

they have not surveyed the country ; the result of their reconnaissances is in fact, this map which I hold in my hand ; and it is now distinctly understood by them that we are to take up the real survey. Colonel Warren made some reference to the money that we should want, and as I am on my feet, perhaps it would be well that I should state that we are entirely out of debt, and we have at the bankers' more than a thousand pounds. One other remark. We have heard read portions of an interesting letter of Mons. Ganneau. Though it is not quite arranged at present, we hope that Mons. Ganneau will become our monthly correspondent in Palestine ; and if he discovers anything there, we have a great hope that we shall soon know the result of his labours.

Rev. F. W. HOLLAND. I have great pleasure in rising to propose a vote of thanks to the Dean of Westminster for kindly presiding upon this occasion, also for allowing us the use of this room. We have very often had to thank the Dean for his kind assistance at our meetings, and in other ways ; and I can only express the hope that he will feel rewarded to-day by the character of this meeting, and that we shall bring our work to a happy conclusion.

Mr. GLAISHER. It is my pleasing duty to second that. Ten years ago, in this room, the Dean was here ; the Archbishop was in the chair ; and to see the Dean still taking that same lively interest in Palestine that he expressed then, is a great pleasure, and you may readily know how gratified I feel at performing the duty of seconding this motion.

The DEAN of WESTMINSTER. I accept your resolution with thanks, and re-echo your wish for the success of the undertaking.

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The following is the Pamphlet referred to by Mr. Glaisher (p. 6). It is the Prospectus of the—

## NEW SURVEY OF EASTERN PALESTINE.

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THE following objects were proposed in the original prospectus of the Palestine Exploration Fund, issued in 1865 :—

- “1. *Archæology*.—To search *below the surface* in Jerusalem ; to examine the mounds and ruins which lie scattered over the whole country, and to gather from them the buried secrets which may help us better to understand the Sacred History.
- “2. *Topography*.—To complete the survey of Palestine, of which the coast-line is already accurately mapped in the Admiralty charts.
- “3. *Geology*.—Of which we still remain in comparative ignorance.

- “ 4. *Natural Sciences.*—*Botany, Zoology, Meteorology.*—These are at present but very imperfectly known, while the recent investigations of Mr. Tristram, limited as they necessarily were, show that researches are likely to furnish results of no common scientific interest.
- “ 5. *Manners and Customs.*—To do for the Holy Land what Mr. Lane’s ‘Modern Egyptians’ has done for Egypt—describe in a systematic and exhaustive order, with clear and exact minuteness, the manners, habits, rites, and language of the present inhabitants, with engravings intended, like his, ‘not to embellish the pages, but to explain the text.’”

On the conclusion of their excavations at Jerusalem, in the year 1870, the Committee undertook the Survey of Western Palestine, a great work in which they have been occupied without interruption for nine years.

Survey of  
Western  
Palestine.

This part of the Survey is now happily completed and the Great Map in 26 sheets is already in the hands of subscribers, while the volumes of the memoirs and the reduced maps are well advanced and will very shortly be issued.

These memoirs, as has been already set forth in the *Quarterly Statement*, comprise not only a detailed description of the country, with its ruins, villages, mountains, streams, etc., by the officers in charge of the Expedition; but also separate papers and essays by Colonels Wilson and Warren, Canon Tristram, Mr. Glaisher, Prof. Palmer, Mr. Trelawney Saunders, and others. One of the three reduced maps will show the position of the places mentioned in the Old Testament; the second will give those of the New, the third will be a modern map.

The Memoirs.

The Reduced  
Maps.

The large scale map is generally acknowledged to be the greatest contribution rendered to the study of the Bible since its translation into English: while the accuracy of the information obtained and the short space of time taken to complete and produce it compare favourably with any Government survey. The value of the work is highly appreciated by foreign as well as by English scholars; one of the most venerable of English theologians writes to say that he thanks God that he has lived to see it completed.

The Great Map.

This map contains the whole of Western Palestine, having for its eastern boundary the River Jordan and the Dead Sea.

But Eastern Palestine has yet to be surveyed.

The present condition of our knowledge of this great district resembles very much that of Western Palestine when the Survey was first com-

Eastern  
Palestine.

menced. The country has been visited by many travellers, who have described its general features and many of its ruined cities. Among these travellers may be mentioned Burckhardt, Seetzen, Wetzstein, Irby and Mangles, Lord Lindsay, De Vogüé, Waddington, De Luynes, Porter, Costigan, Lynch, Molyneux, Robinson, Cyril Graham, Thomson, Tipping, Tristram, MacGregor, Eaton, Zeller, Wilson and Anderson, Warren, Burton, Drake, Palmer, Socin, Steever, Merrill, Klein, Freshfield and Oliphant.

Our own expeditions under Lieut. Warren and those of the American Exploration Society east of Jordan have made reconnaissances which will facilitate the work now proposed.

The country to be surveyed comprises the following districts or provinces :—

I. Bashan, the "level" land, which extends from the southern slopes of Mount Hermon to Gilead on the south, the southern frontier being the River Hieromax, now called the Nahr Yarmūk or the Sherlat el Mandhūr. Bashan is subdivided into :—

- a. *Jetur* (*Ituræa*), now called *Jedur*, of which Philip was tetrarch (Luke iii, 1) named after *Jetur*, the son of *Ishmael* (Gen. xxv, 15, 16). It was conquered by the *Manassites* (1 Chron. v, 18–23), who lived there until the Captivity. This country contains the southern and eastern slopes of *Hermon* and the table-land eastward.
- b. The district named after the city of *Golan* (*Gaulanitis*) now called *Jalân*. This is a table-land rising by terraces from the *Jordan Valley*. The city (*Josh. xx, 8*), which gave a name to the district, has yet to be identified. Dr. Porter says that there are a hundred and twenty-seven ruined towns in it, among them the ancient towns of *Aphek*, *Gergesa*, *Bethsaida*, *Hippos*, *Gamala* and *Ashtaroth*.
- c. The *Hauran* (*Auranitis*), a level land, with the ruins of 150 towns, the buildings of which are still remaining in good preservation, many of them with roofs, doors, and window shutters, all of stone and still in their places. A vast number of Greek and Roman inscriptions have been collected in this district. Those found by MM. de Vogüé and Waddington have been published in de Vogüé's magnificent work on the architecture and archæology of Central Syria.
- d. The *Argob* or *Trachonitis*, now called *el Lejah*, the "place of refuge," which is, correctly, a part of the *Hauran*. This formed part of

the kingdom of Og (Deut. iii, 4, 5), when it held threescore cities "fenced with high walls." Remains of more than sixty cities have been found here, but it has been but little visited of late, and never completely explored.

- e. East of the Hauran is the district of Batanæa containing the Hill of Bashan. This country is that of the Maachathites (Deut. iii, 14; Josh. xii, 5; 2 Sam. x, 6; 1 Chron. xix, 7).

II. The land of Gilead, including territory allotted to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and part of Manasseh, extending southwards as far as the river Arnon. Of this country Canon Tristram writes ("Bible Places," p. 322)—

"The name of Gilead is still preserved in Jebel Jilad, little south of the Jabbok, one of the highest points of the mountain range which rises near 4,000 feet from the Valley of the Jordan beneath it. In all Gilead, whether forest, prairie, or valley, there is a wild grandeur, unequalled in any other part of Palestine. Rising abruptly from the Jordan Valley, its western bluffs are deeply furrowed by the many streams which drain the mountain sides.

"The traveller rides up and down deep concealed glens: sometimes by a track meandering along the banks of a brook, with a dense fringe of oleanders, 'willows by the water-courses,' shading it from the sun and preventing summer evaporation, while they waste their perfume on the desert air without a human inhabitant near. Lovely knolls and dells open out at every turn, gently rising to the wooded plateau above. Then we rise to higher ground and ride through noble forests of oak. Then for a mile or two through luxuriant green corn, or perhaps through a rich forest of scattered olive-trees, left untended and uncared for, with perhaps patches of corn in the open glades.

"No one can fairly judge of Israel's heritage who has not seen the luxuriant exuberance of Gilead, as well as the hard rocks of Judæa, which only yield *their* abundance to reward constant toil and care. To compare the two is to contrast nakedness and luxuriance. Yet the present state of Gilead is just what Western Palestine was in the days of Abraham. Subsequently the Canaanites must have extensively cleared it, even before the conquest, and while the slopes and terraces were clad with olive-groves, the amount of rainfall was not affected. The terraces have crumbled away; wars and neglect have destroyed the groves, until it would be difficult to find any two neighbouring districts more strangely contrasted than the east and west of Jordan. But this is simply caused by the greater amount of rainfall on the east side, attracted by the forests, which have perished off the opposite hills. The area of drainage is about the same on each side. The ravines and wadys are numerous; but few of the streams are perennial on the west—*all* are so on the east. Every stream draining from Moab and Gilead is filled with fishes and fresh-water shells. I never found living fresh-water shells but in two streams on the west side."

III. Moab, whose principal cities are Dibon (where the Moabite stone was found), Rabbath Moab, and Kir Haraseth.

"The whole of the country is a table-land, with the ridge nearly 3,000 feet above the sea, and therefore more than 4,000 above the Dead Sea, from which it rises precipitously by a series of terraces so narrow and broken that passage is impossible; and then from the crest, scarcely more than from two to four miles retired from the sea, it gently slopes into the vast Belka, or "plain country," and the boundless wilderness beyond. It is deeply ploughed and seamed to its very centre by the stupendous ravines of the *Callirrhoe* (Zerka Ma'in) and the *Arnon* (Mojib), besides minor wadys."—Tristram's "Bible Places," p. 345.

The survey of this country will be conducted on the same system as that of Western Palestine; that is to say, the officer in command will be instructed:—

1. To produce an accurate map on a scale of one inch to a mile.
2. To draw special plans of important localities, and ruined cities.
3. To make drawings or take photographs of buildings, sites, tombs, etc.
4. To collect all the names to be found.
5. To collect geological specimens, antiquities, etc.
6. To make casts, squeezes, photographs, and copies of inscriptions.
7. To collect legends, traditions, and folk-lore.
8. To observe and record manners and customs.
9. To excavate if time and opportunity permit.

Where assistance is required in any of the above divisions it will be given, as in the "Survey of Western Palestine," by gentlemen who have made those subjects their special study.

The following are some of the Biblical events connected with this part of the country:—

The battles of the "four kings against five" (Gen. xiv, 1-12); the destruction of the Cities of the Plain; the meeting of Jacob and Laban; that of Jacob and Esau; Jacob's vision at Mahanaim; the wrestling at Penuel; the conquest of Sihon by Moses; the battle of Edrei; the "Pisgah View;" the death and burial of Moses; the story of Balak and Balaam; the division of the land among the two and a-half tribes; the establishment of the three Levitical cities; the wars of the Manassites and Gadites with the Hagarites; the pursuit of Gideon; the revolt and victories of Jephthah; the wars of David against Ammon; the flight of Saul's sons, and that of David; the campaigns of Ahab and his son Joram with their allies, Jehoshaphat and Ahaziah; the wars with Moab; the birth of Elijah; the invasion of Tiglath Pilezar and of Hazael, and the captivity of the tribes.

Here is the River Arnon, the boundary between Moab and the Amorites, on whose banks stood Aroer, and the mysterious city "in the midst of the river." Here are Heshbon the capital of Sihon not far from Jahaz, where that king met with his overthrow; Rabbath Ammon, the one city belonging to the Ammonites, besieged by Joab, and taken by David; Ramoth Gilead, which played so great a part in the wars between the Syrians and the kingdom of Judah; Gadara, whose modern inhabitants, like the demoniacs of the miracle which associates the city with the New Testament, dwell in the ancient tombs; Bethsaida Julias, the scene of the miracle of Mark vi, 31-53; Cæsarea Philippi, the northernmost point of our Lord's wanderings, where Herod built his temple of white marble; Damascus, with the rivers Pharpar and Abana; the Bozrah of Jerem. xviii, 24; the river Jabbok, where Esau and Jacob met, the boundary of the Ammonites; Machærus, where John the Baptist was beheaded; Callirrhoe, whither Herod the Great repaired in hopes of recovery from his disease. On this side are also the great palace of Hyrcanus (Arakel Emir); the unfinished palace of Chosroes the Second (Mashita); the fortress of Kerak, where Mesha sacrificed his son; and Dibon where the Moabite stone was found. We must not forget, also, that it was on this side that the Christian Church found a refuge during the troubled times of the siege by Titus.

The Committee invite a comparison of the three following maps. The first shows a piece of Western Palestine before the survey; the second, the same piece after the survey; the third, a piece of Eastern Palestine as it can now be mapped. The last mentioned portion selected for illustration is not exceptionally unknown; it is a piece of the country adjoining the Sea of Galilee.

Comparative  
Maps.

The following are the places mentioned in the Bible east of Jordan most of which require to be identified:—

Abana river.	Baal Meon.	Betonim.
Abarim.	Baalgad.	Bosor.
Abel Ceramim.	Bajith.	Bozrah.
Abel Mizraim.	Bascama.	Bozrah of Edom.
Abel Shittim.	Beon.	Camon.
Almon Diblathaim.	Beth Baal Meon.	Casphon.
Aphek.	Beth Diblathaim.	Damascus.
Ar Moab.	Beth Gamul.	Dametha.
Arnon river.	Beth Haran.	Dibon.
Aroer.	Beth Jeshimoth.	Dimon.
Ashtaroth.	Beth Nimrah.	Edrei.
Ashtaroth Karnaim.	Beth Rehob.	Elealah.
Ataroth.	Bezer in the Wilder- ness.	En Eglaim.
Avith.		Gadara.

Galeed.	Lasha.	Rabbah.
Geshur.	Luhith.	Rabbath Ammon.
Golan.	Maachah.	Ramath Mizpeh.
Ham.	Madmen.	Ramoth Gilead.
Hazar Hatticon.	Mahanaim.	Rebol.
Heshbon.	Maked.	Rogelim.
Hobah.	Maon.	Salcah.
Horonaim.	Medeba.	Shibmah.
Iim.	Mephaath.	Shittim.
Ishtol.	Minnith.	Shophan.
Jabbok river.	Misgab.	Succoth.
Jabesh Gilead.	Mizpeh Gilead.	Tabbath.
Jahaz.	Mizpeh Moab.	Taphon.
Jazer.	Nebo.	Tob.
Jegar-sahadutha.	Nimrim.	Tophel.
Karkor.	Nobah.	Zareth Shahar.
Kedemoth.	Penuel.	Zered Brook.
Kenath Nobah.	Peor.	Zoar.
Kir of Moab.	Pharpar, R.	
Kiriathaim.	Pisgah.	

The following are the principal classical and mediæval sites of the country :—

Abila.	Dios.	Neballo.	Rudda.
Adraa.	Dosos.	Neve.	Saccæa.
Aphnith.	Essa.	Omba.	Samachu.
Areopolis.	Gamala.	Pella.	Sebe.
Arbela.	Gerasa.	Phaenos.	Seleucia.
Batanea.	Hippos.	Phenutus.	Soganna.
Bethzoba.	Julias.	Phiala (Lake).	Solyrna.
Callirrhoe.	Kerak.	Philadelphia.	Tyrus.
Canatha.	Livias.	Philippopolis.	Zara.
Capitolias.	Machærus.	Regueb.	Zerka.
Dionisia.	Neapolis.	Rhose.	

As regards the cost, it will probably be at the same rate as that of the previous survey; that is to say, the Committee will have to meet an expenditure of over £3,000 a-year. The east of the Jordan will be surveyed at a greater speed, owing to the more favourable configuration of the country, than was possible to the west. The Committee confidently expect that the same support which was given before will be given again, because it is not to be believed that the English-speaking people will rest content while the Holy Land is only half surveyed.

The Surveyors of Eastern Palestine will also be instructed to conduct these excavations on the shores of the Sea of Galilee which were proposed in the *Quarterly Statement* for October, 1878. The subscriptions which were paid in for the purpose of carrying out the excavations were placed on Deposit account as a special fund. It is hoped that excavations will definitively decide for us the positions of Capernaum, Chorazin, Bethsaida,

and Taricheæ. Other questions of interest are connected with Ain-el-Tabigah, the mounds of Genessareth, Irbid, Kerak, Kalat-et-Hasn, the ruins at Khersa, and other mounds and remains on the borders of the lake.

As heretofore, the reports and letters of the officer commanding the expedition will be published in the *Quarterly Statement* of the Society, which will be sent post-free to all subscribers.

Quarterly Statement.

Subscriptions and donations are received by the Society's Bankers, Coutts and Co., Strand, or the Union Bank of London, Charing Cross Branch. If sent to the Offices of the Fund they should be *made payable to the order of the Secretary, and crossed Coutts and Co.*

By Order of the Committee,

1, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI  
December, 1880.

WALTER BESANT, M.A.,  
*Secretary.*