**NEW IDENTIFICATIONS.**

*Gibeah of Saul.* In this case also we have to contend with an assumption of Dr. Robinson's. There is no connection either by name or distance between Tell el Fül (probably a corruption of the Hebrew Ophel or "tumulus") and Gibeah; and after many visits to the site I entirely failed to find any traces of a town or village. *Tell el Fül* is an isolated monument (probably a beacon) and not a city at all.

In writing on this question Mr. Birch concludes that the Gibeah where the Levite's concubine was killed was not Geba of Benjamin, but a distinct city. It is, however, worthy of notice that a confusion is here introduced by the authorised version which in two cases reads Gibeah where the Hebrew has Geba. This has already been pointed out by Mr. Grove:

"That they may do when they come to Gibeah (גֵּלֶב) of Benjamin, according to all the folly they have wrought in Israel (Judges xx, 10), and again:

"The liers in wait came forth out of their places, even out of the meadows of Gibeah (גֵּלֶב) literally "from the cave of Geba," Judges xx, 33); this shows that linguistically no distinction was made between Gibeah and Geba, just as the word is now spelt indifferently *Jeba'ı* and *Jeba'ḥ.*

Josephus places Gabaoth Saule at the Valley of Thorns; and if he refers to Ṣāwīẗt (“valley of the little thorn tree”), this favours the identification with *Jeba*'.

That Gibeah of Saul was a district having its capital at Geba would seem to follow from the following passages:—

"The uttermost part of Gibeah, under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron" (1 Sam. xiv, 2), Migron being near Ai, probably a district name or that of a natural feature (c.f. Isaiah x, 28).

"Saul abode in Gibeah, under a tree in Ramah” (1 Sam. xxii, 6) Ramah being south of W. Suweinit and west of *Jeba*'.

C. R. C.

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**NEW IDENTIFICATIONS.**

Beit Aula has generally been identified with Bethul, but is too far in the hills. The suggestion of Beit Leyi for Bethul leaves Beit Aula for Holon (Joshua xv, 51), which fits far better topographically.

Zephathah (2 Chron. xiv, 10) is probably the present *Ṣāfīḥ.* See foot note to the note on Kadesh Barnea.

C. R. C.