

The Johns Hopkins University

Baltimore, Maryland

August 18th, 1938

Dear Nelson,

Your letter of the 7th arrived this morning, just as I was putting the final touches in the revision of your MS on Tell el-Kheleifeh for the next BULLETIN. I have eliminated all but the general biblical synchronisms, so that you will have little or nothing to change when you work the material up. In a postscript I quote in extenso from Vincent's letter of the 31st, received day before yesterday and giving details of the striking chronological agreement between the three of you (11th -- 7th centuries). I am leaving your general synchronism of the pre-Davidic and Solomonid occupations with strata I-II, but have been careful to avoid positive statements. Stratum III and IV appear as dating from "about the eighth" and "about the seventh" century, respectively. In this way you are safe from ^{practic} later modifications. All three inscriptions will be reproduced: the S.-A. inscription as it is shown in the photo; the seal-impression cut out of the photo and further enlarged (to a total of eight times); a tracing of the six-letter graffito made from the photo but following the identical copies given by you, Winnett, and Vincent (and labelled as such!). The panorama appears as first-page cut. The number should be out about Sept. 20th.

I am very sorry indeed to hear of Helen's illness and earnestly hope that it does not prove to be serious. Ruth joins me in sending our best wishes. We shall be most disappointed not to see you at Brussels. If war does not break out first, it promises to be a most interesting meeting, with good attendance, especially from Belgium, Holland, Scandinavia, France, and Great Britain.

By the way, ~~are~~ all the Tell el-Ful material (practically all potsherds) is in the attic, in labelled baskets, so if Hamilton sends over for it, there will be no difficulty in finding it.

With best wishes,

Very cordially yours,

W. A. Wright