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so considerable (20 to 30 feet) that the Rujm el-Bahr is no longer visible, so that were there formerly a road it would now be obliterated.

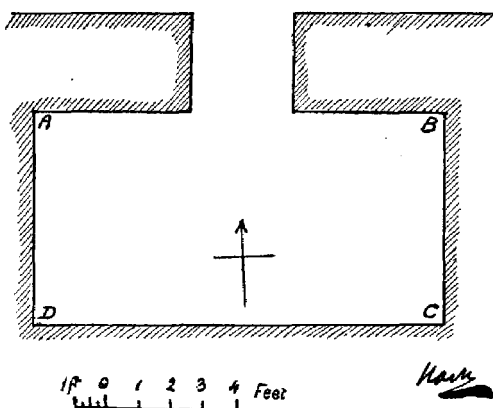
Our journey to Jericho took us 13 hours, but in cooler weather and with good going it should not take over 11 or 12 hours. We saw several swarms of locusts at various points of our journey, and in various stages of development; most of them could only hop and did not fly at all.

THE SUPPOSED FRAGMENT OF THE FIRST WALL OF JERUSALEM.

BY R. A. S. MACALISTER, M.A., F.S.A.

This wall is exposed in a now subterranean chamber in the basement of a house in the *Haret el-Dawayeh*, close to the figure 67 on the Ordnance Plan of Jerusalem.

The chamber is rectangular, measuring 6 ft. 8 inches by 12 ft.



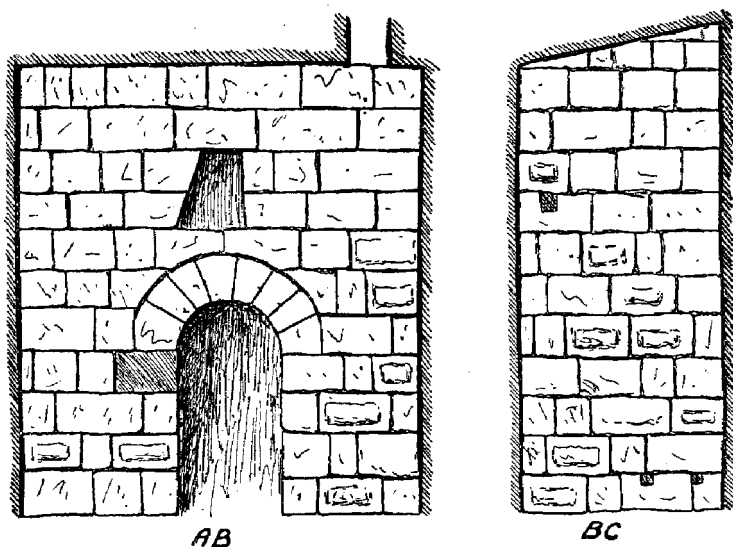
9 inches. The height is about 14 ft. The roof slopes like that of a penthouse. In this there is an orifice, shewn in the elevation AB.

Whether or not the wall CD be, as is supposed, a fragment of the First Wall, the remainder of the building must be contemporary with it, as the four walls bond together, and the masonry is

identical. Therefore if this be a portion of the City Wall, the chamber must be a tower chamber.

In the accompanying elevations the masonry joints are given from measurements of each stone so far as they are within reach; not having a ladder, I had to note the positions of joints in all courses above the fifth from the floor by eye.

The courses range from 1 ft. 2 inches to 1 ft. 6 inches in height, the majority being about 1 ft. 3 inches. The stones are of moderate size, the longest being between 2 ft. and 2 ft. 4 inches in length; even this is exceptional. The masonry is much obscured by cement



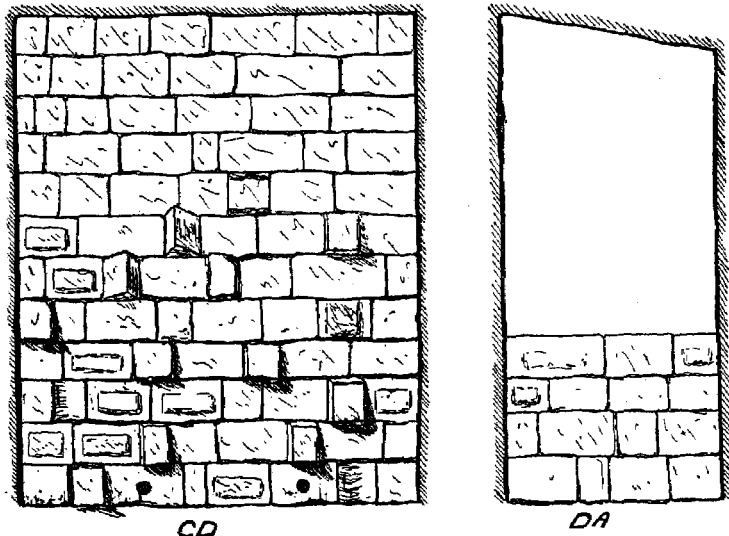
and whitewash that have been applied to the surface, and delicate details of tooling are visible only on one or two stones. The cement layer is so thick on the wall DA that I have not ventured to indicate the joints in the upper courses.

As a general rule the stones are dressed smooth, but some of them have a marginal draft. This is in all cases shallow, never more than one inch in depth, and often difficult to detect at all on account of the cement coating. I think, however, that I have been able to mark all the stones shewing this peculiarity.

A feature of the wall CD is the projection of several of the stones from one to five inches beyond the surface of the wall. This

does not reappear in any of the other sides, except in one instance in the sixth course from the top in DA.

It is specially noteworthy that both these peculiarities—drafted stones and projecting “headers”—are confined with hardly an exception to the six lowest courses all round the chamber. The general appearance of the masonry, which I have endeavoured to reproduce in the elevations, and which to some extent is shewn in an unsuccessful magnesium light photograph of the middle of wall CD, leads to the conclusion that the lower part of the building is earlier than the upper, and that the chamber, as we now see it, is



a restoration of a building that for some time lay in ruins. It will be noticed that there are two “headers” in the sixth and seventh courses, respectively, from the bottom of wall CD, that are set skew in the wall. It almost appears as though these were at the top of the wall in its ruined state, slightly displaced, and that the restorers did not trouble to replace them exactly.

Two stones in the lowest course of CD, and one or two stones in BC, have holes cut in them. These are modern, intended for the reception of staples. (The chamber is used as a store room).

The seventh stone in the bottom course, and the second in the third course, of CD are dressed with hollowed faces, slightly recessed in the middle behind the surface of the wall.

A stone at the top of the left jamb of the entrance in wall AB is dressed with diagonal strokes, much resembling the dressing of Crusader masons. This is the only stone that I found to be so treated; it is possibly a stone from some Crusader building, inserted at some repair.

The wall containing the doorway is 2 ft. 11 inches thick. Without tunnelling through, or excavating down, it would be impossible to tell the thickness of the other walls. Without knowing this the question of the identification of this wall with that of the City must remain indeterminate. I am bound to say that my own impression is that the masonry is of too insignificant a character to be considered as part of any very important structure.

Mr. Hanauer, who accompanied me to the vault, told me that there were other similar cellars under the same house, to the west of this chamber, which had long been filled up and blocked. They are now inaccessible.

Tradition fixes on this chamber as the scene of the imprisonment of St. Peter.

NOTES ON THE GEOGRAPHY OF PALESTINE.

By the Rev. CALEB HAUSER.

I. *Notes on Some of Ptolemy's Renowned Cities of Arabia Petraea.*—
 (1) *Thana*, probably *Thenyeh*, at the required distance, but south-east, instead of north-east, of *Zoara*, or *Dra'ah*.¹ *Thona*, named after *Agalan* and before *Zoar* by *Josephus*, *Ant.* xiv, 1, 4; likewise *Thona*, *Ant.* xiii, 15, 4.

(2) *Cletharo*, the latitude of which should perhaps be corrected to $30\frac{1}{2}$, was at *Kureithelah*.

(3) *Necla* may be identified with *Nachal*, of which *Tristram* heard at *Kerak* (*Land of Moab*, p. 120).

¹ Unless *Dra'ah* be Ἄδρου.