



DOORWAY OF NEWLY-DISCOVERED SYNAGOGUE AT SÜFSÂF.

(From a Photograph by Lieutenant Kitchener.,

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The two points of greatest interest at the present moment are : (1) the Publication of the Map, and (2) the Future Work of the Fund. With regard to the former, the Executive Committee have announced (see report of meeting of General Committee, p. 108) that by an arrangement made with the Ordnance Survey Department the whole of the sheets are now being photo-lithographed and prepared for publication by the Director of the Ordnance Survey. They are also being photographed to a scale of three-eighths, on which scale they will be laid down on three sheets, which will form the reduced Map. It is proposed that this shall be engraved as possible, and published simultaneously with the larger Map. It is expected that the two Maps, the greater and the lesser, will be issued early next year.

With regard to the Memoirs, Special Plans, &c., the Executive Committee are not at present in a position to recommend any method for their publication. The work will be of a very voluminous and costly nature, embracing long lists of Arabic names with their English equivalents, which will have to be carefully examined by an Arabic scholar, the whole of the notes prepared by Lieutenants Conder and Kitchener, and a large number of special plans and drawings made for the Committee by the officers of the Survey, by Majors Wilson and Warren, Captain Anderson, Professor Palmer, Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake, and M. Lecomte (the architect who accompanied M. Clermont Ganneau).

The work proposed for the immediate future will be found in the Report of the Executive Committee. It is recommended to organise and dispatch a special expedition with the object of examining, by means of excavation where necessary, the shores of the Sea of Galilee, and the determination by this method of the sites of Capernaum, Chorazin, Bethsaida, and the other places on these shores

associated with the New Testament history. A detailed prospectus showing what is wanted and how it is proposed to supply that want will be issued without delay.

Meantime Lieutenant Kitchener is occupied at the working office of the Fund, South Kensington Museum, in laying down the reduction of the Map, and in finishing his Memoirs. He calculates that he has six months' work before him.

Lieutenant Conder's Memoirs were finished on April 30th, when he formally handed over everything to the Committee, and took his leave of the Society, in whose service he has worked for more than six years. He has accepted, however, an invitation to join the list of General Committee, so that the advantage of his counsel and experience may still be looked for.

His book, "Tent Work in Palestine," was published on Monday, June 3rd. Extracts from it will be found farther on (page 114). Meantime subscribers who wish to take advantage of the reduction of 27 per cent. in the price (17s. 6d.) are requested to forward their names to the office, 11 and 12, Charing Cross, with as little delay as possible.

Invitations to join the General Committee have been issued to the following gentlemen :—

Lord Talbot De Malahide.
 The Bishop Designate of Lichfield.
 Col. Sir John Cowell, K.C.B.
 Sir Howard Elphinstone, K.C.B., C.M.G.
 General Cameron, R.E.
 Colonel Home, R.E., C.B., C.M.G.
 Dr. Erasmus Wilson.
 Lieutenant Conder, R.E.

Major Warren, R.E., C.M.G., now in command of a troop of cavalry (the Diamond Fields Horse) at the Cape, retires from the Executive Committee the following members of General Committee have been invited to join the Executive :—

Lord Dufferin,
 Mr. William Simpson, F.R.G.S.

The income of the Fund from all sources from March 28th, 1878, to June 27th, 1878, was £519 18s. 8d. The expenditure was as follows : Exploration (expenses of survey party), £262 8s. 6d. ; printing, £168 15s. 8d. ; office management, and bills, £221 6s. 3d.

Subscribers are entreated not to think that the expenses of the Fund are over because the field work in Western Palestine is finished. The monthly expenses amount to about £180; the liabilities of the Committee are not yet discharged, and provision must be made for the future work.

For the next six months, while the working office at the South Kensington Museum will be occupied by Lieutenant Kitchener and his noncommissioned officers, friends of the Fund are invited to call at that office and see such portions of the Map as may be then under their hands.

The death of Earl Russell deprives the Fund of one who had been a member of General Committee from the very foundation of the Society. Lord Russell showed his continued interest in the work of the Committee by a donation—his second—made to the Fund in 1875.

Several cases have been at various times discovered of postage stamps being lost on their way to the office. The only way to avoid such loss is to send money by P.O.O. or by cheque, *in every case payable to the order of Walter Besant, and crossed to Coutts and Co., or the Union Bank, Charing Cross Branch.*

The ninth thousand of "Our Work in Palestine" is now ready (price 3s. 6d.), and may be ordered of booksellers. This book carries the work down to the commencement of the Survey, but does not embrace M. Ganneau's discoveries nor the results of the Survey itself.

The following are at present Representatives and Lecturers of the Society, in addition to the local Hon. Secs. :—

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

City and neighbourhood of Manchester: Rev. W. F. Birch, St. Saviour's Rectory.

Lancashire: Rev. John Bone, St. Thomas's Vicarage, Lancaster.

London: Rev. Henry Geary, 16, Somerset Street, Portman Square.

Norwich: Rev. W. F. Creeny.

Suffolk: Rev. F. C. Long, Stow-upland, Stowmarket.

Peterborough: Rev. A. J. 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).

Diocese of Ripon: Rev. T. C. Henley, Kirkby Malham Vicarage.

North Wales: Rev. John Jones, Treborth, Bangor.

Yorkshire, Durham, and the North: Rev. James King, 13, Paradise Terrace, Darlington. Mr. King has now returned from the Holy Land; communications for lectures, &c., can be sent to the Office at Charing Cross.

IRELAND.—Diocese of Armagh : Rev. J. H. Townsend.

Rev. G. J. Stokes, Blackrock, Dublin.

SCOTLAND.—Rev. R. J. Craig, Dalgetty, Burntisland.

The Rev. Horrocks Cocks, 19, Edwardes Square, Kensington, has also kindly offered his services among the Nonconformist churches.

While desiring to give every publicity to proposed identifications and other conclusions arrived at 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 when due, at their *earliest convenience*, and without waiting for application.

The Committee are always glad to receive old numbers of the *Quarterly Statement*, especially those which have been advertised as out of print.

Attention is called to the statement already advertised, that subscribers the Fund are privileged by the publishers to receive both the "Literary Remains of the late Mr. C. F. Tyrwhitt Drake," and the "Underground Jerusalem" of Captain Warren, at reduced rates. The former book will be sent for ten shillings, the latter for sixteen shillings, postage paid. But letters asking for them must be sent to the office at 11 and 12, Charing Cross only.

Cases for binding the *Quarterly Statement* are now ready, and can be had on application to Messrs. R. Bentley and Son, 8, New Burlington Street. They are in green or brown cloth, with the stamp of the Society, uniform in appearance with "Our Work in Palestine," and are sold at the price of eighteenpence.

Lieut. Kitchener's Guinea Book of Biblical Photographs can be bought at Mr. Stanford's establishment, 55, Charing Cross. It contains twelve views, with a short account of each. They are mounted on tinted boards, and handsomely bound.

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

THE General Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday, June 11th, at the Society's Offices at Charing Cross.

The Chair was taken by Professor Donaldson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the following Report of the Executive Committee was read.