

cenary spirit, head these devastations. We are assured that, not content with this clandestine speculation, they patronize a manufactory for articles of antiquity and false inscriptions, which is in a village in the outskirts of Saida. But in the interests of science, and so that archæological explorers should no longer be liable to be duped by them, I did not fail to take the most severe administrative measures in order that this deplorable state of things might be stopped. Finally, I must add that, in spite of Saida and other surrounding country having been ransacked, there still remain treasures to be discovered.

Beirut, June 29th, 1887.

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

I.

In the October number of the *Quarterly Statement*, p. 197, appears the following:—"Among other points he [Mr. Schick] shows that Dr. Merrill was misled when he stated that a rock scarp existed there."

This positive assertion of the Editor does me great injustice. In the first place I never stated that "a rock scarp existed there;" secondly, I have always maintained that *no rock scarp* existed there; thirdly, I can say, without boasting, that at the time I took more interest in this second-wall matter than any other European or foreigner. I was there every day, and frequently three or four times a day. I reported only what I saw and measured.

About 25 feet west from the line of the second wall there was a scarped wall from 10 to 15 feet in height; its top was 4 feet out of line with a vertical line drawn from the base of the same wall. What this had to do with the second wall I do not know. I never said that it had, or that it had not, anything to do with it. I mentioned and described simply a fact and never expressed any theory about it. The stones were faced like those of some large fine building. They were smaller than those in the scarped wall at the base of the present Tower of David. It may have been the wall of a building that in some general ruin inclined in towards the city, the bottom remaining in its original position. Among the ruins East of the Jordan I have seen walls perfectly intact but inclined as I have described this underground wall in Jerusalem to have been. Whatever may be the explanation of the existence of this wall at this point, I should describe it as "a scarped wall." Curiously enough, between this wall and the second wall there were no ruins, stones, &c., at least nothing that could be described as ruins, only *débris* of earth.

II.

At the bottom of p. 219, Mr. Schick says:—"Dr. Merrill has, it appears, written what he was told by the masons;" and on p. 220, "the

chief mason . . . told Dr. Merrill so, telling him what he wished to know."

If what is implied in the second of these two quotations were true, I should be unworthy to be reckoned among Palestine explorers. To do as therein implied would be to act in direct opposition to the rule that I have always conscientiously followed.

But as to the fact—I never had any conversation with any of the masons. The person whom Mr. Schick calls the "architect" (p. 220) I call, or have called, the "engineer;" with him I conversed. We never mentioned "scarp"—scarped rock or scarped wall. He made a plan of the building for me, on which is located the line of the second wall as he found it. This does not correspond with the line of the wall as it appears on Mr. Schick's plan (p. 217). The society to whom I gave a copy of that plan ought, for the sake of the truth, to publish it.

On Mr. Schick's plan there is an elbow in the eastern wall of the new building just opposite the street which runs in an easterly direction, and he makes the line of the second wall to run east and entirely free of that elbow. On the contrary, I am certain that the wall ran on the inside, that is, the western side of that elbow. It is so on the engineer's plan. Furthermore, the second wall actually appeared on the street leading north-west from that elbow, and at a point some yards distant from it. On Mr. Schick's plan it stops short of that elbow. Again, when workmen were excavating the street in front of Frutiger's bank for the purpose of laying a pavement, they were suddenly stopped, because they found that they had run into a large cistern, which belonged to that house occupied by the Sisters of Joseph. They were compelled, after a protest had been made, to fill up the street again. Considering how narrow that street is, and how wide the foundations of the second wall are, the wall, running where Mr. Schick places it, would interfere with the cistern; in other words, the second wall and the cistern cannot both occupy that space. Mr. Schick has made the north end of the wall run too far east, and, moreover, he has not shown so much length of wall as actually appeared, proved by my own measurements. These facts I am confident of. I am showing no discourtesy to Mr. Schick when I state what he himself freely admits, namely, that he has a theory to maintain, which is that the Holy Sepulchre is the true site of Calvary, and in order to save this theory the second wall must bend eastward from the elbow referred to. Personally I have no theory to maintain, and all that I am insisting on at present is that the remains of the second wall should be located where I actually saw them, and that as much length of it should be represented as actually appeared.

SELAH MERRILL.

Andover, Mass., U.S.A.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The plan referred to has been sent back to Dr. Merrill, and if he still desires it shall be published in the April *Quarterly Statement*.

THE BYZANTINE PAVEMENT NEAR THE CHURCH
OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE.JERUSALEM, *October*, 1887.

I. IN the year 1860, amongst the many Christians killed at Damascus and the Lebanon, there were a number of Roman Catholics and their churches, convents, and houses destroyed by the fanatical Moslems. France, the Western Power protecting the Christians, especially those of the Roman Catholic creed, demanded compensation. It was proposed by the Ottoman Port to give in exchange the so-called "Khankeh" at Jerusalem to the Catholics, for those destroyed at Damascus by the Moslems.

An order, therefore, came to Jerusalem, that the Governor should not only report at full length on the matter, but should also send exact drawings, or a model of the subject, and it came to pass, that I had to make this requested Model of the Khankeh, and its connection with the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. It was done in wood, and on the scale of $\frac{1}{100}$, and when finished, a document had to be drawn up signed by all the Patriarchs interested in the question, to state that the model was an exact one. In different colours the different proprietorships of all the parts were marked. The model, by the high assembly summoned before the Governor, was found correct, but, as only one side of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was represented by it, that in which the Roman Catholics have their share, the Greek Patriarch found that the model was too much in favour of this party, and demanded that the other side, belonging to the Greeks, should also be shown. In consequence, a new and larger model was made, comprehending the whole church, and all connections round about it, with the streets. It was a long and difficult work, lasting for many months, but came out to the satisfaction of all. In the course of this work, I had to examine and measure every thing and in detail, and so I found that south-east of the Church there was an ancient "sook" or market, walled up and no more in use, except four larger rooms (vaults) used by Moslems as a turnery—ending (at the west) by a flight of steps leading up to their roofs and further on to the Greek Convent St. Abraham, to an upper story. A few years ago all this was broken down, and a new large building erected on the place.

East of this, there was a piece of ground, embraced by walls and filled up with earth of about 15 feet high, above the street. This was bought by the Russian Government in the year 1862. A larger piece north of it they had already bought in the year 1859, covered with a high hill of earth which became removed and found that there are ruins underneath, and left so for many years. But a visit of the Grand Duke Sergius had the effect that this place (the first one bought) was cleared and searched through very thoroughly, and as I had been requested to oversee the work and report

upon it I have done so. Report and drawings were then published in Russian, but afterwards also in the German language by the German Palestine Exploration Society ("Zeitschrift," 1885, page 245, and following).

The first mentioned piece of land, bought in 1862, was left at this time untouched, the reason for which I do not know. But during this year, 1887, it has been cleared, and ruins have been found, of which I sent a plan to the English Palestine Exploration Fund at the end of March.

Recently these ruins were demolished and cleared away, in order to erect a new building of some ecclesiastical sort. By this clearing a pavement was found of very large, flat, and about 1-foot thick stones, just as it was found in the more northern part, extending on the same level southwards as far as the ruins which were done away, forming one court, all in the same level, about 2,470 feet above the Mediterranean. It was also found that the ruins were in ancient times shops, and that their walls, without any foundations, simply built on the mentioned pavement. So the pavement is not only much older than these shops were, but proves to have been here once a larger free and open place—a "forum," as I have it stated in my report to St. Petersburg, 1883; but I was at that time not aware that it extended so far south.

On looking at the last removed ruins, and the plans of them, comparing the latter with the plan of the shut-up market I mentioned above, and putting both together on an equal scale I found there had been two market-streets, and I thought it to be my duty to preserve the knowledge of them: I therefore send a copy to the Palestine Exploration Fund, and have to remark that what is dark shaded no more exists (on the larger western part a new building of three stories high stands, and on the eastern a smaller one; also a new building will be erected as already stated, according to the painted line in red ink).

As the ruins were not yet cleared, but full of earth, when the Greeks made their new building some parts of it came to stand over the property of the Russians below; and then, when the ruins were removed, the two upper stories of the Greek building at this place were in danger of tumbling down, so they propped it up with very large beams, and the Russians have left the arch on which the whole corner rests until the new masonry shall have been made up, and then no danger of falling will exist.

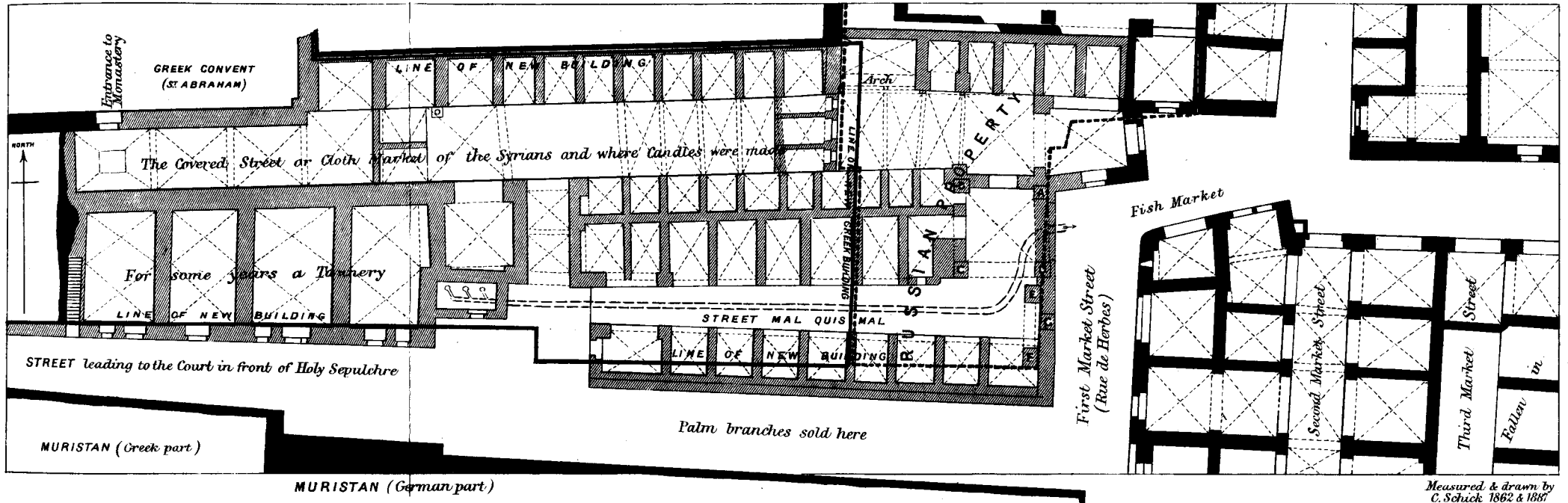
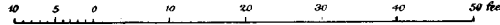
II. According to the "Assise de Jerusalem," by Count Beugnot (II., p. 531 ff.), there were in the thirteenth century several Market-streets in Jerusalem, viz., the "three streets" crossing the David's-street, and the one of Herbs going southward to the street of Mount Zion and the gate of Zion; another one to the arch of Judas. But besides these three, it is said that, when one is coming towards them from the north, one comes to the arched market (la Rue Couverte) on the right hand, going to the Monastery (not the Church) of the Holy Sepulchre. In this street the Syrians sold cloth.

PLAN
of the
OLD BYZANTINE MARKET
in
JERUSALEM

Explanation

- Present Buildings
- ▨ Old Market now cleared away
- Line of New Buildings

Scale



Measured & drawn by
C. Schick 1862 & 1887

Connected with this was the "Rue Mal-quis-mal" where meat was cooked and sold to the pilgrims. In the free place were sold fishes, and in a street south of it palm branches.

So I understand the description, and am convinced that in the longer and wider "arched street" with shops on both sides, is the Syrian cloth-market, leading to the Greek Convent of St. Abraham—and that the other, shorter and narrower one, also with shops on both sides, the "Mal-quis-mal" where meat, &c., was cooked for the pilgrims—as shown in plan, and now entirely removed (see I).

In case I am wrong in the interpretation, one more learned may correct me, and say what names these two market-streets had, and what was sold there. To me, it is enough to have pointed them out.

The masonry of the shops of these two streets was built in a very thin, light and easy manner, which proves it was not Crusading work, differing widely from such, and as these shops must have been built after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans I think it must be Byzantine work.

At the eastern end, there are six Crusading piers, erected at a later time as I could easily observe, the four northern, a, b, c, d, intended to bear a vault, and over it an upper room, e and f simply to bear one arch, very likely for a stair by which one might go up in the upper room, and to the roofs of the shops, and the northern street. The southern street (in which I entered the words "Mal-quis-mal") was never covered, but its southern boundary wall was strengthened by putting a second wall before the existing thin one, as shown in plan; and so it seems it was done on the east side: the piecing is of another time and description.¹ It seems also that between the piers, a and d, the roadway was upon, and in a later time (the Moslem) shut up.

Under the southern street a conduit for unclean water, or sewer, was found about two feet wide and 6 feet high, put in earth, having masonry on both sides, and covered with flat stones.

I have also to remark, that in later times the northern covered street was shut up in two places, first, towards the east (at the boundary between the Greeks and Russians) a wall with a door and windows to right and left was put in, and very likely made at the time into a room, shut up with a wall towards west. This, however, was, at some later time, altered again—door and windows were blocked up, and the room converted for three narrow shops—as I found them in 1862.

The second blocking up was more west, at the well-mouth, and made for two shops, as I found them, 1862. Behind it and the rooms of the turnery was, at that time, a kind of cellar or magazine belonging to the Convent St. Abraham. As there the roof had some opening so light and air could come in—now it is entirely altered.

The well mentioned is a very large one, forming at the ancient Jerusalem a kind of ditch, into which it was converted, later on, very

¹ Perhaps the remains of a connection with the three market streets.

likely in Hadrian's, or more probably in Constantine's, time, when the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built.

Now the well is full of silt, as it seems, for centuries never cleansed, and always dirty water from the streets, and even worse places, is running in. On my asking the proprietor of it—the Greek Archimandrite or Captain of the Church of Holy Sepulchre—why it could not be cleaned, he said: “It would cost too much—a very high sum—we must wait for a later time.”

The new building opposite—in south—is going on, of which I will report in due time

As far as I know, there exists no other plan of the ancient and now removed market except the one I send you to-day made by me.

C. S.

JERUSALEM.

October 26th, 1887.

1. In the adjoining, I send you a plan of an ancient market at Jerusalem, during my stay in Jerusalem—broken away—which, I think, may have some interest in studying the town in the Christian area. In the accompanying Notes I have tried to give explanations, and what else I found necessary to remark. When on both sides the new houses are done—if I am still alive—then I will send you a general plan of the entire neighbourhood; to-day I could do it only very imperfectly.

2. I am glad to be in a situation to report that I have got permission to dig in the ground of the Dominicans, near Jeremiah's Grotto, and to follow up the aqueduct. But am sorry to say the work goes rather slowly, and is more expensive than I suggested, as I find the aqueduct was filled up on purpose by the Crusaders, who used large stones for it instead of earth, and have removed the flagging stones on the top, so there is no empty parts, but all full, and often there are found larger stones, which must be broken in pieces. We traced it for about 45 feet; it does not go in a straight line, but has sharp angles. It is 2 feet 9 inches wide and 16 feet deep, entirely cut through the rock. But what I am suspicious about is the level of its bottom, according to my levelling, about 25 feet higher than the one ending on the town wall. However, I will go further on with the clearing, as, even if it is not the Bireh Aqueduct as expected, something else of interest may be found. I will use up the money I have in hand, and then send you an account of the expenditure, stating everything in detail.

3. *The Wady Yasul Tomb.*—In my last I have written to you to try to get leave from the Pasha for a proper digging. The owner of the place wished expressly not to do this, and he himself went on to break through the rock from another side, following a cleft in the rock, but it proved that there is no real room or an artificial chamber, but simply a cavity by nature, allowing me, by proper lighting, to ascertain in a fuller