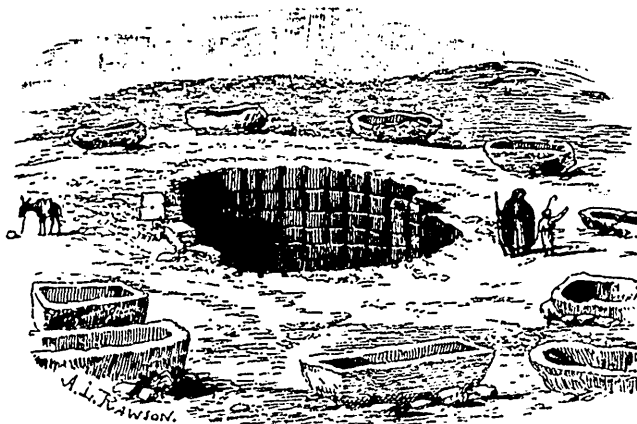
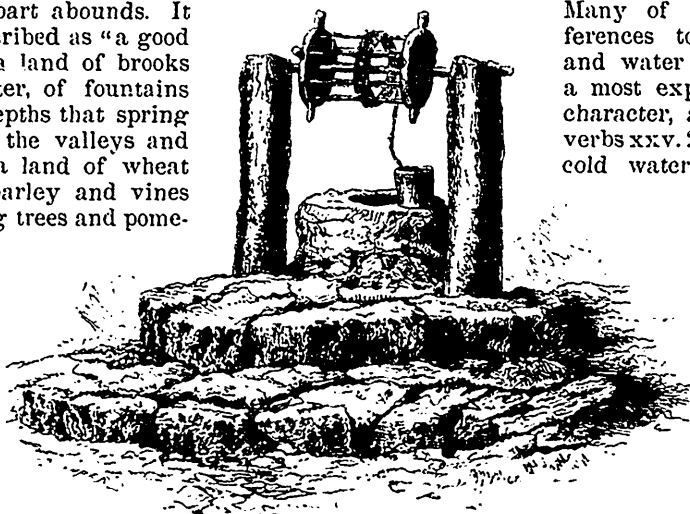




ABRAHAM'S WELL, BEERSHEBA.

and prosperity, and even to existence. Hence the many striking images of Hebrew poetry and allusions of Hebrew prose. In the land of Canaan, especially in its northern regions, water for the most part abounds. It is described as "a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pome-

of salvation." Says one of the Rabbis, "He who has not seen the joy of water-drawing has never seen joy in his life." See also Psalm xxxvi. 9: "For with thee is the fountain of life." Many of the references to wells and water are of a most expressive character, as Proverbs xxv. 25: "As cold waters to a



ANCIENT WELL AND WINDLASS.

granates, a land of oil, olive and honey." Deut. viii. 7, 8.

There also fell the latter rain, producing exceeding fruitfulness. Yet at times pure and fresh water was scarce. Hence the herdsmen

thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." See also Proverbs xi. 25 and xxv. 14.

Fountains and wells were a most valuable possession in a pastoral country, without which the flocks

often strove for the possession of the wells of water. Genesis xxvi. 20. and Numbers xx. 19.

Water is in the Scripture not only the symbol of abundance and blessing, as Job xx. 17, and Isaiah xlv. 3, but also of spiritual grace and benediction, Is. xii. 3: "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells