

account of the part taken by the Prussian Consulate in the acquisition of the stone.

With regard to M. Ganneau, it appears that, hearing from Salt of the existence of the stone, he sent an Arab to the Beni Hamed, who, in his attempt to obtain a squeeze of the stone, was so roughly dealt with that he was glad to make his escape with a few pieces of wet paper. M. Ganneau himself, after his many years' experience in Jerusalem, did not attempt the costly journey to the other side, because he was well aware of the risk run by any European on such a quest amongst the Bedouins. After the fracture of the stone, he and Capt. Warren obtained, through an Arab, a squeeze of the two chief portions, as well as of some of the smaller pieces, and from these he commenced his restoration of the inscription, which was afterwards forwarded to the Count de Vogüé.

The result of the above official statement is, that the stone was discovered by Mr. Klein, the German preacher; that that gentleman informed the German Consulate of the same, with the view to their obtaining it; that a contract for its purchase was concluded between the Consulate and the possessors, and that the delivery of the stone to the Consulate was ordered by the Turkish Government. The ordinary rules of discretion would seem to have demanded that nobody should have interfered in the transaction until it had been regularly brought to a conclusion, or broken off.

H. PETERMANN."

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#### ADDITIONAL NOTE ON THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN SYRIA.

THIS winter at Cairo, meeting with Yacoob esh Shellaby of Nablus, I asked him whether he had ever heard of the discovery of native gold in Syria. He said he had upon several occasions, and had seen specimens which had been found by countrymen *in the Jordan valley*. The nugget brought to me at Sebastiyeh referred to at p. 89, *Quarterly Statement*, 1st series, may probably have come from the same locality.

GREVILLE J. CHESTER.

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#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND,

HELD AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTION, 29TH JUNE, 1871.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK IN THE CHAIR.

The CHAIRMAN: I will first call upon the Rev. F. W. Holland, one of the Honorary Secretaries, to read the Report:—

Mr. Holland then read the Report:

"The Report which the Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund