

spot in the depth of the forest between Umm el Amed and Harithiyeh, where "caves and cisterns" is marked in the map, the name of which is Mizrie, and where the ruins seemed sufficiently interesting to repay further investigation. It is also worthy of note that within the last two years, and therefore since the visit of the Palestine Fund Surveyors, excavations have been in progress at Sepphoris, or Sefurieh, beneath the ruined church, which is supposed to mark the site of the dwelling of Joachim and Anna, the parents of the Virgin. These excavations, which are being carried on by the Franciscans, have now been temporarily suspended for want of funds, and the fallen *débris* prevented my entering what I was assured by the priest was a subterranean chapel or crypt, in which were some fragments of handsome columns. Some of those which have been unearthed are now enclosed by the wall forming the new courtyard to the church, which is slowly undergoing a process of restoration; some of these were prostrate, and some standing to a height of 10 or 12 feet. Altogether I counted twelve, with several capitals and pediments. It is not impossible that remains or objects of interest, of a period anterior to the church, which only dates from the fourth century, may be found in the course of the present operations; at all events, the progress of the excavations, when they are renewed, will be worth watching.

LAURENCE OLIPHANT.

HAIFA, 29th May.

THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

THE Annual Meeting of the General Committee was held on Tuesday, June 19th, at 4 p.m. The chair was taken by Mr. JAMES GLAISHER, F.R.S.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the following Report was read by the Secretary.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"Your Committee, elected at the last General Meeting, held on June 17th, 1882, have, on resigning their office, to render you an account of their administration during the past year.

"The Committee have held nine meetings during the year.

I.

"On August 1st, 1882, Lieutenant Mantell, one of the officers of the Survey, was recalled to active service in Egypt, and on September 7th Captain Conder was also ordered on service. The Committee were thus deprived of the services of both officers, and the preparation of the Memoirs of the Survey of Eastern Palestine, so far as it has been accomplished, was interrupted. Lieutenant Mantell still remains in Egypt, and although Captain Conder returned home at the end of the war, it was

found necessary for him to take sick leave for a few months. On the expiration of his leave he has rejoined the Society, and is now actively engaged in completing his 'Memoirs.' The portion of the map executed by him has been laid down upon sheets of the same shape as that of the large map of Western Palestine, and also engraved on the reduced scale. Captain Conder has completed a popular work on his last expedition, called 'Heth and Moab,' which is now being printed. It is hoped that the 'Memoirs' will be finished, and the book ready, in the autumn. The form of publication of the former has yet to be decided.

II.

"The issue of the 'Survey of Western Palestine' has also been retarded by the recent events in Egypt. The departure of Professor Palmer at the end of June, followed by his unfortunate murder in August, kept back the last volume of 'Memoirs,' which we, however, published in April last; and the summoning of Colonel Warren to go out in search of the murderers has delayed the Jerusalem volume, which is now again taken in hand. This volume, with its portfolio of plates and plans, and that of Canon Tristram on the 'Flora and Fauna,' will complete the work, which has been in course of publication such a length of time.

III.

"The maps to illustrate the Old and New Testaments, consisting of names and tribe boundaries, &c., laid down upon our Survey maps by Mr. Trelawney Saunders, are now published, in addition to the reduced modern map, and the same with the water-basins laid upon it. It is under consideration by the Committee whether the part of Eastern Palestine already surveyed shall not be added to their small maps.

IV.

"The survey of Eastern Palestine has been necessarily deferred until the Firman has been signed. The Committee see little reason to expect that they will obtain this permission at present. They propose, therefore, to undertake, without further delay, the geological survey which forms a part of the original prospectus of the Society. Practical suggestions have been made by Sir Charles Wilson, and negotiations have been opened with a geologist of great eminence. If the expedition can be arranged it is proposed to send it out in the month of November, and to secure, if possible, four or five months of steady work.

V.

“The following is the Balance Sheet of Receipts and Expenditure for the year 1882:—

RECEIPTS.

1882.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.—	Balance brought forward	112	11	7
Dec. 31.—	Subscriptions and Lectures.. ..	1,993	4	2
„	Maps and Memoirs	1,577	11	11
„	Books.. ..	97	13	6
„	Photographs	14	16	11
		<hr/>		
		£3,795	18	1
		<hr/> <hr/>		

EXPENDITURE.

		£	s.	d.
Dec. 31.—	Exploration	889	4	9
„	Maps and Memoirs	1,372	16	11
„	Salaries and Wages, Rent, Advertising, Stationery, Bookbinding, Office and Sundries, Books and Translations	644	2	3
„	Lecture expenses	45	17	3
„	Postage.. ..	88	10	11
„	Printing	391	12	0
„	Balance	363	14	0
		<hr/>		
		£3,795	18	1
		<hr/> <hr/>		

Examined and found correct.

W. MORRISON,

Treasurer.

“It will be seen, therefore, that the Committee spent during the year the sum of 3,432*l.*, of which management took 21 per cent.; the maps and ‘Memoirs’ 40 per cent.; on exploration (there being no party in the field) 27 per cent.; and on printing and posting of the *Quarterly Statement* about 12 per cent.

VI.

“The Committee have published during the year, besides the third volume of ‘Memoirs,’ a Report of the Princes’ Visit to the Holy Land (Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales), and the Survey and Plan of the Mosque of Hebron, executed by Sir Charles Wilson and Captain Conder, assisted by the Princes. This Report (drawn up by Captain Conder) was presented to the Committee for publication by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. A paper has been published on the Climate of Jerusalem, by Dr. Chaplin, embodying the result of twenty-two years’ observation, viz., from 1860 to 1881, both inclusive. Papers in the

Quarterly Statement have also appeared on the Route of the Exodus, on the Fellahin of Palestine, and on many topographical and archaeological points of interest. To the writers of these papers, especially to Dr. Chaplin, Canon Scarth, the Rev. W. F. Birch, and Captain Conder, the Committee beg to offer their best thanks.

VII.

"The Committee have had to deplore the loss by death during the past year of three most valuable members of their body. The first of these is Professor Pusey, who never ceased to take the deepest interest in the work, and to support it by donations, as well as by his personal influence. The next is Lord Talbot de Malahide, an active member of the General Committee. The third is Professor Palmer, whose loss to this Society, as well as to Oriental scholarship, is irreparable.

VIII.

"The Committee have, lastly, to convey their best thanks to their Local Honorary Secretaries, to all their subscribers and donors, and especially the Bishop of Nelson, the Rev. W. MacGregor, Rev. C. Watson, Rev. H. Hall-Houghton, Rev. F. C. Wigram, Rev. M. T. Farrar, Colonel Locock, Rev. A. M. Morrison, Rev. J. Bellamy, the Rev. G. Maxwell, Mrs. Guise, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Burns, 'Omega,' Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. G. S. Gibson, Mr. C. F. Fellows, Lady Smith, Mr. S. H. Officer, Mr. A. W. Jones, Mr. Beamont, Mr. A. H. Heywood, Mr. Dunkley Paine, Mr. Kent, Miss Wakeham, Miss Bridges, Mr. H. N. Middleton, who have sent donations of 5*l.* and over.

IX.

"One of the members of the Executive Committee, Major Grover, has resigned, he having been sent to Portsmouth. His place has been taken by Colonel Locock, R.E. Lord Sidmouth has also joined the General Committee."

The Report having been read and discussed, it was proposed by Lord SIDMOUTH, and seconded by Mr. HENRY MAUDSLAY, that it be received and adopted.

This was carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by Dr. WRIGHT, and seconded by Dr. LÖWY, and carried unanimously, that the following gentlemen be invited to join the General Committee:—

- Rev. J. N. Dalton.
- Mr. Donald MacDonald.
- Sir Edmund Lechmere, Bart.
- Rev. Canon Scarth.
- Professor Robertson Smith.
- Lieut.-Colonel Stodart, R.E., Director of the Ordnance Survey.

It was then proposed by the CHAIRMAN, and seconded by Dr. GINSBURG, that Lieut.-Colonel SIR CHARLES WILSON, K.C.M.G., R.E., D.C.L., F.R.S., should be invited to join the Executive Committee.

A vote of thanks to the CHAIRMAN completed the business of the Committee.

CURIOUS NAMES IN GALILEE.

THE study given to the nomenclature of the Survey has probably by this time almost exhausted the identifications which can be made from it, though from time to time a new and unexpected light may be thrown on Biblical topography by the map. Thus, for instance, the unknown Meroz (Judges v, 23) might perhaps be recognised in the 'Ayûn er Roz close to Kedesh of Issachar, south of Lejjûn (Sheet VIII, Mk), or at 'Ain er Roz (Mj), north of Lejjûn. And, again, Bethshemesh of Naphtali (Josh. xix, 38) is possibly the ruin Shemsfn, east of Tabor (Sheet VI, Qr); while Sheikh Kâsim (Sheet IX, Qj) is a not impossible site for Shahazimah (Josh. xix, 22).

It is, however, in the present paper proposed to glance at various names which, though not directly connected with Biblical topography, are yet perhaps indicative of the ancient condition of the country, and especially at those in the northern sheets of the map, of which five (Sheets I-IV and VI) were surveyed under Lieutenant Kitchener's direction, and the nomenclature translated by the late Professor Palmer, some of whose valuable notes are very suggestive to a student of Arab nomenclature.

Take, for instance (Sheet I, Nc), 'Ain Ib'al, "the Spring of Baal," a village in the Tyrian hills, evidently an old Baalath. Or Sheikh Kâsim, north of Tyre, who, as Professor Palmer himself pointed out, is the Semitic god of "fate," the Phœnician Reseph, whose name M. Clermont Ganneau recognises in Arsûf (Apollonia), near Jaffa. Again, near Tyre (Sheet I, Me), Professor Palmer sees in Malkîyeh (a modern village) the name of Melcarth, the Hercules of Tyre, who is also recognisable as Neby Ma'shûk, "the prophet loved by women." And, had he been spared, the great Arab scholar would no doubt have added many other such interesting notes; for in Galilee especially Pagan and Phœnician influence is so marked that more of the Canaanite nomenclature may be expected to survive than further south.

On Sheet II (Pb) there is a very interesting spring named 'Ain Abu Sudûn. It is below a certain ruin called Juneijil, which is probably an old Gilgal. The name Poseidon has been thought by some scholars to be of Phœnician origin, and to signify "the great father of fishing" (or of Sidon), and if this be a really reliable derivation it is instructive to find close to Phœnician territory a Gilgal or "circle" where the name still seems to linger.

'Almân, close by this last, is an ancient Oulam of the Talmudic boundary