

NOTE ON THE POOL OF BETHESDA.

It has always struck me that in the Indian *baolee* (*pr.* *bowlee*) we have the analogue of the Pool of Bethesda; it is a pool of masonry entered at one end by a flight of steps, and from which at the other water may be drawn by a pulley and rope. On three sides of the pool, and just above the water level, with steps leading down to it, are a series of chambers opening into one another, resorted to for shade and coolness, and called *taekhánas*.

The main difficulty with Bethesda, after settling its locality, *ἐν τῇ προβατικῇ*, is to account for the five *stoas*. May they not have been subterranean, and, in fact, a range of pillared *taekhánas* as represented in my ideal plan?

N.B. The well at the city of Nahor must have been a *baolee*, for—first, Rebecca went *down to the well* and filled her pitcher; and, second, she drew water (at the other end) for all the camels.

February 5, 1870.

R. F. H.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK IN THE CHAIR.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund was held at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, on the 16th of May, 1870.

The CHAIRMAN: Before I commence the business of the meeting, I have to mention that letters expressing regret at inability to attend, and interest in the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund, have been received from the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Lord Bishop of Peterborough, the Dean of Chester, the Dean of Canterbury, Sir Moses Montefiore, and the Master of the Temple. I will now call upon the Rev. Mr. Holland, the Secretary, to read the Secretaries' Report.

The REV. F. W. HOLLAND read the Report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The Report, which the Executive Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund have the honour to lay before you this day, will be very brief.

Captain Warren will himself describe to you the result of his excavations at Jerusalem, which have of late formed the *main* portion of the work that the Society has been carrying on; and full details of its other operations have already appeared in the public papers, and in the "Quarterly Statements" of progress, which are issued to all subscribers.