

Very interesting statements were made in regard to the excavations which have recently been made in the city. Immense stones, and even heavy walls have been found underground, which have never seen the light since the destruction by Titus, and large buildings beneath Mount Zion, which have astonished architects—such buildings and walls are not often seen by them. The water courses mentioned in II Chronicles, xxxii, have been discovered and explored. Two excavations on the site of the Temple brought to light a column at the depth of 100 feet from the surface, and in Wilson's Arch the secret passageway from the palace of King David to the Temple on Mount Moriah, has been traced.

The streets of modern Jerusalem were described as long and narrow. Houses of the Jews are small and poorly built; very high rents, payable two years in advance, are charged them by their Turkish and Asiatic oppressors. There are 700 Jews who live by trade or labor in the city, and 300 possessors of houses. The city depends on rain water for its supply of water, which is stored away in tanks and cisterns. The rains commence about November and continue until March; in the latter month storms and high winds. In summer rain seldom falls. Temperature in winter ranges about 50 degrees; in summer about 90.

Fruit is very plentiful in its season, and a great deal is exported to other countries. The Turks are landed proprietors, and have splendid gardens and orchards. The earth is highly productive when tilled, which has been much interfered with by depredations of wandering Arabs. No Israelites have hitherto been permitted to own the land, but the Sultan has recently given this permission, and they can now buy, own and sell the land.

There are over 100,000 Arabs scattered over the country who live a predatory life in the deserts and mountains. They pasture their flocks on the shores of the Jordan and around Jericho. They are the disturbing element which prevents a more general cultivation of the land.

There are 3,200 Hebrew families in Jerusalem, from all parts of the globe, principally Portugal, Syria, Persia, Babylonia,