

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

PREFACE.

DURING the winter months necessarily spent in England the officers of the Survey are engaged upon the office work connected with the great map of Palestine. For this purpose a room has been engaged in London. The materials brought home by Lieutenants Conder and Kitchener are of far greater importance than was expected. They consist of an addition to the map-work of 1,600 square miles, chiefly lying in the territory of Judah and Philistia. About 180 square miles of Lower Galilee are accomplished. There remain only some 1,400 square miles to complete the map of Western Palestine from Dan to Beersheba. We may therefore look forward with some confidence to the speedy completion of this part of our work. The reconnaissance of the Negeb, or South Country, with the examination of the ruined cities of that district, and a few disputed sites, will follow.

About 20 miles of levelling between the Mediterranean and the Sea of Galilee have been concluded. It was for this object that the British Association made, in 1874, a grant of £100. A very large number of names have been collected in the low hills of the Shephelah, the proportion previously unknown being nearly nine-tenths. The number of special plans is now 83. Among the new ones are surveys of Ascalon, Arsuf, and Beisan, to the scale of a foot to the mile, and one of Masada, showing the positions of the Roman camp and the wall of circumvallation. Among the most interesting late ruins of Palestine are those of the churches. We have now

special plans of thirty of these. Notes on the architectural features of these have appeared from time to time in Lieutenant Conder's reports. The Crusading castles, also of interest from an architectural point of view, have been planned. A very large number of masons' marks have been collected.

Lieutenant Kitchener's photographs are about to be published. A selected list will be found in another page. Among them are many views never before taken, and of the highest Biblical interest, such as the Valley of Elah, the Valley of Sorek, two views of M. Clermont-Ganneau's proposed site of Adullam, the site of Jonathan's attack on the camp of the Philistines, and others. The descriptive letterpress of these photographs will be written by Lieutenant Kitchener himself.

The notes accumulated during the year's work have been far more voluminous than our published reports would seem to show. These reports, indeed, are but a very small part of the whole, which can only be published when the work is completed, and when the descriptions can be accompanied by plans, sketches, and illustrations. Among the notes are some obtained from one of the last surviving monks of Carmel, on the Carmel convents. The identifications newly proposed are now over one hundred. Some of these have been combated, but the Committee, while putting them forward as Lieutenant Conder's conclusions, would ask the readers of the *Quarterly Statement*, if they cannot accept them, to refrain from comment until they can be tested by the safest method of proof, a comparison with the map itself.

The preparations for the return of the party will commence almost immediately, and it is hoped they will again be afield at the commencement of early spring.

With regard to the attack on the Survey Party we have little to report except what will be found in the next page. The claim made by the Consul for payment of expenses incurred is still under consideration.

The plan for diocesan representatives will, it is hoped, lead to a general increase of interest among Church of England people. The Committee are most anxious to let it be known that they are not departing from the undenominational character which the Society

has always preserved. Any suggestions for a similar use of Nonconformist organisations will be gratefully received and considered.

The income of the Fund during the year 1875 has shown a gratifying increase. We ask for continued and *early* support during 1876, the tenth year of our existence.

NOTES.

While desiring to give every publicity to proposed identifications by officers of the Fund, the Committee beg it to be distinctly understood that they leave such proposals to be discussed on their own merits, and that by publishing them in the *Quarterly Statement* the Committee do not sanction or adopt them.

Annual subscribers are earnestly requested to forward their subscriptions for the current year at their *earliest convenience* and without waiting for application. It is best to cross all cheques to Coutts and Co., and if so crossed they may be left payable to bearer.

The Committee are always grateful for the return of old numbers of the *Quarterly Statement*, especially those which are advertised as out of print.

The amount received at the central office between September 30th and December 28th was £1003 8s. 8d. The balance of current accounts at the latter date was £184 12s. 8d.

Ladies desirous of joining the Ladies' Associations are requested to communicate with Mrs. Finn, The Elms, Brook Green, London, W.

Cases for binding the *Quarterly Statements* are now ready, and can be had on application to Messrs. R. Bentley and Son, 8, New Burlington Street, or to the office of the Fund. They are in green or brown cloth, with the stamp of the Society, uniform in appearance with "Our Work in Palestine," price one shilling. They can be obtained for any year by subscribers who have procured their sets.

DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES.

The Committee have resolved upon obtaining, if possible, a representative and lecturer for every Diocese in England, who will be prepared to give lectures or to preach in behalf of the Fund, and to act generally as organising secretaries within the limits assigned to them. These appointments are by no means intended as a departure from the neutral ground on which the Society rests; but solely as a help to Church of England supporters to the Fund, and, as stated elsewhere, the Committee will be very glad to use the organisation of the Nonconformist bodies in any practicable way which may be suggested.

The following gentlemen have already kindly offered their services:—

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

Diocese of Exeter: Rev. Franklin Bellamy, St. Mary's Vicarage, Devonport.

Gloucester and Bristol: E. H. Stanley, Esq., 80, City Road, Bristol.

Archdeaconry of Hereford: Rev. J. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Wellington Heath Vicarage, Ledbury.

Archdeaconry of Salop: Rev. A. F. Forbes, Badger Rectory.

„ Lichfield: „ „

London: Rev. Henry Geary, 26B, North Audley Street.

Norwich: Rev. F. C. Long, Stowupland, Stowmarket.

Essex: Rev. W. H. A. Emna, Great Blakenham Rectory.

Peterborough: Rev. A. F. Foster, Farndish Rectory, Wellingborough.

Worcester: Rev. F. W. Holland, Evesham (Member of General and Executive Committee, and one of the Hon. Secretaries to the Fund).

Archdeaconry of Surrey: Rev. R. J. Griffiths, 10, Trafalgar Road, Old Kent Road, S.E.

PROVINCE OF YORK.

York: Rev. J. De Courcy Baldwin, Training College, York.

Archdeaconry of Craven: Rev. J. C. Henley, Kirkby Malham Vicarage.

It is hoped to fill up this list before the next *Quarterly Statement*.

Suggestions and offers of help from Scotland and Ireland will be most gratefully received.

LADIES' ASSOCIATIONS.

Drawing-room meetings have been held in various places during the last three months. Mr. and Mrs. F. Braby, of Sydenham, gathered a number of their friends together on the evening of Nov. 10, to hear from Mrs. Finn an account of the work. Photographs and water-colour drawings were used to illustrate the subject, and a Ladies' Association for Sydenham was at once formed.

In Edinburgh and Glasgow a series of drawing-room meetings has been held. One on Nov. 12, at the house of the Misses Stevenson, where about 130 were present and listened to the sketch of our work given in about an hour and a half with the help of photographs and drawings, and of a model specially prepared of Mount Moriah and the Temple Enclosure in accordance with the

survey and discoveries of Major Wilson and Captain Warren. Here, and at the succeeding meetings in other houses, contributions were made to the Fund. The Rev. Mr. White (successor to Dr. Candlish), spoke at this meeting.

The next meeting was held on November 15th at the house of the Dean and the Hon. Mrs. Montgomery. The Dean opened the proceedings; among the visitors was the Bishop of Edinburgh.

On November 17th a meeting was held at the house of the Rev. V. G. and Mrs. Faithfull, and on the next day, the 18th, at the house of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Main. Mr. W. Dickson, who had himself been in Jerusalem, followed up the account of the exploration, giving the results of his own experience and travels in the Holy Land. The Rev. Mr. Main also spoke, and pointed out in a few forcible sentences the immense value, as shown by these recent discoveries, of the apparently "dry lists of names" contained in the Bible, but which now give us invaluable evidence as to the accuracy of Holy Writ. Mr. Sheriff Campbell added his testimony as to the value, in a legal point of view, of evidence of this nature. Dr. Moir also spoke.

On Saturday, Nov. 20, a meeting was held at Lord and Lady Teignmouth's, and the proceedings were opened by Lord Teignmouth. After Mrs. Finn had described the Exploration work, the Bishop of Edinburgh summed up, drawing attention to the wonderful and unexpected results of the work done in laying bare the mighty works of old, beneath the vast accumulation of rubbish and *débris* in Jerusalem, and well described the accounts of the explorers as being as interesting as a romance in their wonderful details.

The last meeting in Edinburgh was at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Caird, and was presided over by the Rev. F. Horatius Bonar, who opened the proceedings, and spoke with the keenest interest as having himself visited the Holy City, and having followed the reports of the work done and doing there as one who has been on the spot cannot help doing. Mr. W. Dickson spoke here, also, and earnestly commended the work to those present as one which it was a national disgrace to leave incomplete.

The result of these meetings was the formation of an influential Ladies' Association, and a considerable sum was contributed in money. Our warm thanks are due to the ladies and gentlemen above mentioned, and to the Bishop of Edinburgh, for the hearty support which has been given to this effort on behalf of our work.

At Glasgow the meetings were arranged by the local secretaries, the Rev. Donald Macleod, Rev. Prof. Dickson, and Mr. McGrigor, with the active and most kind co-operation of their lady friends. Mrs. Macleod had the first meeting in her own drawing-room on Nov. 23; the next was held at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Collins. The Rev. D. Macleod made a long and interesting speech, kindly here and elsewhere assisting in the proceedings, which, on account of the absence of Mrs. Finn through illness, were conducted by her daughter. Meetings were held at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Alston (Nov. 26), Mr. and Mrs. McGrigor (Nov. 27), Sir James and Miss Watson (Nov. 29). A large meeting of ladies was addressed on Dec. 2, and on the evening of the same day Mrs. Archibald Watson assembled a large party of her friends, among whom was Lieut. Van de Velde, to whose early survey of Palestine, in 1852, we owe the fullest map of the country hitherto published. Here in Glasgow, as in Edinburgh, the ladies have formed an association with the intention of doing all in their power to assist in raising the funds needed for a vigorous prosecution of the work begun by the Palestine Exploration Fund.

Mrs. Finn (The Elms, Brook Green, W.) will gladly give assistance to any ladies who may be disposed to follow the examples given above, by interesting their friends in our work, and helping us to bring it to a successful conclusion.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHS.

Lieutenant Kitchener has brought home with him a small collection of photographs, which have been added to the list of those already published. A selection of twelve will be issued immediately with descriptive letterpress by Lieutenant Kitchener himself (price one guinea). The others will follow. They can be procured of the agent, Mr. Edward Stanford, 56, Charing Cross. The following is a list of the selected twelve :—

1. The Valley of Sorek (1 Sam. vi. 12).
 2. The Valley of Michmash (Judges xx. 31, and Isaiah x. 28).
 3. Mount Moriah.
 4. The Mosque El Aksa.
 5. Elisha's Fountain (2 Kings ii. 22).
 6. Bethlehem.
 7. Interior of the Dome of the Rock.
 8. The Baptism in Jordan.
 9. Cana in Galilee.
 10. Bethany.
 11. The Way of the Cross.
 12. The Holy Sepulchre.
-