

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.

In addition to the excavations at Jerusalem, which have not been unfruitful in results, some interesting explorations have been made during the past year in the north of Palestine. Captain Warren found it necessary to withdraw his men from Jerusalem during the summer months, in consequence of the prevalence of fever, from which they had already suffered much, and the whole of the exploring party removed to the Lebanon, until the cooler weather set in. While there they occupied themselves in investigating the ruined temples of Cœle-Syria and Mount Hermon.

The temples of Cœle-Syria appear to date from Roman times, and the inscriptions which are found in them are mostly Greek.

The small temples about Hermon appear to be somewhat of more ancient date, their architecture being of the Ionic order.

On the summit of Mount Hermon stands the ruins of a sacellum, which has nothing in its construction in common with the temples on the west below. This probably had to do with a different and more ancient form of worship.

All these temples have been sketched, and accurately described.

On his journey northwards Captain Warren visited Saida, the ancient Sidon, and discovered there, on the stones of the ancient walls, undoubted Phœnician masons' marks, somewhat similar in character to those in his excavations at Jerusalem. He also procured from excavations which had been made at Sidon some specimens of ancient pottery precisely similar to that found at Jerusalem, in the excavations there, below the early Christian pottery.

Another portion of Captain Warren's work deserves also to be especially mentioned, viz., his labours in connection with the discovery of the Moabite stone.

That stone was actually discovered by the Rev. Mr. Klein, a Prussian gentleman connected with the Church Missionary Society in Jerusalem, in August, 1868, and the Prussian Government, to whom the discovery was reported, proceeded to take steps to obtain possession of the stone.

As long as others were in the field, and the safety of the inscription would have been endangered by his interference in the matter, Captain Warren very properly abstained from any action.

But when, owing to an unfortunate quarrel between two parties of Arabs, it had been broken in pieces by cold water having been thrown upon it after it had been heated by fire, he very promptly came to the rescue, and it was owing to his exertions that the excellent squeezes of the remaining portions were obtained, which have been the means of the interpretation of the inscription, and which you now see lying on the table before you.

Another important work which has been undertaken during the past year by the Palestine Exploration Fund, has been the exploration of the Tih desert, the wilderness of the forty years' wanderings of the children of Israel.

The services of Mr. E. H. Palmer, who was previously connected with

the Ordnance Survey of the Peninsula of Sinai, were secured for this purpose; and in company with Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake, he is now engaged in exploring that vast tract, a large portion of which has never before been visited by travellers.

Mr. Palmer's first work was to examine the passes of the range of mountains which forms the northern boundary of the Peninsula of Sinai, and which must have been crossed by the children of Israel on their march northwards from Mount Sinai. He then visited the mountainous district of the Negeb, or "south country" of the Bible, and investigated the ancient ruins and wells that abound in that country, which, though now a desert, bears traces of having once sustained a considerable population. Correspondence with that remote region is difficult, and the reports which have reached us from Mr. Palmer are too scanty for us to give any accurate description of the work which he has accomplished; but he appears to have made some interesting discoveries with regard to the fixing of the site of Kadesh, and the maps which he has sent home prove that he is accomplishing with great accuracy the work which he has undertaken.

When we last heard from him he was just starting south again, after a short visit to Jerusalem, to explore the south-east of the Negeb, and after he had accomplished this he proposed to make his way round the east of the Dead Sea to Jerusalem. He will thus pass through the country of Moab, and if any other inscriptions are to be found there he will doubtless secure them. His knowledge of Arabic and the Arab character renders him the fittest person to undertake so difficult and dangerous a journey, and the results of his explorations may be looked forward to with great interest.

The Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund only regret that they have not had larger funds placed in their hands to enable them to carry out their work.

The annual subscriptions amounted last year to about £1,000, the donations to about £2,000, and the collections after meetings and lectures brought in about £500 more.

Upwards of 200 lectures have been delivered in different towns in England and Scotland during the past year, and many local committees have been established.

Thus much progress has been made in making known the objects of the Fund, but further support is still greatly needed.

In conclusion, the Committee desire to return their thanks to Mr. Deutsch, who has done much valuable service in the examination of the inscriptions which have from time to time been sent home;—

To Dr. Chaplin, who has kindly taken charge of the excavations during Captain Warren's absence from Jerusalem, and also of a meteorological station;—

To Mr. Eldridge, the Consul-general of Syria, who has also taken charge of a meteorological station;—

To the Honorary Secretaries of the many local committees established in various towns in this country;—

And also to those gentlemen who have contributed papers to the *Journal*, which is issued quarterly, and to which we would refer those who desire to obtain a further knowledge of the work which is being carried on by the Palestine Exploration Fund.

The CHAIRMAN: My lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—My title to occupy this chair is hardly stronger than the title any of you might possess who take a great interest in this work, but are not able to follow it out properly in all its details. The foundation of that interest is that we owe to Palestine the greatest debt that one land can owe to another; that it has been the cradle of our religion, and that we read to this day with unabated interest the books that were written there. Considering that, and considering that this English people has shown a greater interest, I may say, than any other people on the face of the earth in the circulation of those holy books, it is very remarkable that in the year 1865 a number of persons of eminence in literature and science met together in the Jerusalem Chamber to discuss the present state of knowledge in regard to Palestine; and whatever might have been their opinions, and whatever line of thought they might have followed, they all agreed in one particular,—that about the land of Palestine, its antiquities, its geology, its zoology, and its science in general, the English people knew marvellously little; and it was in consequence of that meeting that this Palestine Exploration Fund was established. Now, I must beg your indulgence for this particular undertaking on some special grounds. Our business has hitherto lain mainly in and about Jerusalem itself; but besides the religious jealousies we have to encounter there, there is the fact that every step of our knowledge, being of an antiquarian kind, has to be sought for below the ground rather than upon it; and that excavation within the walls of the city, where every foot of land is occupied and will only be parted with for a price, is an expensive amusement, and a somewhat unsatisfactory one. The knowledge which our explorer has been able to acquire for us has been acquired for the most part by sinking shafts, like those which are made in trying for a vein of metal in this country in a mine. Of course when he arrives at the bottom of his shaft he has seen all the strata he has passed through, but he has only a very small clear space at the bottom, and anything beyond that must be got at by fresh mining. I grant that our results on the one hand have not been so great as we desired, but I ask you to grant on the other hand that knowledge so pursued is acquired only under circumstances of great difficulty, and that we may be pardoned if our progress appears slow. But I must say that the work of this Society has been very considerable since we commenced our researches in 1865. And, to leave Jerusalem for a moment, I may say that several scholars have had occasion to change their opinions a little as to the site of the mountain on which the Law was given, in consequence of the researches of Captain Wilson. He has produced a model

of the Sinai district, which seems to show, by an argument which is appreciable by all, exactly where was that mountain on which Moses received and from which he delivered the Law. I cannot claim for our Society that we actually discovered this Moabite stone; and I will hardly touch upon that subject in the presence of Sir Henry Rawlinson, but I may say that if Captain Warren had been on the spot, and if Mr. Klein had adopted a different mode of operation, a more satisfactory result would have been obtained. What was done was that offers were made for the purchase of this object before any attempt was made to get a copy of it. This was quite a wrong proceeding; because the people of the country became aware of the value we set upon this otherwise uninteresting object, and finding the stone was considered so valuable they went to work and broke it up into fifty pieces, thinking they could make a better market of it in separate parts. However, even after this rude process, the stone is likely to be recovered to the world. We have here a thing which is called technically a squeeze;—a piece of porous paper is wetted and forced into the surface and inscriptions on the stone, so that when it is dry and removed it presents the exact appearance of the stone. This is a squeeze of one portion. And, as was well said by Captain Warren, it does not matter much whether London, or Paris, or Berlin, possesses the stone itself, provided we have exact transcripts of it, and know its significance. If when it is fully deciphered it proves as interesting as every scholar believes it to be, we shall have the one sole record, till Captain Warren brings us another, of a people who played an important part in the history of the Jewish people, forming, as it does, a most interesting comment on the third chapter of the Second Book of Kings, where the same name occurs that is commemorated on this stone. I will not venture—caution is the duty of all inquirers—to say whether the King of Moab mentioned in the Scripture is the same that set up this stone, but nothing has been discovered against it.

I will venture, before I sit down, to say a word in order to quicken your interest in this important subject. This is a question entirely of money. It is a question entirely of money for this reason—we have not, at this time of day, to argue whether the lands of the Bible are interesting to us. It is admitted by all. What we wish to direct your attention to is a particular agency by which that interest may be quickened, and our knowledge of the text of the Bible greatly improved and increased. It is an expensive undertaking. We may be asked, and we shall be asked again and again, where are the striking and great results that may be expected from turning up the soil of this ancient country? I tell you we must wait for that. And when we look at what has been done in the four years that we have been at work, I can tell you that there has been much fruit; and so much as to encourage us to proceed for the next four years, and so on further. Before I

conclude, however, I ought to say that two letters have been put in my hand, of a different complexion, though they both bear on the same subject. One is an intimation that an illustrious lady—the Princess Louise—has just become a subscriber to our Fund; and the other is what I am sure you will listen to with great regret, namely, that Mr. Deutsch is very unwell at Oxford, and is not able to be here to-day. He has worked very much at Jewish history, and we should have been very glad to hear him to-day, as we heard his eloquent accents last year. I can imagine no country that ought to be more interesting than this to men of science and historians. There is no country more singular in its circumstances. In the first place, as an able writer well says, this country had some rare qualifications for being the home of the particular people whom God placed there. It was a country in the very centre of the world, on the banks of that great inland lake the Mediterranean, round which the civilisation of the world, its philosophy and its law, have all concentrated, and from which they have emanated to all parts of the civilised world. It was there that at every conclusive period of its history—it was by contact with one or other of these great nations—that its own fate was sealed. But while Palestine was central, it was also retired. As has been observed, it was no highway of the nations; no great communication went through it; and the people who were sent there by God to cherish with peculiar jealousy their own institutions and laws were, to a great extent, insulated by the geological character of the land. It was fit for the home of a striving energetic people like the Jews. We are surprised to read in the Bible of the various products of its soil; it seems almost impossible that one country could have combined them; and when we look at its desolate position now we are tempted almost to doubt whether they were ever combined. Yet that country did produce them in virtue of its great variety of climate. Thus we have its forests on the north, and we have that strange river the Jordan, which, with its lakes, which have been called the eyes of the country, is at the bottom of a deep trench, cutting through the land below the level of a deep sea—a feature unparalleled in every other country in the world. The Sea of Galilee is 300 feet below the Mediterranean, and the rapid river runs down its course, lower and lower still, till it reaches the Dead Sea. Look at its coast scenery, and look at its fertile meadows and garden country, and you will understand why, so long as an industrious people did their best for it, it was a land of corn, oil, and honey. There was every kind of climate there, rendering the soil fit to bear, under proper culture, almost all the good things that have been given to man. And let me say one word about the people that lived there. They were well fitted for the soil wherein they dwelt, and their religion was fitted for them. It was an historical and prophetic religion. They were never to forget their past history; and that history was a history of humiliation. They were never to forget that they had been in the land of Egypt,

strangers and slaves. "Ye shall not vex the stranger nor oppress him, for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt." It is written in their Law in sentiments like that; they were never to forget it. But it was also a religion of hope; they were to watch, and wait, and labour patiently for the coming of a great future for their people; a future they little understood; but yet there was not a Jew among them all who did not feel bound, looking back, to think of the Egyptian slavery, and there was not a Jew among them all who did not feel bound, looking forward, to confess that he looked forward to a glorious future for his people. They have been a parable for the history of all nations. In the Christian religion we, too, look back upon a bondage of sin, and a future of hope, and we feel bound, with one hand in the past and one in the future, to labour and be diligent, and wait and hope for that which God will accomplish for us. So long as this world lasts, so long will the history of the Jewish people be read as high above the history of all the nations of the world. They have done much for its thinking men, for its laws, and for its social order; but this has done more, for it has touched the religious conscience of the world, and led us from things below to things above. (Cheers.) I will now call upon Captain Warren to read his Report of Proceedings.

Captain WARREN, R.E., read the Report.

My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen,—Two years ago, when I had the honour of addressing you on the subject of the Jerusalem Explorations, we had brought sufficient to light to cause several very curious questions to be raised with regard to the ancient topography of the Holy City; but still not sufficient to settle any of the disputed points as to the location of the Temple; we have now made such further progress that, although we are not able to state where the Temple actually stood, yet I believe we are able to say to some extent where the Temple was not, so far as concerns parts about which there had hitherto been utter uncertainty.

Yet much as we have advanced in our local knowledge since our commencement, there is still an immense mine of information below the surface ready to yield its fruits whenever money and influence shall enable the Society to examine and explore those parts within and without the Haram Area which are still inaccessible.

I have been asked on this occasion to give my opinion with regard to the ancient topography, and am told that at the last meeting I attended I gave general dissatisfaction by simply relating what had occurred, without delivering any opinion with regard to results. Now I did so for a very good reason: I had formed no opinion on the matter. Since that time I have certainly advanced in my ideas on the subject, but still I have come to no conclusion; if, however, you are content to listen to the very crude notions I have formed on the subject, I am very willing to put them forward, always reserving to myself the option of backing out of them directly I see a more tenable position.

There are two points of paramount interest in the Holy City, around which all other interests centre.

1. The Temple in which the Jews and first Christians worshipped.
2. The tombs of the Kings of Judah, including the sepulchre of Him who was styled the "King of the Jews."

Now Jerusalem of to-day is a city so transformed by the accumulation of rubbish of fallen buildings, that it is impossible to point to one single spot and say with mathematical precision, "This is the very spot where such and such a building stood;" it can only be said, "This is near the spot where so-and-so may have stood;" and even then you have half-a-dozen dispositions of some of the remarkable sites.

The chief point, therefore, to be had in view in the explorations was the fixing of some point from which we might start forth and map out the ancient city with precision. For doing this two methods were apparent: the one was to obtain the contours of the ground as they existed in olden times, by which means the topographical accounts of the historians could be understood and the places spoken of very approximately located; the other method was by digging about the supposed site of some remarkable building in hopes of finding its remains.

Both of these methods were adopted, and we have now advanced so far as to be able to lay down an approximate contoured plan of the city as it existed in olden times, and we have also examined round two-thirds of the Haram Wall on the outside, some part of which is acknowledged by each theorist to have formed part of the outer court of Herod's Temple.

The Holy City is built upon a series of rocky spurs close to the watershed, or backbone of Palestine, and it appears to be quite certain from the nature of the surrounding country, that in early times the site of Jerusalem was a series of rocky slopes, the ledges being covered here and there with a few feet of red earth; when, therefore, we get down to the surface of the rock at the present day (provided it has not been cut) we get down to that surface which presented itself to view in olden times before the first inhabitants built their city: as a rule, however, we have found the rock cut away in steps, with old walls built on them and remains of houses; and this we have found over a great portion of that space to the south of the present city of Jerusalem, shown on your card as lying between the valleys of Hinnom and Kedron; thereby showing that that part was once a portion of the ancient city.

A map, therefore, giving the contours of the rock, as found at the present day, gives a very close approximation to what the surface of the city must have been in early times, and there should not be now the great difficulty there has hitherto been in making the topographical remarks of Josephus apply to the ground.

I cannot, however, say that I can lay out the old city to my entire satisfaction, as there is a portion of ground in the centre of the city where the rock has not yet been found, and on the depth of rock here a good deal depends; a good model, however, made from the contoured plan,

will help very much, as at present it is very difficult to keep out of one's mind the lie of the ground according to the old model, and there will be a very great difference between the two; as in some parts of the town the rock crops up to the level of the streets and has been cut away, while in other parts there are from 30 to 70 feet of *debris*.

A very decided valley will appear running down from the Jaffa Gate to the Tyropeon, near Wilson's Arch; and I am under the impression that the pool of Hezekiah will prove to be the Gihon in the valley where Solomon was anointed King.

The Haram Area of Jerusalem is a raised platform about 1,500ft. from north to south, and 900ft. from east to west, sustained by a massive wall rising 50 to 80ft. above the present level of the ground.

There is no question but that within this area the temple of Herod once stood, and that some part of the retaining wall is on the site of, or actually is, a portion of the old wall of the outer court; and on this account the main strength of our working parties had been centred about it, and we have succeeded in gaining a knowledge of the original appearance of this outer wall on the east and south sides, and on part of the west.

We find that the crest of the rocky spur runs from the north-west angle of this platform in a south-west direction, to the triple gate in the south wall; and that at these two points, and in the line between them, the rock is at the surface; towards the north-east and south-west the rock falls rapidly, so that at those angles it is at depths reaching up to 135ft. below the surface; and the enormous wall is at the present day upwards of 160ft. in height.

The platform is nearly on one level all over, and in the centre is a second platform, about 18ft. higher, on which the dome of the rock stands, covering the Sakhra, or sacred rock of the Mahometans, which is said by them to be a morsel of Paradise.

Round the Haram Walls we have found that the great arch called after Captain Wilson is continued by smaller arches, supporting a secret vaulted passage, apparently for the conduct of soldiers, and leading up towards the great towers at the Jaffa Gate; below this vault we have found other chambers of a more ancient date, ornamented with pilasters and capitals; and lower still we have found an old city gateway. To the south we have examined the great lintel, called after Dr. Barclay, which proves to be over a gateway 30ft. high, the sill of which is some 40ft. above the Tyropeon Valley; farther to the south we have found the pier belonging to the arch called after Dr. Robinson, and the actual fallen voussoirs of the arch, settling the disputed point with regard to the existence of this bridge; and below it we have found a great rock-cut aqueduct, with round rock-cut pools, at intervals, apparently for carrying pure water from the upper pool of Gibon round by the pool of Hezekiah, through the town to Siloam.

We have found that the platform is built over the bottom of the Tyropeon Valley at the south-west angle.

Farther round we have examined the wall to the rock, along the south front, and find the portion west of the double gate to differ from that to the east. We have found a great course of stone 6ft. high running from double gate to south-east angle, from which we may assume this portion to be of one date.

Farther on we have examined the curious water passages under the triple gate, and discovered a very remarkable passage under the single gate. Then at the south-east angle we have found the wall of Ophel, joining in with a straight joint; and at the bottom of the wall, 75ft. below the surface, were found those incised and painted characters which have exercised scholars for some time past, and which are by some considered to be Phœnician, and by others Himyaritic.

Passing up along the east wall, we have found a massive exterior wall in front of the Golden Gate, through which we could not penetrate; and farther still to the north we have examined the north-east angle in the most thorough manner, and the rock all around it.

We have got a totally new conception of the Birket Israil (so-called pool of Bethesda). We find it to lie in a valley running nearly south, so that it has rocky sides to its east and west; and we have found a very curious old overflow chamber, through which the water appears to have escaped to the Kedron, and to which there is a secret staircase apparently leading down, in the thickness of the wall, from chambers in the tower at the north-east angle. We have found this tower to be a remarkable construction of over 180ft. in height at present, 135ft. of which is buried in the ground. At the bottom of this we have found painted characters which are also pronounced to be Phœnician. South of this tower we find the valley running through the pool of Bethesda to come out into the Kedron; and we are certain that north of the dome of the rock the valley is over 100ft. deep; then at the northern edge of the raised platform, we have found that remarkable rock-cut ditch which turns out to favour every theory equally. All these, and a hundred other points of great interest, have been opened up, the mere touching upon which would occupy too long, so I shall content myself with trying to deduce some results from the chaos of materials before us.

Though there is no disputing the opinion that the Temple once stood within the Haram Area, there are the most various theories as to its exact position, many of them founded on very elaborate calculations, which are not easy to be controverted; and were it not that each differs in general results, one might be led to suppose that each must be right.

According to these several theories, the Temple courts are made to occupy in the present Haram Area, the south-west angle, the northern end, the centre, the southern end, and the whole area.

But with regard to the Temple itself, there are scarcely more than two opinions—one places it near the sacred rock of the Mahometans, the other places it in the middle of a square of 600ft. at the south-west angle.

Among all these theories, however, I am not aware of any which has not to reject a portion of the account of Josephus, of the Talmud, or even of the Bible itself. Now my impression is, that the question should be solved without rejecting any portion of the topographical accounts, and I feel convinced that if read in a proper light they would be all found to coincide. At the same time, in stating the views I at present hold on the subject, I feel sure I shall be accused of rejecting a portion of the text of Josephus, viz., that portion in which he speaks of the Temple court having been a square of 600ft. For a long time I could see no getting out of his statement about the 600ft., but at last I saw that the question was reduced to an absurdity; that if the Temple was to be only 600ft. square, it must be in three places at once. On this, I looked more closely into the text, and I think it quite clear that Josephus means that it was the court of King Solomon's Temple that was 600ft. square.

There are two passages. In "Antiquities," xv. xi. 4, it will be seen that the wall was 600ft. a side, and that on the east side was a double cloister, which had been adorned by kings before the time of Herod; but the second passage clears up the obscurity of the first, and distinctly states that this 400 cubits, or 600ft. on the east side, was the work of King Solomon, and that it had not been touched by Herod. I have never seen any stress laid upon the passage, so I will take the liberty of quoting the second at length (xx. x. 7). "So they persuaded him (Agrippa) to rebuild the eastern cloisters. These cloisters belonged to the outer court, and were situated in a deep valley, and had walls that reached 400 cubits, and were built of square and very white stones; the length of each stone was 20 cubits, and their height 6 cubits. This was the work of King Solomon, who first of all built the entire temple"; but King Agrippa refused to pull down these cloisters.

Now we are told (l. xxi.) that Herod doubled the size of the Temple enclosure; so that also with finding on the ground that 600ft. was too small, I begin to feel very little doubt that Herod's Temple was of a larger size.

To return to the passage just now quoted, we find that, as late as King Agrippa's time, this eastern cloister of Solomon was standing, and there can be little doubt that it remained intact until the final destruction of the Temple by Titus; but if so, there is no reason why it should have suffered any more than the other massive walls, and, therefore, we should expect to see from 40ft. to 100ft. in height of this grand old wall still remaining. Josephus tells us it was situated in a deep valley; in other words, it formed part, and must still form part, of the east wall of the present Haram Area. Now we have come across stones 20 cubits long, but not any 6 cubits high. The highest course in the Haram Wall is only 4 cubits, therefore we do not appear yet to have come across the formation of this old cloister; but there is still a space of 600ft. between the Golden Gate and the south-east angle quite unexplored, and it may still be in

there. I was so impressed with the idea that we might come across the wall exactly as described by Josephus that for the last few months I made great efforts to get up to it. I must tell you that, running along this east wall, there is a wide Mahometan cemetery, which makes operations very difficult. We, however, got up about 200ft. along the east wall from the south-east angle, and then were obliged to give it up on account of large stones above us breaking in our mining frames; then I tried opposite a point in the wall about 300ft. south of the Golden Gate, and, after getting to within 63ft. of the wall, had to give it up because we were in very loose soil, and just in front of us were some arched tombs, on the surface, in which a caving in of the earth might have caused a settlement.

I was most unwilling to give the matter up, because it appeared to me to be one of the points on which might hang the solution of a great many questions. The only method now remaining for solving the question in safety would be to obtain permission to sink a shaft alongside the wall, through the cemetery; but it does not appear probable that the scruples of the people could be overcome just at present. In default of examining this wall, I feel it premature to offer an opinion, and must suppose the Haram Wall to be of the same description from the south-east angle to the Golden Gate as we have found it through the first 200ft. On this wall, at the south-east angle, were found the characters incised, and also painted, described by some scholars as Phœnician, and by others as Hînyaritic, so that this wall may very possibly be of the age of Solomon.

I will now endeavour to convey to you my idea of where the Temple of Solomon was. I have said that the ridge of the rock runs down from the north-west angle to the south-east; and it appears to me that the Temple lay somewhere on this ridge, because it seems incredible that a building which was so conspicuous, and was to play such an important part in the fortification of the city, could have been placed down in a hole. Of course it may be said that the site was not selected by an architect, and that it had to be built on the spot where was the threshing-floor of Araunah; but it seems reasonable to suppose that Divine Providence would have caused the threshing-floor to have been placed in such a position as would have been afterwards favourable for the building of the Temple. And then, again, the ridge of the rock is just the place for a threshing-floor, so as to catch every puff of wind for blowing away the chaff after the corn has been trodden out.

Supposing it to have stood on the ridge, then we must give up all idea of its having stood in the south-west or north-east angles. It also could not have stood at the north-west angle, because we are told there was a valley to the north of it, which Pompey partially filled up when he took the city. The only place which suits at all is the centre: place it here, nearly coinciding with the dome of the rock platform, and it appears to suit exactly. It has the valley to the north; it has the raised platform

of the dome of the rock, which is just about the height of the inner court above the outer; it has the unexplored 600ft. of wall south of the Golden Gate, and overlooking the Kedron. But it will be asked, "What about the south-east angle, with its substructions, and its walls with Phœnician characters inscribed thereon?" I think it was Solomon's palace. This is a suggestion which I put forward without any good reason for it, except that Solomon's palace just fits in there, and we know it was close to the Temple, and yet never have been able to suggest any place. The east wall would then have run down from the Golden Gate to the south-east angle enclosing the Temple and the palace, but the cloisters would have stopped short at the 600ft. and gone round the Temple. The palace would then have measured 600ft. by 300ft., and have extended along the south wall from the south-east angle to the Double Gate. The wall now running round from the Double Gate by south-west angle to Barclay's Gate would not then have been in existence, but would have been built by Herod when he enlarged the Temple courts. At this time he would have taken in the palace of Solomon also, and nothing would remain of it except the substructures, which now, though evidently rebuilt at a period after the destruction of the Temple, still go by the name of Solomon's Stables.

There is one difficulty I feel bound to state. Josephus leads one to suppose that on increasing the size of the Temple courts, Herod took in ground from the north, while in this way he is made to take it in from the south; but it is evident, if the Talmud is to be relied on, that the increase must have been to the south, as the Temple is said to have been at the north-west angle; and if the increase had been to the north, the Temple would have remained towards the south. With regard to this passage of Josephus, I do not feel yet quite satisfied that he means the increase was to the north, as I have found some other passages where in the translation the points of the compass are vague. I will endeavour to explain how this may come about: for example, a few weeks ago Dr. Chaplin was making some inquiries for me of a rabbi with regard to the positions of certain synagogues; the answers appeared obscure, and to test his ideas of the compass he was asked on which side of Jerusalem Mount Olivet was; he immediately replied "On the west," and persisted in it; and then it appeared that he had a different view of the subject, and meant that Olivet was looking west at Jerusalem. In the same way an obscure sentence in the original may have been rendered into English in the reverse sense to what should be attached to it.

This position of the Temple of Solomon in the centre of the Haram Area, agrees with the position I suppose Zion to have occupied, which on your card is somewhat north of the word Acra; it also agrees with the direction of the boundary line between Judah and Benjamin as I suppose it to have been drawn.

There have always been several reasons in favour of the Virgin's Fountain being considered En Rogel, though many place it at Bir Eyub; but M. Gaunœau's recent discovery of a rock with a name closely

approaching to Zohelah, appears to be greatly in favour of the Virgin's Fount. We are told that the line of boundary passed Zohelah to En Rogel and thence up the Valley of Hinnom. Now if the Virgin's Fount is En Rogel, then the Kedron must be one with Hinnom.

My impression, then, is that the boundary line after passing the word Siloam on your plan went up the Valley of Kedron or Hinnom as far as the letter K; then went due west across the Haram Area, south of the word Acra, and then across by the Jaffa Gate and Russian property to Lifta.

By this disposition Zion, the citadel, comes in to the tribe of Benjamin, and its low town partly into Benjamin, and partly into Judah, in accordance with the historical accounts; while the Holy of Holies comes into Benjamin, and a portion of the southern part of the Temple courts comes into Judah, exactly as is described by the Talmud when it says that the portion of the Temple supported on arches was in Judah, while that on the solid rock was in Benjamin.

Some of these dispositions are somewhat novel, but you will see that in this way a heap of difficulties are removed; and no fresh ones, as far as I can see, brought up: at the same time, the books of the Old Testament, the Talmud, and Josephus, are found nearly to coincide.

The whole question of the topography is rather one of years than of days, and it is impossible to enter into such a question in a few minutes; but I may mention with regard to the Birket Israil (the so-called Pool of Bethesda) that I believe the present high walls to be the work of the Saracens, and therefore the fine porches may still be found on the southern side under the Haram Area, should permission ever be obtained to examine the wall.

It was a great disappointment to find that the grand aqueduct in the Kedron Valley had never been completed. We had cleared it out for eighteen hundred feet until we had passed Bir Eyub; we had come to a great grotto cut into the form of a pool, with an upper and lower aqueduct leading to it; then a system of staircases cut in the rock leading up by seventy or eighty steps. Suddenly we found the work had never been completed, the staircases led nowhere, and the inhabitants of the city lost their chance, which some of them talked about, of our getting up to the sealed fountains of Jerusalem.

I cannot find that we are any nearer the solution of the difficulties about finding the tomb of David and other kings of Judah, and it appears to me to be quite premature to speculate upon the matter so long as we are uncertain whether the valley from the Damascus Gate flows east to the north of the dome of the rock, or whether it divides Moriah from the western part of the city by a deep valley.

Our excavations for the last few months have been devoted almost entirely to the east wall of the Haram Area, and the last result was a valuable negative one. I could find no trace of any pier in connection with the springing of the arch on the eastern side near the south-east angle.

Some persons have supposed that there may have been a bridge here across the Kedron. I calculated the span of the arch would have been about 25ft., and drove a gallery near the rock between 15ft. and 45ft. from the wall, without finding any signs of the pier; and yet the pier, if it ever existed, should have been still about 30ft. in height, judging by the quantity of *débris* about. I think, therefore, it is probable that no bridge existed then, and that, as M. de Saulcy suggests, the arch was to support a projecting balcony. I do not see any reason for there to have been a great bridge all across the Kedron for the taking over of the red heifer. I should imagine that if an arched causeway had been raised a few feet above the ground, and taking the slope of it, the animal could have been driven down and up again without any difficulty.

The last result we obtained was to find that the stones in the east wall have rough projecting faces, except near the angles, where they are highly finished; this may account for the allusion made in the Psalms to the polished corners of the Temple.

It should be observed, however, that the portions of the wall north of the Golden Gate differ materially in detail from that to the south, and appear to have been built at a different period.

Besides the excavations at Jerusalem, we have been occupied in making reconnaissances outside; a plan has been made of the plain and part of the hill country between Jerusalem and Gaza. The fellahin here were not very amiably disposed when they found what I was about; some of them had been working down at the Suez Canal, and they took it into their heads that I was surveying the country for the construction of a canal between the Mediterranean and Dead Sea, through the Judean Mountains, which they considered would be highly objectionable, and would be the signal for their lands being given up to the Franks.

At one place, Ekron, a Mahometan came up very mysteriously and said that all the people in the village supposed themselves to be descended from Jews, who had been forced to embrace the Moslem faith.

Several of the Mahometans down there seemed to think they had a different God to the Jews and Christians, and some of the more liberal of them said they had no objection to our having a heaven, provided we kept out of their paradise. I was asking one liberal-minded man what became of the souls of the evil-disposed Mahometans on the day of judgment. He said that after all the good ones had walked over the thread passing from the Haram Area to paradise, the bad ones would sit shivering on the brink calling to Mahomet, who would take no notice of them. Then they would go to Abraham and ask him to help them, but he would say the Jews were his *protégés* and he could not help them; then they would go to Christ, but he would say he had enough to do in looking after the Christians; then they would go to Moses, who would get very angry and say he would not help anybody, as he was disgusted with mankind; then they return to Mahomet and beseech him to save them, upon which, after a little thought, he turns them all into fleas and turns himself into a sheep, then they all hop into his wool, and he carries them off in triumph to paradise.

On the east side of Jerusalem I have examined the country on both banks of the Jordan, and believe we are the first Europeans to go up and down along the banks of this river between the Dead Sea and Tiberias. Lieut. Molyneux, R.N., and subsequently Lieutenant Lynch, of the United States, went down the stream some years ago in boats.

We managed to get along in this way: we took one soldier from the Government, and when we passed a Bedouin encampment we sent in and told the sheikh he must provide us with an escort to the next encampment; in this way we went from tribe to tribe with very little trouble, and at a cost of about two dollars a day. The fact was, we came on them before they had time to think about the matter; if we had attempted to make a contract we should have had to pay at least £5 a day—that was the least sum one of the sheikhs would go for.

I was also engaged in surveying part of the Judæan wilderness to east of Jerusalem, and here we had a guard of fellahin, who appear to be paid for running away in time of danger, and they perform their parts admirably. When they see a hostile party approaching to attack, they note the tribe to which it belongs, and then bolt to give information; the party then comes up and robs you if you don't resist, but is afraid to do you much harm, because the tribe is known. Should the guard remain with you they might be disposed of by the hostile party, and then you would be completely in its power. As a rule, however, it is very seldom that life is taken in Palestine, except when individuals are caught alone, because there is a blood revenge, and if a man from one tribe takes the life of another, he must either pay blood-money or one of his tribe will be killed in return.

I have twice had to protect my own guard; once we were jogging along quietly and some black Bedouins came and took his gun away from him, and we went among them and got it back again.

On another occasion I was sitting in my tent when the guard suddenly rushed in and crept under the table, and on looking out I saw two Bedouins stalking him down; it turned out that they were playing him a practical joke. He had a blood-feud with another tribe, and these men were friends of his who had disguised themselves in order to give him a fright.

On the east of Jordan I have made a reconnaissance of nearly all the country included between the two rivers Zerka, of which no map previously existed. South of Amman we came upon a piece of elevated country about four miles square, literally covered with ruins of temples and houses. It must have been most densely populated, and even now it swarms with Bedouins. From one hill we saw over twenty encampments, in one of which there were upwards of sixty large tents.

It was considerably to the south of this, by one day's journey, that the now well-known Meab Stone was discovered by the Reverend F. Klein, of the Church Missionary Society: he found it in the ruin of Dhiban, which had not previously been visited since 1809 by Irby and Mangles.

I have brought home the squeezes and the small portions of the stone which I have been able to get.

No doubt it is unfortunate that the stone should have been so barbarously destroyed by the natives, but things are so uncertain in that country that I consider it a happy chance that we should have been enabled to obtain the information we are already in possession of.

Last summer I was occupied in examining the temples of Cule Syria, and have made plans, I think, of nearly every one. They do not appear to be connected with the older worship on top of Mount Hermon; rather, I think, they were devoted to hero-worship. We found six or eight Greek inscriptions in the Lebanon, and several more at Jerash, which have not yet been published.*

I paid a visit to the Governor-General of Syria, at Damascus, and he was delighted to hear of the reconnaissance which had been made on the east of Jordan, and asked for a copy of it; he also offered to provide us with an escort of cavalry at the public expense if we would continue the survey down as far as Kerah and give him a copy of it. It is not likely that such a chance should occur again, and it is to be hoped that the scheme will not fall through for want of money.

Our new Pasha at Jerusalem is very favourably inclined to the Palestine Exploration Fund: he has been at European courts, and understands that we have no sinister objects in view, and will probably give every help in his power, provided he is kept fully acquainted with what is going on.

The foreign consuls have shown themselves very much interested in our work, and I have received great support from them all at one time or another, and also from the ladies and gentlemen attached to the religious bodies at Jerusalem.

The Jews are also highly interested now that they find that we do not interfere with their tombs; and on one occasion, after our finding the vaults at Wilson's Arch, they came to visit them in swarms, and invited me to a synagogue, where they always put up a prayer for Queen Victoria, and they added one in for the Palestine Exploration Fund and its executive; they were always on the look out for our finding water, as they have a tradition that on the finding of a third spring their Messiah will come, and they consider two to have been found already.

In conclusion, I would tender my thanks to those visitors to Jerusalem, and especially the ladies, who have been down our shafts, and sympathised with and advised me on many difficult subjects.

Sir HENRY RAWLINSON: My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen,—After the very lucid and interesting statement which has been made to you by Captain Warren, it is comparatively easy for me to discharge the duty assigned to me—that of moving the first resolution—a resolution expressing our sense of the importance of the work upon which Captain Warren has been engaged, and tendering a vote of thanks to him for the valuable services which he has rendered to the Palestine Exploration Fund. (Cheers.) Now it would be superfluous on my part

* The Lebanon inscriptions will be found *ib. id.*, pp. 323—330. The Jerash inscriptions appear in the next *Quarterly*.

to attempt to follow Captain Warren in his Report. I should rather wish to draw attention to his personal merits on this occasion. The public at large—and when I say the public, I use the word advisedly, because I am satisfied that there is no one in this Christian country who does not really feel a deep and sincere interest in Palestine—the public I say, at large then, can appreciate the results of Captain Warren's works; but they cannot appreciate and do not appreciate the cost at which those results have been obtained. No one who has not had personal experience in similar operations can realise the personal labour and the wear and tear of mind and body which the traveller undergoes who has been situated like Captain Warren. (Hear, hear.) It is not merely that he has ordinary engineering difficulties to encounter, that he is exposed to the influences of an oppressive and unhealthy climate, and that he is dependent upon lazy and incompetent workmen for his operations; but besides all this he has to struggle, it must be remembered, to say the least of it, with an unsympathising Government. (Cheers.) If we will only throw back our recollections for a few years, we cannot fail to acknowledge that twenty years ago the excavation of Jerusalem would have been an absolute impossibility. Jerusalem itself, with the Mosque of Omar and the sacred precincts, was forbidden to any Christian, and it was at the risk of his life that any one attempted to penetrate them: and even now, notwithstanding the spread of enlightened feelings, and the diminution of fanaticism, it cannot be denied that the Mohammedan Government look with much disfavour upon the supposed desecration of the sacred shrines. I do not, however, wish to be hard upon the Turks in this respect; for I would appeal to the Chairman as to what he would think of a party of foreign savans commencing excavations around York Minster. I think we are bound to make allowances for the sensitiveness of people with regard to their sacred edifices. (Hear, hear.) But what I do feel is that this natural sensitiveness on their part makes it more praiseworthy in Captain Warren that he should have succeeded as he has. It speaks volumes in favour of his patience, his temper, and his diplomatic skill, that he should have overcome these difficulties to such an extent, and achieved the results he has obtained. (Cheers.) Now, my Lord Archbishop has kindly alluded to myself in connection with the Moabite stone; and I would ask permission to say a few words on this subject, which may be called the great discovery of the year. It is a discovery which is no doubt of very great importance, and I think I have perhaps some right to make a few observations upon it, for two reasons:—First, because I have been fortunately instrumental in bringing to light a considerable number of similar monuments bearing upon the early history of the Jewish nation—(cheers)—and also because I believe I was the first person in England who suggested that the Omri of the Dhiban inscription was the king of that name mentioned in Scripture—the founder of Samaria, a king whose name has been brought to our notice on the famous black

obelisk in the British Museum. That is admitted by all oriental students, and I am gratified to be the first to have suggested it. (Hear, hear.) I do not want to take an exaggerated view of the Moabite stone. It has been said on the continent that it is of great importance, but not of that paramount importance that is claimed for it by some people. The great value I would wish to deduce from it is that it ought to be, and is, in fact, an immense stimulus to further research. (Hear.) It is almost impossible, remember, that this can be an isolated record. (Hear, hear.) We already have evidence that the nation adjoining the Jews—the Assyrians—were in the habit, on every occasion of a royal expedition or a conquest, of erecting a commemorative record, and leaving it on the spot as a local memorial. We are also aware that the Phœnicians were in the habit of inscribing sarcophagi and slabs in a similar way. We now find that the Moabites pursued the same practice, and commemorated their local conquests by monumental records. The inference is inevitable that this was the general custom among the Semitic nations inhabiting the country between the Mediterranean and Syria, and that if we are to examine the countries adjoining Palestine, Syria, the country of the Ammonites, and the country of the Moabites, we shall find similar monuments. Now with regard to the Jews themselves, I think it is doubtful whether they ever did erect any such monuments. There is no allusion that I am aware of in the historical books of Scripture to the erection of similar trophies, and I am inclined to think it was regarded as an idolatrous practice, and was therefore forbidden; but in the surrounding nations we have every reason to expect that similar monuments are to be found, and the discovery of this special stone ought to be an incentive to additional research. (Hear, hear.) There is another point of great value to be deduced from the discovery, and that is in relation to the Phœnician characters. Now the squeezes which the meeting will be able to see here exhibit the inscription in its natural size, and in the Phœnician character. There is no sensible difference in the Phœnician characters used on the Moabite stone on the shores of the Mediterranean and the same characters used on the metal weights and clay tablets of Assyria; and I may also quote the stones with builders' marks which have been found in Jerusalem, also with the Phœnician characters. The inference is, therefore, inevitable, that the Phœnician character was the only cursive character used by the Semitic nations; and in that way I should feel confident that if any monument of that early period is found in Jerusalem, it will be found in that character. The Hebrew character did not, I fully believe, exist, even in any modified form, till after the return of the Jews from their captivity. If that can be proved it is an important piece of information, and we shall have been mainly indebted to this Moabite stone for arriving at such a result. (Hear, hear.) There is only one other observation that I will venture to detain the meeting with, and that is with reference to Captain Warren's conduct in respect to this

Moabite stone, Now I followed this matter with much interest throughout, and *I must say he has behaved throughout in the most straightforward and honourable manner.* (Hear.) If any national jealousies have been imported in this question, they have not been imported into it by him or through him. (Hear, hear.) He stated openly that it was a matter of comparative indifference to him, as he knew it would be to the Palestine Exploration Fund, whether the stone was preserved in the Museum of Berlin, or Paris, or London. What he aimed at was that the stone should be preserved intact, and that, at any rate, an accurate copy should be preserved for the knowledge and benefit of all mankind. That his hopes were frustrated, and that the stone was broken, must be a cause of universal regret, but that is owing to circumstances for which Captain Warren cannot in any way be held responsible. (Cheers.) Now I will beg leave to read the resolution, and to recommend it to your favourable consideration. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY, M.P.: Ladies and gentlemen,—I feel that I have no qualification that justifies my occupying more than a single minute of your time; but, as a contributor to the funds of this Association and a member of the Committee, I am desirous to join in the expression, first of our continued interest in the work in which we are engaged, and then of obligation to Captain Warren for the work he has accomplished on our behalf. There is nothing that can in any sense be called denominational in this work. (Hear.) We have to deal with facts, facts as distinct and hard as the stones which have been sent home from our excavations. It should be borne in mind that the extent of the work we accomplish must be measured by the amount of money we receive. I am here to renew the expression of my own readiness to assist the Fund, as I have hitherto done somewhat substantially, and to impress upon all who are present here to-day not to be content with listening to the deeply interesting statements which have been made, and saying "Hear, hear" to a vote of thanks to those who have been helping us, but to give a proof which Englishmen well understand of their interest in the work, by contributing largely to the funds, which I undertake to say will be wisely expended. (Cheers.)

Professor DONALDSON: My Lord Archbishop,—At this late hour of the afternoon it is not for me to occupy much of the time of this meeting. Captain Warren has described particularly well the operations which he has carried on in Jerusalem, and which I saw in the year 1868. Allusion has been made to the manner in which Captain Warren has drawn up his Report, and to the way in which he has conducted himself throughout; but what struck me throughout was his frank way of speaking of his investigations. He did not pretend to make any very great discoveries of large importance, but the results were satisfactory to himself. In accompanying him along the valleys of Jerusalem we went up a long aqueduct which he had discovered, 1200 feet in extent; the intense heat was almost insufferable, and it made us understand what he must have undergone.

(Hear.) I will briefly allude to the Moabite stone. After reading the notice of its discovery in the *Times*, I was engaged in examining a stone from the Testamentum Augusti at Ancyra, and which narrates facts just in the same style as they are related in this. There were two inscriptions, one in Latin and the other in Greek, and in the language, just the self-same laudation, "I did so and so," is repeated in the inscriptions of Augustus at Ancyra. The valley of the Jordan is extremely interesting; but I was especially interested in following Captain Warren's excursion to the northern part about Hermon, and up to the valley of Cœle-Syria. I believe if you were to draw a line across the country from Sebaate to Jerâsh, you would find that all the Roman works are to the north of that line. At Jerusalem there are no Roman works; they are rather Greek than Roman. Captain Warren found upon Hermon those interesting temples which are illustrated in the last number of the Society's *Quarterly*, and which are so extremely interesting. We knew nothing about them at all compared to the extent which Captain Warren has revealed to us. I feel that a large line of separation will have to be drawn as to their dates, which at some future period will be extremely interesting. I will only add that, if Captain Warren returns, I hope the funds will be sufficient to allow him to have an architect draughtsman with him, because we especially want the details of the monuments which he has discovered. I beg pardon for intruding so long upon the meeting, but I could not forbear saying a few words to bear my testimony to the value of the researches by Captain Warren. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE VERY REVEREND THE DEAN OF WESTMINSTER: The resolution which I have to propose is this,—“That it is desirable that special efforts should be made to raise funds to complete the survey of the whole of Palestine, and to proceed with the other objects for which this Society has been established, namely, the accurate and systematic investigation of the archæology, topography, geology, and natural history of the country for Biblical illustration.” I am extremely sorry that the gentleman who was to have moved this resolution, Mr. Deutsch, has been prevented by illness from being present on this occasion; otherwise you would have heard from him much more than it is in my power to say to you on the subject of what is unquestionably by far the most interesting feature of the Palestine Exploration Fund this year,—the discovery of the Moabite stone. If in each year something is discovered which creates as much interest and is likely to prove as important, it will be quite a sufficient reward for our labours. (Hear, hear.) With regard to this point I would once more dwell upon the point upon which Sir Henry Rawlinson has insisted,—that the importance of the discovery of the Moabite stone is not so much in itself—important as that is—as in the proof it furnishes that such stones, such trophies and inscriptions, are likely to be found in other places. Down to this time the most provoking part of Palestine

Exploration was that, whilst the natural features of the country might be fairly well known, and tombs of great antiquity were found in abundance, yet that nothing whatever was found in the way of writing. It was most tantalising to me in Palestine, and must be so to all travellers who come there from Egypt, where every wall and tomb is covered with inscriptions. To come to a country where one is naturally still more desirous to find inscriptions, and to find nothing of the kind at all, is a great disappointment; and the impression was gaining ground that nothing was to be found. This has been dispelled by the discovery of the Moabite stone; and, as it has been said that as "there are more fishes in the sea than are caught," so we may say that there are more Moabitish and Jewish stones than this which has been found at Dhiban. (Hear, hear.) Sir Henry Rawlinson said it was improbable that any such trophies were erected by the Jews themselves. Even if we did not find trophies erected by the Jews, it would be desirable to find those which were erected by neighbouring tribes; but I cannot give up the hope of such trophies being yet discovered. I have taken the liberty of sending for a Bible from the library of the Royal Institution, to refer to the fifteenth chapter of the First Book of Samuel, which describes Saul's victory over the Amalekites; and we read that it was told Samuel that "Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on." Whatever may be the exact meaning of the word in the original, which is there translated "place," it looks very much as if it were meant for a "trophy." The Septuagint translated it by a word similar to "erected a triumphal arch;" and it was probably some kind of trophy. Now if that is recorded in the single case of Saul, there is nothing to prevent its having taken place again and again; and I trust that in this survey which we have in progress, when they come to Carmel—the southern, not the northern Carmel—they may find some trace of this trophy. (Hear, hear.) I will say no more now than again to remind you how much remains to be, and that in this Exploration, at every turn, such monuments and inscriptions may be, found as interesting as the Moabite stone.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. George Groove will second the resolution. (Cheers.) In calling upon Mr. Grove, I must venture to say, in the presence of my brother officials of this Society, that he is virtually the founder and institutor of the Society, and has done wonders for it throughout. (Cheers.)

Mr. GEORGE GROVE: All I have to say has been already said to you by Captain Warren in his interesting and touching statement, and in the general considerations which have been put before you by the Archbishop, by Sir Henry Rawlinson, and by the Dean of Westminster in his own peculiar manner, much better than I can hope to say it; but there are one or two things which, as my heart is very much in this work, I may be perhaps allowed to bring before you. The resolution which I have to second mentions the desirability of special efforts to raise funds to complete the survey of the whole of Palestine.

It will be within the knowledge of the meeting that a great deal has been done already to the survey of the country; but I think we should not deceive ourselves, and that at present the object we should have in view and keep steadily before us is Jerusalem,—the exploration of Jerusalem itself. It is there that we should concentrate our efforts, and everything we do there will tell with most effect. I have heard some remarks from the lips of one of our own speakers, and I heard it from others outside on one or two occasions, as if our progress had not been encouraging, that our progress has been rather discouraging than otherwise. But I cannot think how any one, who can have listened to the statements of Captain Warren, can consider that to be the case. Our progress has not only been not slow, but, considering the enormous difficulties which have been put in our way, and the single-handed manner in which Captain Warren has had to fight them, our progress, instead of being slow, has been encouraging and quick. It is all very well to say that nothing has been found yet inside Jerusalem, because we have not been allowed to get inside. But we do not intend—the governing body do not intend—to drop this thing. (Cheers.) The people of England, whenever the subject has been brought forward, have responded to it in the noblest possible manner. The religious and intelligent public, when applied to, have only asked what we proposed to do with the money; and when we have said, “It is to explore Jerusalem,” they have given it in large sums. We do not intend to let the exploration of Jerusalem slip or go to the wall at all. (Cheers.) What we intend to do, please God, is to get inside the Haram Area, and to explore there in the same way as Captain Warren has outside. It is hardly fair to say that our exploring in Jerusalem is the same thing as if foreigners were to come and explore at York Minster or Westminster, because we know that if we had the same chance of exploring as the Turks have had at Jerusalem, we should have done it ourselves. I speak of this in the driest possible way; and as an official of this Society, I say, back us up with your money; we want it now; we must have a large sum to enable us to resume the excavations which Captain Warren has so successfully proceeded with. (Cheers.) I hope he may be induced to go out again. If not, I hope some one will be found to take his place, and carry it on with equal devotion. I hope that our Report will go out to every man and woman who believes the Bible to be the greatest, and most interesting, and most beautiful document in the world, and to every man and woman who believes that an intelligent and proper exploration of the country in which that book was written will make that book more intelligible. Let those who cannot give largely give small sums; but let us have these small sums in large numbers, for we shall want a large sum of money to enable us to go on with our labours. (Cheers.) I need hardly say anything more after all that has been already said. If I were to do so, it would only be to repeat the great personal interest I feel in the work. I do feel a tremendous confidence that the work which has been carried

on so far will be brought to a happy and successful issue. (Loud cheers.) I take this opportunity, in conclusion, of correcting a little error which I made in a letter which I wrote to the *Times*. I said that Mr. Drake and Mr. Palmer had been sent out in the employment of the Palestine Exploration Fund; whereas Mr. Drake went out at his own expense to investigate the natural history of Palestine, and was aided by the University of Cambridge. I am happy to have the opportunity of acknowledging that mistake. I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution. (Cheers.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. MORRISON proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Captain WILSON, in seconding the vote of thanks, said: When I consider that it is hardly six years since I first went out to Jerusalem, and that at that time it was almost an unknown town, I think it is with great satisfaction that the Palestine Exploration Fund can look upon the diagrams now in this room representing the results of the explorations which have been carried on by Captain Warren. (Hear, hear.) When I went out everybody followed me with gloomy predictions. I was told that we could not go out at night, and that we could not carry on the survey in a place where Mohammedans ruled; but when we brought back the plans we had made there, people began to alter their opinion. I am very glad that Captain Warren has followed the matter up, and brought to light so many interesting features in the topography of Jerusalem. I think it will be a most important thing if he can give us a plan of Jerusalem as it was in the time of our Saviour, and then people can build their different theories upon that. (Hear, hear.) As you are aware, I was in Sinai last year, engaged in the Ordnance Survey of that country. His Grace has kindly alluded to our labours there, and I am happy to find that they have been—as the editor of the “Speakers’ Commentary on the Bible” has been kind enough to say—of very great use to him with reference to the various points connected with “The Mountain of the Law in the Peninsula.”

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN: I am very much obliged to Mr. Morrison and Captain Wilson for the mode in which they have proposed and seconded this vote, and to the meeting for the manner in which you have received it. I take such a vote to express general satisfaction in the purposes of a public meeting; and I will just mention that one gentleman has given me a mute testimonial of the same feeling in the shape of a card, bearing upon it a short but intelligible inscription—to wit, the amount of the donation he intended to give to the Society. I will gladly receive, either now or through the treasurer, similar votes of thanks to myself. I have only to thank you, and to say that I think you have had a very satisfactory account of the proceedings of the Palestine Exploration Fund. (Cheers.)