



Allan & Ferguson, lith. Glasgow.

CROMLECH N. W. OF 'AMMÂN.

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE reports and letters which are published in this number of the *Quarterly Statement*, show the very great value of Captain Conder's campaign of 1881. The singular prehistoric monuments, some of which had already been examined by Messrs. Irby and Mangles, Canon Tristram, and Herr Schick, have now been examined, sketched, and planned in detail. They are found to be grouped intentionally, not scattered about without regard to order. The four great centres of these rude stone monuments are proposed by Captain Conder to be identified with places of no less Biblical importance than Bamoth Baal, Baal Peor, the "top of Baal Peor which looked towards Jeshimon," and the sanctuary of Baal Peor, in the Jordan Valley. If these identifications are accepted we may, indeed, congratulate ourselves upon the first fruits of our expedition. The report on Arab Folk Lore is a contribution to a branch of the subject which we have as yet only touched. The importance and interest of the architectural discovery made by Captain Conder at Ammán may be gathered, not only from his own report, but from Professor Hayter Lewis's paper on the subject, reprinted by permission from the *Builder*.

The examination of the tunnel at the Pool of Siloam, the plan and drawings, of the newly discovered church, and the note on the ancient monuments of Western Palestine, are the results of the winter residence of the party in Jerusalem.

It was announced in the January *Quarterly Statement*, that further progress with the survey had been stopped by the Turkish authorities on account of informality in the Firmán. It was found necessary to apply to the Sultan for a new Firmán, and this has been done for the Committee by Lord Dufferin, Ambassador at the Porte, whose interest in the work of the Society is gratefully acknowledged by the Committee. Captain Conder also travelled to Constantinople in order to place himself at his Excellency's orders. The result has been a promise that a Firmán should be granted with permission to sketch, excavate, &c., within certain limits. Captain Conder has therefore returned to Jerusalem, in hopes that the Firmán may be signed at an early date, and so permit the resumption of field operations. In the meantime, the survey party is being usefully employed in plotting the survey on paper and in various minor inquiries into matters of Biblical and archæological interest.

As regards the publication of the various works in the Committee's hands, we take this opportunity of reporting that :—

1. The second volume of *Memoirs* will be sent out to subscribers in the second week in April.
2. Saunders' "Introduction to the Survey," is now ready.
3. The "Water Basin," edition of the reduced map, with the Sections, &c., is also ready.
4. The Old Testament map is already far advanced, and is expected in June.
5. The Index to the *Quarterly Statement* from the beginning is now ready, its price is 2s. 6d., including postage.

For those who have not yet had an opportunity of seeing the beautiful edition of the map called the "Water Basin" Edition, it may be well to explain that it differs from the former "Reduced Map" in having received certain additions. The most important of them is the marking out of the waterparting lines and the waterways, plains and highlands in colour, so as to show more clearly the conformation of the country, the lie of the hills, and the natural roads. This is done in colour. In addition, Mr. Saunders has drawn sections of the country, viz., one from east to west of Upper Galilee, and one of Lower Galilee, two from east to west of the Mountains of Judæa, and one from north to south. The map is like its predecessor, in six sheets and a portfolio.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

The amount of subscriptions for the year 1881 fell short by £200 of the amount spent on the Expedition East of the Jordan. At the same time there was an increase of £1,000 on the subscriptions of 1880. It is hoped that the increase will continue, and that the subscriptions of 1882 may reach the sum of £3,500, which is required for the carrying on of the Society's work. The unpaid accounts at the end of the year amounted to £778 5s. 11d., and the cash balance to £112 11s. 7d.; but the latter should be increased by the sum of about £1,500 still owing to the Committee on account of the various editions of the Map and Memoirs.

The expenditure of £2,647 6s. 6d. on "Maps and Memoirs" account includes the first three volumes of the *Memoirs*, Saunders' "Introduction," and the engraving and editions of the reduced maps. It includes the sum of £100 for extra clerk's work. This, if transferred to "Management," would raise the expenditure under that heading to 13·28 per cent. of the whole.

The whole expenditure of £6,487 2s. 8d. may be thus classified :—

Exploration	40·51 per cent.
Maps and Memoirs	40·81 "
Returned to Subscribers in Quarterly Statements	7·40 "
Management	11·28 "

BALANCE SHEET, 1881.

1881.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	Balance from 1880.	1,365	4	1			
	Less unpaid account	260	15	3			
					1,104	8	10
	Subscriptions and Lectures				2,430	5	10
	Publications				144	6	3
	Photographs				18	10	11
	Map and Memoirs				2,123	15	6
	To unpaid accounts				778	5	11
					6,599	13	3

		£	s.	d.
Expenditure on the Survey		2,628	12	7
Map and Memoirs		2,647	6	6
Rent		128	11	0
Printing		398	5	1
Advertising		40	14	10
Salaries and wages		436	2	8
Stationery, Office expenses, and Sundries		70	18	0
Postage		136	11	0
Balance		112	11	7
		6,599	13	3

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

WALTER MORRISON,
Hon. Treasurer.

The income of the Society from all sources from December 16th, 1881, to March 15th, 1882, was £998 6s. 6d. The amount in the Banks on Tuesday, March 21st, was £429 7s. 5d.

It is suggested to subscribers that the safest and most convenient manner of paying subscriptions is through a bank. Many subscribers have adopted this method, which removes the danger of loss or miscarriage, and renders unnecessary the acknowledgment by official receipt and letter.

The following numbers of the *Quarterly Statement* are out of print. The Committee would be very much obliged by the return of duplicates or of any copies which may not be wanted. They are 1871—January and July; 1872—January and April; 1871—April, July, and October; 1874—January and October; 1880—January; and 1881—April.

Subscribers who do not receive the *Quarterly Statement* regularly, are asked to address the Secretary on the subject. Great care is taken to forward each number to all who are entitled to receive it, but changes of address and other causes give rise occasionally to omissions.

While desiring to give every publicity to proposed identifications and other theories advanced by officers of the Fund and contributors to the pages of the *Quarterly Statement*, the Committee wish it to be distinctly understood that by publishing them in the *Quarterly Statement* they neither sanction nor adopt them.
