when shops were built outside the present wall, in front of the present third tower, north of Jaffa Gate, and that here was thus a kind of corner, not a right angle, but an obtuse one.

At the little chapel north of the barracks in Tarik Sitti Maryam the work is going on again, but nothing more of interest has been found. They have cleared away all the walls, &c., towards the east, and thrown the site of this chapel and the premises of the Chapel of the Flagellation into one.

C. SCHICK.