

## TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

THE Twenty-first Anniversary Meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund was held in the Theatre of the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, on Tuesday, June 22nd, at 3 p.m. His Grace the Archbishop of York, President of the Society, presided, and was supported by Mr. James Glaisher, F.R.S., Chairman of the Executive Committee; Colonel Sir Charles Wilson, K.C.B., F.R.S.; Captain Conder, R.E.; the Rev. Canon Tristram, LL.D.; the Rev. C. D. Ginsburg, LL.D.; Sir George Grove, LL.D.; Mr. John MacGregor, and Professor Hayter Lewis.

The Secretary, Mr. WALTER BESANT, M.A., read letters from gentlemen who were unable to attend, among them being H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, who sent a donation of £20, the Duke of Northumberland, Viscount Sidmouth, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Colonel Sir Charles Warren, G.C.B., Mr. Amhurst Tyssen-Amherst, who sent a donation of £21, Mr. Samuel Morley, and Mr. Walter Morrison, the Hon. Treasurer of the Society.

The CHAIRMAN then said: Ladies and gentlemen,—On the 22nd June, 1865, I had the honour of presiding in Willis's Rooms at the first meeting for the inauguration of this Society. It was thought appropriate that, at the completion of twenty-one years, we should meet again, and I am still spared to act as the Chairman, and a good many officers of the Society are still in full vigour and activity, and we wish on this occasion to give a short account of our stewardship in this matter, and to state whether we have or have not fulfilled the purpose for which we were appointed. I think when you shall have heard all of the speakers—for my own task is so general that you should not rest upon what I shall say—you will come to the conclusion that we have not ill or inefficiently fulfilled the purpose for which we were formed. I will remind you of one or two circumstances connected with the formation. First, we are not a religious Society. We are a Society in which we trust that every religious person takes an interest; but it was essential for our work, which is of a purely scientific character, that we should not hoist the banner of any religious body or fraternity whatsoever. We also, as another principle, pledged ourselves that our scheme of work should be carried out on purely scientific principles—that is to say, we should not merely send out travellers who should describe to us scenes and places which have been visited and described many times before, but we should submit all observations to critical scientific tests, and record them as a contribution to the science of the subject. I think that some may be of opinion that in the beginning we were rather too rigorous in this respect, for we seem to have forbidden our agents to hazard any opinion of any kind whatsoever, and instructed

them merely to record the dry facts. I do not see why, if the Society is pledged to a scientific basis, its agents should not be allowed to make, in addition to their scientific results, such suggestions as they may think it right to make; in fact, we began so to proceed soon after the commencement of our operations, and you will find in the Quarterly Journals and the other publications of the Society that we have not shut the mouths of our agents so as to prevent them from giving their opinions in a matter where a prudent suggestion may possibly become the foundation for scientific research. There was another principle—which was, that we should abstain, as far as possible, from controversy, and that, I think it will be allowed, we have fairly done. These were the three fundamental principles or laws of the Society. Now the sums entrusted to our care have been considerable. I think they amount in the aggregate to about £66,000, spread over the whole twenty-one years. £66,000 to be spent in the survey and examination of one small country is certainly a considerable sum from one point of view. From another point of view, it is rather a disappointing sum. I confess that I should have been glad if the persons who take so much interest in the Holy Land—for I deny, if I may do so, the remark made in one of the letters read by our Secretary, that this is a subject which excites little interest; I think these persons might have taken a more personal interest, and they might not have said, “We will leave it to others to do, believing that it will be a very good thing when done;” but rather, “A little contribution will help this Society to complete its arduous work, and that contribution we shall assist to send.” Now, when we first assembled, we made rather light of our work—at least some of us did so—and I suppose nobody dreamed that the work of examining Palestine from end to end would have taken twenty-one years, and then we should have to come forward and say we wanted yet a few years more. I remember saying that we, the English people, by our circulation of the Bible, had virtually made our own the subject of the History of Palestine; that no nation could compare with us in the activity we showed in the distribution of Holy Scripture, and, I added, the land is given over to us, and we propose to go in and possess it. Those were rather startling words, which have been somewhat lessened by the event. But the history of Palestine is mostly subterranean, and certainly the history of Jerusalem is evidently so. You will see the difficulties that surrounded us. One speaker in the room appealed to our feelings and said, “Would we in London consent to an officer of the Society burrowing twenty feet below the basement of our house, and what should we feel towards that Society if we had not adequate assurance as to our foundations?” Something is wanting still to our knowledge of the foundations of the Temple. That something we know now how to pursue. We shall be able to secure it; but it will in some measure account for the slowness of our operations that our knowledge has to be sought deep under ground by burrowings and excavations, and by driving shafts under inhabited parts of the city. Now, twenty-one years is a very long time, and a great deal has happened during the twenty-one years. I should like to give you a little fact which

will enable you to measure it—for these great intervals of time require a little help. We were to be favoured to-day with the presence of the Royal Prince who is now, however, at the last moment unable to come. But in a book which he and his brother have recently given us, “The Cruise of the *Bacchante*,” we read: “We went into the Syrian chapel and the rock-cut tombs called those of Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Here Captain Conder, with a candle in his hand, electrified us by saying in a low impressive voice, ‘I believe these to be the royal tombs of the Kings of Judah; and this is the one in which Solomon reposed below the others, as Josephus describes.’” Now the writer of that was a boy of a year old at the time that the Society was founded, and now he is met by the agents of this Society; he is able to take a part in Palestine exploration for himself, and his observations and reflections do great credit to him; and Captain Conder, who is here to-day (applause), was there to give him instructions on the subject, and Sir Charles Wilson took him to the tomb rock. The Society is old enough now to have seen him grow into a ripe manhood, and showing a great activity, a precocious activity, I might almost say, in the task of acting as an observant and careful traveller. (Applause.) We have done good if we have educated people in this way, and we must have educated many and many a traveller in the same way, who have never acknowledged what we have done. I should like to point out that during these twenty-one years a great many things have happened which have directed attention more and more to the subject of Biblical archæology. In the first place, the “*Speaker’s Commentary*,” with which I had something to do, was projected at the same time and has been since carried to its completion, and very largely circulated. In the second place, the School of Theologians at Cambridge, of which I should like to take Bishop Lightfoot as an example, have been most industrious during these twenty-one years. Then there is the Cambridge Bible for schools, and the Cambridge Greek Testament for schools, and all these things pass into the houses of the people, and to every one of these books we may think we have, at least, been trying to do a good service: we may go further and say we have done good service. (Applause.) There is also a Handbook to the Bible by Captain Conder, and I think no reader of the Bible ought to fail to put it at once upon his shelves, unless he has got it there already. We have, therefore, been taking a great and active part in the growth of knowledge in the Holy Scripture, and whilst we have, as a Society, done nothing to sever ourselves as one religious body from another, the net results must undoubtedly have been to create a much greater interest in the subject of Holy Scripture, and to increase the number of those who love their Bible because they begin to understand it. (Applause.) We have not come here to-day merely to converse about these high subjects; there is something yet to be done. But, before I proceed to that, I should like to say a word or two upon the subject of those whom we have lost. I don’t know that I could really do it better than by quoting a few lines from this book called “*Twenty-one Years’ Work in the Holy Land*,” and I will mention that the book, only published to-day, will be at the service

of any subscriber to the Palestine Exploration Fund who may wish to have a copy. On this one solemn page we read : "Amongst those who have actually worked for the Society in the field, we have lost three—Mr. Charles F. Tyrwhitt Drake, the first of these, who died exhausted by fever and asthma in June, 1874, at the early age of twenty-eight, at the time when his knowledge of the country and the people, with a daily increasing grasp of the problems awaiting solution, made him of the greatest service to the Society's work ; the second, Professor Edward Henry Palmer, was taken from the world by the tragic fate which is still in everybody's memory—his loss is one which can never be replaced ; the third is the late Rev. F. W. Holland, Vicar of Evesham, who had made the Sinai Peninsula his own field of study. It was he who carried out the project of surveying the Peninsula, which was executed by Sir Charles Wilson in the year 1869. He visited the country six times. Up to the date of his death, which was in the year 1879, he acted with Sir George Grove as an Honorary Secretary of the Society." We are old enough, not only to number active agents among us, but to have a small roll of martyrs to this great scientific cause. I wish to say a word as to the future. Sir Charles Warren has very important duties elsewhere, and he is unable, on account of those duties, to be with us to-day. Sir Charles Warren it was who projected and determined upon this survey of Western Palestine, which has been happily accomplished. I don't know whether all who are in the room—perhaps the ladies have not, at all events—have paid attention to the difference which a triangulated survey makes in our knowledge. It is a particular method for giving the space within a given triangular area from whence another triangular area is surveyed, and so on to the end, started at what is called the base line. We have many volumes of picturesque travels in Palestine ; but the moment we get a perfectly accurate survey we have an accurate map, and from that time all the scattered notes of travellers can be put into their exact and proper place, and not be treated as the mere story of a traveller in his excursions through the Holy Land. We have a perfect Survey of Western Palestine completed, prepared for the press, and published ; and we have in our pockets a Survey of Eastern Palestine, and when we are able to publish that, then our work will have received its crown and completion—accurate knowledge of the whole of Palestine is secured. I do not say that then there is no further room for the picturesque remarks of the traveller, but going with such a map in his hand, he will be able to bring to an accurate point every observation he takes, and the result will be that his travels will be of very much greater use to those who shall go after him. (Applause.) We have done a great deal of the survey of the Temple area ; we have reduced to the verge of death a good many theories ; we have at least shown that our scientific researches must be carried somewhat further. I do not know that, when we met in 1865, any one person in the room ventured to say—"We will not rest until we have a survey of Palestine as accurate as the English survey carried on by the proper department, which gives us maps of six inches to the mile and an inch to the mile."

It grew upon us, and Sir Charles Warren hammered at it more than any one. Now I am not bound in the least to be non-theological, and if I, in conclusion, speak for a moment on matters theological, I am quite sure that, in such an audience as this, I shall be forgiven. (Applause.) What I have to say is this—and I say it with great thankfulness—we have during twenty-one years been engaged in the survey of a distant land, and nothing but religious interest has carried us there and sustained us there. There are of course antiquarian reasons. Englishmen would go to any country if they knew there were difficulties almost too great to be surmounted; but we have gone there and been assisted by the Government and by the patronage of Her Majesty from the first (applause), because we have a deep interest in the Holy Scripture which we dearly love. My theological question is this: what does all this mean? There is no smoke without fire, and when I see that the most interesting subject on the whole seems to be the study of the Word of God, here and now in this nineteenth century, I ask myself why I should for a single moment despair, because I see springing up around me new studies which sometimes claim an almost exclusive attention? I say when there is all over the country an increasing interest in the Word of God, which brings before us the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, there must be, therefore, an increasing knowledge and love of that Word, and in that belief I hope all those present will help this undertaking. I, for my part, never will despair. It is my belief that, as at this moment there are more persons engaged in the study of the Holy Scripture than at any former period, so I also believe that never at any time in the history of this country were there more people who in their inmost conscience were ready to take the Word of God for their rule of life, and the Son of God for their Guide and Guardian. Religion, I think, never was more active, and whilst we are ready to admit that this Fund might be better supported, and the moral law of the New Testament might be better observed, on the other hand we ought to be thankful for what we really have, and among the undertakings for which we are thankful I venture to say that you ought to include this Palestine Exploration Fund, which has, in its way, been doing all in its power to make the Word of God better understood. (Applause.) And now for the future—it is only a sentence that I am going to trouble you with. We want to continue our survey; we want to carry out further excavations; we want to publish what we have got, especially the Survey of Eastern Palestine, as far as we have gone, and we want especially to conduct an inquiry into the manner and customs of the people. That is a new departure. We know a good deal now about the surface of the country, but it is in the nature of the case that we are led on from subject to subject, and the next subject that awaits us seems to be to get more knowledge and better understanding of all the peoples who have lived in this wonderful country. You will hear all the details of the various works we have been engaged in. I have simply tried to show you that this work has been large and fruitful, and that it has had a good tendency, and, when I look at the numerous

audience gathered here to-day, I feel perfectly sure that the work will not be allowed to drop, and that the few thousands that will be required for completing that which has been done, will soon be forthcoming. (Applause.)

Mr. JAMES GLAISHER, F.R.S., Chairman of the Executive Committee, who was received with applause, said : My Lord Archbishop, my lords, ladies and gentlemen,—It must be a subject of profound satisfaction to all of us here, as it is to myself, that this meeting, in which we celebrate the twenty-first year of our existence, should have the same President as sat in the chair on the first meeting which called the Society into existence, and I venture to say that no better guarantee of the soundness of our work can be found than the fact that the Archbishop of York is still our President. I must also congratulate the pioneer and the founder of this Society, Sir George Grove, who is here to-day, on the success of the enterprise which he first started. I do not think that my friend Sir George at the commencement thought that the Society would grow to so big a thing or last so long. Yet we have been twenty-one years at work, and a good half of our work is not done yet. We have been at work for twenty-one years : what have we done ? This little book, of which I hope every one will take a copy, tells you in brief. We have made a great and accurate survey, by means of Royal Engineers, of the whole country. This survey has placed the whole of the geography and topography of the Holy Land on a true and scientific and accurate basis. We have discovered a vast number of ancient sites. We have proved the former wealth and populousness of the country. We have enabled students to follow the historical portion of the Bible with accuracy. We have sketched and planned all the ancient monuments still standing in Western Palestine. We have published many goodly volumes full of new and most important discoveries ; and we have a collection of maps on which is laid down the results of our survey. We are not afraid of submitting these results as a glorious return for the money, time, and labour we have expended upon them. Now our first step at the very outset was the very wisest that could have been taken. I think we may give my friend Sir George Grove the credit of that step. It was to ask the War Office for the service of Royal Engineers, officers and men ; and I cannot find words strong enough to express our gratitude to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief for giving us such men as have done our work. You know their names—they are the names of men well known to the world for other work than ours—Colonel Sir Charles Wilson, Colonel Sir Charles Warren, Major Anderson (whose loss we have had to deplore), Lieutenant-Colonel Kitchener who, since he surveyed Galilee for us, has surveyed Cyprus, fought in the front in Egypt, been a Consul in Asia Minor, and a Special Commissioner to Zanzibar, and is now Governor of the Red Sea littoral ; Lieutenant Mantell, now in Egypt, and one of the best Arabic scholars in the army ; and last, though many will put him first, my friend who is, I am happy to see, with us this day, Captain Conder, in himself a whole encyclopædia of Biblical knowledge. (Loud applause.)

A word as to the result of these labours. When Sir George Grove was writing his admirable article on Biblical topography in Smith's Dictionary, what sort of maps had he? Here you have a copy of one—the best at his command.<sup>1</sup> At the time that he commenced those papers that map is a fair specimen of all that was known then of the country. Beside it hangs the new map showing our present knowledge. Compare the two. Look at the two side by side. I without hesitation declare that this great map of ours is the grandest achievement towards the illustration and right understanding of the Bible ever accomplished since the translation of the Bible itself. (Applause.) Take all the facts connected with this map, the drawings of the engineers, their notes, their descriptions—they are full of facts—take them, I say, in connection with that map, and acknowledge that such an addition to Biblical lore has not been made since the translation of the Bible itself. Then we have, besides, this great and valuable series of volumes. Our *Quarterly Statement* has been continued uninterruptedly since March, 1869; nearly eighteen years have passed away since it was commenced. It is full of the most interesting papers; and, just imagine this, ladies and gentlemen, that all the money we have paid for contributed articles to this journal does not amount in all, during all this time, to more than £50. (Applause.) The earnestness and zeal of the contributors to these volumes have been such that they have never wished for payment. Captain Conder, we all know, has done an enormous amount of this work, but it is fair to say that this earnestness is typical of every one who has been engaged upon our work either at home or abroad. (Applause.) Sir Charles Warren it was who went down deep under the ground, and it is to him we are indebted for proving the magnificence of the old buildings of Jerusalem. Before, there was supposed to have been exaggeration in the descriptions which survive; now, it is known that the facts justified the language of Josephus and others. (Applause.) I should like also to acknowledge our obligations to Laurence Oliphant, to Guy Le Strange, to Merrill, to Schick, and many others, who have all assisted us; and the more they work upon Palestine the more earnest are their feelings, and it is to this more than to anything else that we refer the success that has attended our labours up to the present moment. There have been a painful number of deaths since first we began—Palmer, Drake, and Holland have gone from us; of the Members of our Committee there have been a great many deaths—Archbishop Tait, my old friend Bishop Wilberforce, Bishop Jackson, Emmanuel Deutsch, Professor Donaldson, Lord Derby, Dean Howson, Lord Dunraven, Dr. Keith Johnstone, Sir Antonio Panizzi, Lord Lawrence, Sir Moses Montefiore, Lord Ossington, Dr. Norman McLeod, Dr. Pusey, Earl Russell, Sir Gilbert Scott, Mr. W. Spottiswoode, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Lord Shaftesbury, Lord Strangford, Sir William Tite, Lord Zetland, and, last but not least, Mr. Vaux. To enumerate these is like giving a list of Victorian worthies. All of these were members

<sup>1</sup> There were hanging on the wall two maps, one an enlarged copy of part of the best map of Palestine in 1865, the other a copy of the same portion from the new map.

of the General Committee, who did good work in their time. There are so many speakers, that I must now conclude. But before sitting down I should like to mention some of the works on Palestine which, though not ours, have been stimulated by our work, and have appeared since we began our labours:—Warren's "Underground Jerusalem," his "Temple of the Tomb;" Palmer's "Desert of the Exodus," Tristram's "Land of Moab," Ginsburg's "Moabite Stone," Burton's "Unexplored Syria," and his "Land of Median," Fergusson's "Temples of the Jews," Conder's "Handbook to the Bible," Besant and Palmer's "History of Jerusalem," Lady Burton's "Inner Life of Syria," Oliphant's "Land of Gilead," Merrill's "Eastern Palestine," Trumbull's "Kadesh Barnea," Conder's "Judas Maccabæus," Wright's "Empire of the Hittites," Drake's "Literary Memoirs," and the Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archæology. All these have appeared since this Society was founded twenty-one years ago.

Sir GEORGE GROVE, who was received with applause, said: My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen,—It is with very strange and mixed feelings that one comes back to a subject which at one time was absolutely absorbing, but from which, owing to circumstances and the pressure of other occupations in a totally different sphere, I have been entirely cut off for many years: but, at the same time, it is most satisfactory to think that the work which one helped to start has been so well carried on, and has so thoroughly justified its existence. There are plenty here who will tell you what the Society is now doing, if indeed anything is wanted beyond the evidence of that remarkable map. I can only say a few words about the past and the origin of the Society. Of course the Fund is a part of the great movement for the investigation of the East and the Bible which came into prominence thirty or forty years ago, and of which Stanley's "Sinai and Palestine," and Fergusson's works on "Indian Architecture," were principal features, and which is now being extended by the Egyptian Exploration Fund, to which I heartily wish success. But if the Society can be said to have had an actual origin or seed, I think I may name a remark of the late Mr. Fergusson to me during the construction of the Assyrian House at the Crystal Palace in 1853. He lamented that there was no complete concordance of the proper names of the Bible—Old Testament, Apocrypha, and New Testament. This was enough to lead to the production of a complete manuscript concordance, which again proved of most material service in the preparation of Dr. W. Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible," itself a remarkable monument of the movement; and it certainly was the discovery of the vague and casual state of our knowledge of the country by those who had most to do with that Dictionary that caused the actual formation of the Fund. The rest is *litera scripta*. If, however, any evidence is wanting as to the wide influence of the Fund, I venture to point to the remarkable book which has recently appeared—the "Log of the Bacchante." The Palestine section of that Log would be remarkable anywhere, and from any hands, however learned. I ask any one here present if I am not right in saying that it could not have been

produced fifty years ago? Jerusalem would not then (as Napoleon said) have come within the base of operations of the travellers, and it is certain that the places visited could not have been viewed by non-professional (clerical) persons with the knowledge and sentiments with which they are described in the Log, and which now appear as natural as they are just and accurate.

When one looks at the list of the promoters of the Fund who took part in the first meeting this day twenty years ago, it is mournful to see what gaps death has made in it—Archbishop Tait, so wise and cautious, and at the same time so cheering; Dr. Pusey, speaking from his cell at Oxford with all the mysterious weight of a recluse, and at the same time in a most practical manner—for it was he who first used the popular word “Ordnance map” in reference to our researches; George Williams and James Fergusson (if I may venture to put together two creatures more antagonistic than fire and water, and whom yet this Society included within its arms), the stately Murchison, and the familiar Vaux. But there is one person more cheering, more practical and popular, more active, more fiery than all of us put together, who, whatever share he may have had in the actual mechanical formation of the Society, was more than any one else its real founder, since it was his knowledge, his enthusiasm, his sympathy, his wisdom that inspired us all. I need not say that I allude to Arthur Stanley. My Lord Archbishop, it is now five long years almost to a month since he was removed from us, and yet I cannot get accustomed to the idea of his death. Not a day passes that I do not find it more impossible to forget that the liberal section of the Church of England has lost its chivalrous leader and champion, and that I have lost the most affectionate, sympathising, indulgent friend that any man ever possessed; nor can I cease to regret that my work at the Royal College of Music prevents my endeavouring to write his biography. What he committed to me has passed into perfectly able and trustworthy hands; but still they are not my hands, and my friend is thus still farther removed from me.

“Known and unknown, human, divine;  
Sweet human hand and lips and eye;  
Dear heavenly friend who cannot die,  
Mine, mine for ever, ever mine.”

It is a relief to turn away from those we have lost, and look at those who still remain: at you, my Lord Archbishop, always glad to counsel and help; at our venerable Chairman, Mr. Glaisher; at Wilson, always a tower of strength, and Warren, of whom in his new capacity it is impossible not to feel a little afraid; and Conder, and Hayter Lewis, and last, but not least, our indefatigable Secretary; and here (as everything has its humorous side) I may just allude to the fact which Stanley would have so enjoyed, that while the first Secretary of the Fund was the chief officer of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, the present one is the most popular novelist of the day.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, before I sit down, allow me as a

layman to say one or two words in conclusion on the purpose of the work in which we are all engaged, and which so far has progressed so satisfactorily. What is it all for? It is all for the investigation of the greatest document which the world contains. In no country is the Bible more valued than in England. No doubt by some it is inaccurately valued, with a reverence that partakes of the nature of superstition, and truly there is much in the Bible to excuse such an affectionate mistake. But though the Bible has many a charm in it, it is much more than a charm. It is the oldest, the most reasonable, the most delightful document in existence; but whatever was its origin, it exists under the same conditions as other books, and by the aid of such researches as ours and by the criticism so constantly and remorsefully applied to it—and which is more welcome the more severe it is—all the inaccurate notions about it are being gradually stripped off, and it is proving itself to be not a *caput mortuum*, but to be more and more living, more consistent, more human and divine, and will every day get more real hold on men, and prove itself the best, truest, and noblest book in the world.

SIR CHARLES WILSON, K.C.B., who was next called upon to speak, was received with applause. He said: My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen,—Before saying a few words on the subject allotted to me, I will, with your permission, mention a name which I am sure has been unintentionally omitted. It is that of Dr. Chaplin. (Applause.) It was Dr. Chaplin who, by his unremitting kindness and thoughtful care, rendered the survey of Palestine possible, for he not only tended us, the explorers of Palestine, when we were ill, and gave us the best advice in all sanitary matters, but he unreservedly placed his great knowledge of the country and of the people at our disposal. Dr. Chaplin has not only done this, but he has communicated several important papers to the *Quarterly Statement*, and has always done his utmost to further the objects of the Fund. I should like also to say a word of a brother officer of mine, Lieutenant Mantell, R.E. (applause), who accompanied Captain Conder in his last expedition to the east of Jordan; he is now serving with the Egyptian army, and promises in a few years to become one of the best Arabic scholars in this country. His progress in Arabic has been very rapid; only last year, whilst he was being examined by some of the learned Sheikhs of the El Azhar Mosque, a question arose on some obscure point of Arabic grammar. Lieutenant Mantell maintained his point; the examination was adjourned, and when the Sheikhs reassembled they were obliged to confess they had found their equal, if not their master, in the young Engineer officer. (Laughter.) Then again there is the distinguished geologist, Professor Hull, F.R.S. (applause), who returned not very long ago from his expedition to the Arabah and the Dead Sea, and who has since given us an authoritative opinion on the origin of the Dead Sea basin, and the geological features of the country.

My special duty, however, is to point out to you the great impetus that has been given to Palestine research in this and other countries by

the formation of the Fund. The first result was the Ordnance Survey of Sinai, which was made during the winter of 1868-9, and settled the rival claims of Jebel Musa and Jebel Serbal to be considered Mount Sinai in favour of the former. In 1870 the French sent out two staff officers, Messrs. Mieulet and Derrien, to construct a map of Palestine; they did a good deal of work in Galilee, but were recalled to France on the outbreak of the war with Germany. Next in order is the American "Palestine Exploration Society," which was constituted at a meeting held in New York in October, 1870; the Society soon got to work east of Jordan, and the survey made by Lieutenant Steever, Topographical Engineers, is quite equal in accuracy to our own; but, unfortunately, it was only of a very small district. The Society did other good work, and one of their explorers, Dr. Selah Merrill, has published valuable works on the country east of Jordan and Galilee in the time of Christ. To our great regret the active field work of the American Society came to an end, and it has thus fallen to the lot of the English Fund to complete the survey of the trans-Jordanic countries. Another Society, resulting almost directly from the establishment of the Fund, is the Society of Biblical Archæology, which came into existence in December, 1870. Your present Treasurer, Mr. Walter Morrison, is now the President of the Society, and he and I have been members of it from the commencement. The action of this Society led also, indirectly, to the expedition of the late Mr. George Smith, which obtained such important results in the valleys of the Euphrates and Tigris; and I may perhaps mention that much attention has been paid by the Society to Hittite inscriptions. Public interest in these inscriptions was first aroused by the action of the Palestine Exploration Fund, which eventually resulted in the transmission to this country of casts of the celebrated "Hamath stones," obtained by the tact and prompt action of the Rev. W. Wright, D.D. Further exploration and investigation has, I need hardly remind you, shown us that the Hittites were a powerful people, whose influence extended at one time over Syria, Palestine, and Asia Minor. Next in order is the German Palestine Society, which held its first meeting in 1870, and commenced publishing its annual Journal in 1871. The Journal contains admirable critical papers on all matters relating to Palestine, and the Society has also carried out important excavations at Jerusalem, of which Dr. Guthe, who conducted them, has published an interesting account. There is also the Russian Palestine Society, founded some two years ago, and I think it is pleasant to feel that the most cordial relations exist, and have always existed, between our own Fund and the various kindred Societies which have been formed in foreign countries as well as in England. Another Society is the "Egypt Exploration Society" (applause), which has already done such good work by its excavations at Pithom, Zoan, Tahoes, and Naukratis. The impetus given to research has extended to Asia Minor, where an American explorer has recently settled the vexed question of the site of Lystra by the discovery of an inscription bearing the name of the town. There is yet another Society with which I am closely connected--the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society,

which has been started with a view of supplying English readers with translations of the earliest records of visits to Palestine and Jerusalem during the Christian era.

I should like also to draw attention to the great change that has taken place in the condition of Palestine, and of the East generally, since the formation of the Fund. I well remember that in 1864, when I first went out to survey Jerusalem, people in England prophesied all kinds of disaster, and thought I was undertaking a useless journey. They considered it almost impossible for a Christian to survey a Moslem town, not under a Christian ruler, with that accuracy which characterises the Ordnance Survey plans of English towns; and I recollect that the late Mr. Hepworth Dixon told me when I started, that if I went about by myself in the streets of Jerusalem, especially after dark, I should infallibly get my throat cut. (Laughter.) There were some black Dervishes in the Haram who were supposed to be very bloodthirsty and dangerous; but I am glad to say we left Jerusalem without having had a serious difficulty with any one, and the black Dervishes not only became our friends, but assisted us to measure their own sacred buildings. (Applause.) Then, again, as regards Palestine itself: when I first went up the country, the great plain of Esdraelon was periodically raided by Bedouin from the east of Jordan. The district was so disturbed that it was said that a man rarely reaped what he sowed on the great plain. This is all changed; the plain is now well cultivated, and in harvest time is a waving mass of grain. The whole country is much more settled; a new town has sprung up without the walls of Jerusalem, and each year Palestine is traversed by an increasing number of tourists; perhaps, however, what struck me most during a visit to the country in 1882 was the great increase in planting, and consequent extension of the vineyards and olive groves. (Applause.)

The exploration of Western Palestine is now, I think, passing into another phase. We have still to survey Eastern Palestine, but in the west we need the services of gentlemen who, like Mr. Laurence Oliphant, reside in the Holy Land, and are ready, on the spot, to note accidental discoveries. The plough, the spade, or an unusual fall of rain frequently bring to light ruins, inscriptions, tombs, and small articles of great value, which would be completely lost if not noted at the time, and Mr. Oliphant and others have recently collected much valuable information in this manner. (Applause.) I should like also to refer to the question of excavation. I am sorry to say that, except at Jerusalem, no extensive excavations have been carried out in Palestine. There are places, such as Capernaum, Jezreel, and Samaria, that cry aloud for excavation, and I wish that some of the wealthy men of England would follow Dr. Schliemann's example and devote some portion of their superfluous wealth to the exploration of these places. They would be amply repaid for their expenditure. (Applause.)

Captain CONDER, who was next called upon, and was received with applause, said: My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen,—It seems

very strange to me to think that this is the twenty-first anniversary of the Palestine Exploration Fund, and, still stranger, that for fifteen years I should have been connected with the Society. That time has been a time of good and honest work to every one connected with the Society, and although we have to lament the loss of many distinguished members of the Society who have died, we must not regard the Society as being in its old age, because it is only commencing a vigorous youth. I should like to call attention to-day to the three reasons why this Society has been a success, which cannot be denied. The first reason, of course, has been the stamp of men who have started the Society, and who have worked for the Society. The second reason, I think, has been what we have *not* discovered, and the third has been what we have discovered. (Hear, hear.) The names of various distinguished members and workers for this Fund have been mentioned, and as they are mostly my seniors, it would be presumptuous on my part to say much about them; but there are one or two to whom attention should be called. In the first instance Sir George Grove, whom we all regard as the father of the Society. (Applause.) It was my duty to investigate all that he has written on the subject; and what we have to say to-day is that, although we have added considerably to the information that Sir George Grove collected, we have found very few instances where it is necessary to alter or correct his work. That which he told us was known, was known; and what was not known we have, to a great extent, succeeded in discovering. With regard to Sir Charles Wilson and Sir Charles Warren, they possessed while in your employment the same abilities which have made their names known to all England at the present day (applause), and I have felt what an advantage it was to myself, personally, to be associated with men of that calibre. Mr. Glaisher I have to thank for steady encouragement when working for the Society. Mr. Morrison has been one of the most important members of the Society, and I have also to thank him for the assistance he gave to the execution of the survey; for if it had not been for his guarantee at the back of the Society, our survey might several times have collapsed for want of funds. Mr. Walter Besant, who has been my friend for many years (applause), is, I think, one of the greatest pieces of good fortune that the Fund has had. He has kept us together, and his good temper and patience and help have led to the publication of all the work which was done in the field. Dr. Chaplin has already been mentioned, and I am sure that no one connected with the Society owes more to him than I do. Of my two colleagues, Kitchener and Mantell, all I can say is I hope I may work with them again. I do not think a more hard-working and able member of the Society exists than Lieutenant Mantell. One among the officers of the Royal Engineers whom we have to regret is Major Anderson. It was due to him on many occasions that I was able to take the right course, and I felt his loss extremely. The youngest member of the Society, if I may take the liberty so to call him, is H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor of Wales. His book is now in your hands, and I can bear testimony to the way in which His

Royal Highness worked up every night the experiences of the day, and to the general interest he showed in all subjects connected with Palestine. (Applause.) There are two other names connected with the Society—I mean Sergeant Black and Sergeant Armstrong. (Applause.) We certainly ought not to forget them. First of all, the map you see on the wall is their handiwork. They drew the map and did the calculations, and the greater part of the manual labour of the work was theirs. But, in addition to that, they were not only my very good friends, but men on whose common-sense and hard-headedness and wisdom I felt I could always rely. (Applause.) You can hardly appreciate how the success or disaster of a party may depend upon a momentary expression of impatience on the part of one member of that party. If I had had men less cautious in dealing with the peasantry, and less prudent in pursuing their inquiries, I think we might have been brought into dangers which, for the time, would have put an end to our work. I select the names of Sergeant Black and Sergeant Armstrong of all who have been under me, because of the long time these two members of my party worked for the Society, and because at one time during my absence, and before my arrival in Palestine, they had, to a great extent, to settle for themselves what was best to do and how to do it, and did the work without any military assistance from a superior officer in a manner with which there was absolutely no fault to find. (Applause.) There is one word more in regard to the Society. The Society at the end of twenty-one years is a united Society. We include men of very different habits of thought, and our views have not always been the same; but, at the same time, we all stand here to-day together and all equally anxious for the success of the Society, for the pushing on of the good work, and no difference of opinion has been allowed to interfere with the scientific work of this Society. Well, if you know what sometimes is unfortunately the fate of archaeological science—the quarrels and jealousies that may arise—it is one of the greatest triumphs of the Society that we are all united at the present day. (Applause.) Our success has been due, as I have just said, to what we have not discovered. What I mean is, that we have never tried to humbug the British public; we have not brought home any Shapira manuscripts. We could have given you Solomon's seal and the coffin of Samson, but we have refrained from doing so (laughter), and it is to that we owe the confidence that is given to the Society in the present day. We have striven to do good and permanent work, and I think that any who come after us, though they may pick holes in it, though they may find that there are omissions and mistakes, and that there is something to add and something which is not of permanent value, they will not find that there is dishonesty in the work of the Society. (Applause.) All human work must be more or less imperfect—the best books by the most practised writers contain mistakes. The work of this Society, as far as I have been connected with it, has been work of which the object and aim was to ascertain the truth, and the work that has been done has been work which will stand the investigation of all who follow it, as being painstaking and

thoroughly conscientious. (Applause.) The third reason of success has been the work we have done. We have done good work and plenty of it. It is work in accordance with the spirit of the age, and that is no doubt why the Society is a prosperous Society. The spirit of the age is one of inquiry into truth. We have endeavoured and still endeavour to supersede controversy by hard facts; and, after all, the work of the Society is part of yet greater work which has been going on during the past quarter of a century. Sir Charles Wilson called attention to the work going on in different countries. A very large amount of archaeological and antiquarian knowledge proper has come into existence. The work of the Biblical Archæological Society has become indispensable to the preparation of all those connected with the Palestine Society. It is extraordinary to see how our Society, as it goes on, instead of coming to the end of its work, finds more work to do. We began with geography and topography; but this is a small portion of what lies before us. It has been said that all the best discoveries seem to be made by accident. The Moabite Stone was found by a missionary, who sketched it, but had not time to copy the text; the finding of the Siloam inscription was the result of a boy falling on his face in the water with a candle in his hand. But though these discoveries were in a sense accidental, it must not be forgotten that but for the education of the public in Palestine by the work of the Society these great finds might have attracted no attention, and might thus have been lost to the world. I should like to say one word more with regard to the Bible. There is no doubt that the Bible is at the bottom of the Society. If it was not for that, I do not think that the interest that is felt in the work of the Society would have any existence. If we were working in South America, or Canada, or in any country but that which is connected with the history of the Old and New Testament, the public would not take the same interest that they do in the Holy Land. (Applause.) There is of course a great difference between reading the Bible in English and reading it in Hebrew, but still a greater difference lies in having read the Bible after being in the country where the Bible was written. It seems to become a book of a different character, and it has often struck me that there is a coldness and a want of sympathy in the reality of the Bible as read by students who work in their closets and have not lived in the country where the Bible was written. (Applause.) I feel that the Bible is yet very often greatly misunderstood. There is a great deal to be learnt about it before we can be said to understand it, and in order to be in thorough sympathy with it, it is necessary that you should live in the East and live daily amongst the people for whom and by whom it was written. (Hear, hear.) That leads me to consider the work of the Society in the future. Our first object, I think, should be excavation in Jerusalem, with the object of discovering the second wall of the city. The second wall is a very old friend—or a very old enemy of ours, and it seemed for a very long time as if it was impossible to be found. So it was, too, with regard to the first wall, which was lying beneath the surface at a distance of some 5 or 10 feet, and only Sir Charles

Warren was persuaded that it was there. In the same way the second wall is there. It has been discovered in a position which agrees with the views of most writers who have written for the Fund. But it is only the south end of the wall that has been found ; and although I think enough is now known to lead to the conclusion that the traditional site of the Holy Sepulchre must be abandoned, and that we are free to accept the site without the walls which the Jewish tradition has indicated as the site of Calvary ; still, I think we should direct the works in such a way that, with comparatively small expense, the discovery could be followed up and definite and most important results obtained in confirmation of our views. (Applause.) But with regard to the understanding of the Bible, I think what we want to know now is, more about the inhabitants of the country. We have studied the subject for a long time—first, in a very fragmentary manner ; but latterly we have found the method by which it should be studied, and we have now time on our hands and an opportunity which, I think, is exactly fitted for that style of work. I want to know everything about every race in the country. I want to know about their religious observances, their forms of speech, and the peculiarities of their dialects. I think we shall be able to prove that the peasant language of Syria is the language that the Jews used in the time of our Lord, and it is within the bounds of possibility that that will lead us to a better understanding of the language of the New Testament. I think we ought to be able to draw up a complete account which, at all events, would compare favourably with the wonderful account of Egyptian manners which Lane has left us. I am afraid I have spoken longer than I ought. (Applause.) There is only one thing I would like to ask you in conclusion. The third object we propose to spend money upon, is the publication of what we have got. I have left in the hands of the Society a piece of work which I believe to be by far the best piece of work which I have done for them. It is the survey of 500 square miles east of the Jordan, and contains diagrams, plans, pictures, and descriptions of a more interesting character, and, I think, more complete, and likely to be of more general value than anything contained in these volumes on the table before you. If any one will assist in the publication of that work, they will assist in the piece of work upon which I have most set my heart. (Applause.)

CANON TRISTRAM, D.D., was next called upon to address the meeting, and said : My Lord Archbishop,—When three or four and twenty years ago I was working as a somewhat clumsy journeyman under Sir George Grove on Smith's Dictionary of the Bible, he, whom I may call the sole and exclusive founder of the Palestine Exploration Fund, had only before him 262 names of places identified in Western Palestine, out of 622. As showing the contrast between what we knew then and what we know now, I may say that in Western Palestine alone there are now 434 identified names (applause), and there is hardly any ancient site west of the Jordan of importance, which cannot be now identified with more or less certainty. It

may be said, Why could not this have been done by the volunteers who had written so much on Palestine? But we who went out before and worked were unorganized—a few scouts, a few light-armed marauders making reconnoissances with a feeling that we were in an enemy's country, and one rider after another brought back reports as varying and contradictory as those which Sir Charles Wilson used to receive from the Arabs in the Soudan. No volunteers, however zealous, without the training of English Engineer officers, could possibly have accomplished the work which the Fund has done. It can only be done by men well trained to it, and backed up by such officers as they had. (Applause.) One thing that attracted my attention was the absolute ignorance of the flora and fauna of Galilee. Every one said, "Oh, you may take it for granted that it will be the same as in the other neighbouring countries!" I sent to all the principal museums in Europe, but there was not a single specimen of the fishes of the Jordan or Lake of Galilee to be found in Europe or America. Now the Palestine Exploration Fund has published a catalogue which could not have been published by any private individual. It would have been too extensive a work for any one to have undertaken. In that we have of mammalia 113 species, of birds 348 species, of reptiles 91 species found in the country. We have a catalogue of 3,040 indigenous plants in the Holy Land, and, most remarkable of all, in the river system of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan 43 peculiar species of fishes where only one was known before—all belonging to genera peculiar to the central lakes of Africa, and which have no connection with the fresh water fishes of Europe or Asia. Dr. Lortet has published a sumptuous volume on the fishes of the Sea of Galilee and the Jordan, and Monsieur Lacard has published another volume on the fresh water molluscs of the same region. It may be said, What bearing have these little matters upon the subject of Biblical illustration? Well, sometimes a very little thing will throw light. For instance, take those two catalogues of the clean and unclean animals in the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy. There are eleven in Deuteronomy which do not occur in Leviticus, and those are nearly all animals and birds which are not found in Egypt or the Holy Land, but which were numerous in the Arabian desert. They are not named in Leviticus a few weeks after the departure from Egypt; but after the people were thirty-nine years in the desert they are named—a strong proof that the list in Deuteronomy was written at the end of the journey, and the list in Leviticus at the beginning. It fixes the writing of that catalogue to one time and period only: namely, that when the children of Israel were familiar with the fauna and flora of the desert. I hope we shall be able, through your help, to carry on this work, and I appeal, on behalf of Mr. Besant, that you will really give him plenty to do, because I have noticed the more he has to do for the Fund the more story books he brings out for the public. (Applause.)

Mr. JOHN MACGREGOR, who was received with applause, said: Your Grace, I have a short story to tell, but a true one, about something in

the bottle which I hold in my hand. By referring to the picture on the outside of every one of our *Quarterly Statements*, you see the part of Jerusalem which is above ground. You see the great shaft which was wrought down 80 feet deep from the upper ground. That took place when I was there. My good friend Sir Charles Warren and myself were there for a long time, and the one thing that I want to speak of was what we saw down there at that time, and I feel it right to speak of it because he is not here to-day himself. Burrowing down under a place like Jerusalem is very difficult indeed. In the first place, it is a series of ruins, and you have to get down in a most extraordinary cork-screw fashion. And when you have got down about 6 feet, the sides fall in, so you must keep them up with great pieces of wood; but wood is the very thing that is most expensive in Jerusalem. When you have got down about 20 feet all these beams take away the light, and at last, when you get down 40 or 50 feet, it becomes very hot. And then stones came down clap on the back of our heads. We all had very hard heads. (Laughter.) At last we came down about 80 feet, and then we saw what we desired, and that was the foundation of the corner-stone of the city. Remember there is the saying of Christ—"And Jesus went out and departed from the Temple, and His disciples came to Him for to show Him the buildings of the Temple; and Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, there shall not be left here one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down." (Matt. xxiv, 1, 2.) But that did not apply to those stones which had never been seen by the disciples, and we knew then that the words of Christ were so accurate—they were stones that had never been turned up. Therefore we came to the place where they have been interred since the days of Titus, and at last we came to the rock. It was a happy day for me when I saw that a second time by myself. I went down and was at the bottom, and there was the rock, and there was the first stone of the corner, and, without intending it, I had a large hook knife in my pocket, and somehow something came into my hand, and that I saw was like a very great tooth. I put it into my pocket and showed it to Sir Charles Warren, but no one could make out what it was until we came back to England, and so we went to the best authority in the world. I said, "I think it is a sheep's tooth or a camel's tooth;" and Professor Owen, in that funny way he has, said, "Where did you get it?" I said, "I won't tell you that. I want to know what it is first?" He said, "Oh, it is an ox's tooth. Where did you get it?" I told him. He said, "In those days, and perhaps, indeed, in the present day, when they were beginning a new and important building an ox was sacrificed, and the blood was put upon the living rock." And here is that piece. It is surely worth while that you should see it. (Applause.) I noticed that the red marks upon the stone left their place. They were strange in shape, and when we had got this shaft open they began to fade, so I went and took a quantity of pink and made pink marks, and then carried them down and compared them with the different ones. Afterwards when I went to Baalbec I found the same red was there, and when

I went down a few days afterwards the whole of the red had escaped. We have had reserved for us many of these things, which, in a little time, might have been entirely thrown away and misused, but which are now under the strong patronage of the public and people at the head of affairs, and of such men as you see round you and who have spoken to you. (Applause.)

Professor HAYTER LEWIS was then called upon to speak. He said: My Lord Archbishop, ladies and gentlemen, Owing to my having paid a recent visit, a second time, to Jerusalem, I have been asked to say a few words as to the finding of the second wall, but I should like, first, to add a few words to what has been said by Canon Tristram as to the catalogue of the mammalia, fauna, and flora of Palestine. One point he entirely forgot to mention—that these discoveries and catalogue were made by himself, and they were published in one of our most interesting volumes. With respect to the second wall, I should wish you distinctly to understand that I do not claim in the slightest degree any merit in the discovery, which was made by Dr. Selah Merrill and Mr. Schick, the German architect. Both of them live in Jerusalem, and from time to time communicate with us upon our work. They are most excellent friends, but no doubt would not have given the close attention to the work which they have done had it not been for their connection with the Palestine Exploration Fund. We may look upon the work we do as we would upon a museum in a country town. Constantly you get curious things turned up, and if there be no ready receptacle for these, the chances are they are taken to some private house and gradually get lost. The result is we lose a great deal which we would not if there were a receptacle for such finds. The records of this Fund provide against such a case as that. Without it the discovery of the wall might have been brought before the public in some way or another, but as likely as not, there being no actual receptacle for such a discovery, this and others would be altogether lost. With respect to this wall it sounds, no doubt, a very slight thing to say that we have found a piece of an old wall; but I need scarcely here mention that the second wall involves to us Biblical scholars a very serious matter indeed, and it is this—whether the Church of the Holy Sepulchre covers the actual tomb of our Lord, or whether the place we have revered as being the actual cave in which our Lord was buried was only a myth. You all know perfectly the account in the Bible that Calvary and the entombment were high to the city, but clearly outside the walls. If, therefore, the second wall include the Church of the Holy Sepulchre there is no question that the site is not the true one. If, however, we find that the wall turns, and that the tomb was outside the city, we see that the tradition may be true, and we may still continue to reverence the site as we have done for hundreds of years. Round Jerusalem there are three walls, and there is a fourth round the Temple area. I have made a rough drawing, which will partly explain perhaps what I am about to say. [Professor Lewis here exhibited it.] The tinted part is the modern Jerusalem—the Jerusalem within the present walls. To the east—to your

right—is the Temple area—the noble Sanctuary—that is to say, the place on which undoubtedly the Temple of the Jews (Temple of Solomon, the Temple of Herod) was placed. It is this part, which I have marked here rather darker, on which it is supposed the Temple was placed. In regard of this and the question as to the site of the Holy Sepulchre, I venture, on behalf of the Society, to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Fergusson, who was one of our most zealous Biblical scholars. He devoted an immense amount of energy and literary research to the subject, and although many of us, myself amongst the number, disagree with his theories, yet we must all of us bear witness to the great learning, the great skill, and the great earnestness with which Mr. Fergusson pursued his work.

As I have said above, there were three walls to the City. The first wall was built by Solomon and was finished by Herod. The third wall does not concern us; it was after the time of our Lord. The second wall, which concerns us now, stood in the time of our Lord, and, therefore, whatever we find about it relates to the particular period of His life. The first enclosed the south and east part of Jerusalem, and, with respect to that, the difference of opinion as to its course is very great. You see by the plan how different the theories are, and all by men whose opinion you would take as from persons who are truly capable of giving it. Yet you see how great the differences are, and how utterly at sea we were when we began to work at Jerusalem, upon any point which an ordinary student would expect to be known. We have, with respect to the course of the second wall, a description of Josephus which gives some clue to it. He says: "The second wall took its beginning from that gate which they called 'Gennath,' which belonged to the first wall; it only encompassed the northern quarter of the city, and reached as far as the tower Antonia." Further, Josephus says: "The first fortification was lowered, and the second was not joined to it, the builders neglecting to build the wall strong where the new city was not much inhabited." The exact site of the tower of Antonia is disputed, but there is no dispute about its general position. The newly-discovered wall is a little to the west of Gennath, where Colonel Warren and Dr. Williams and Dr. Robinson and Captain Conder all placed it. When you talk of a wall, it is not such a wall as we are accustomed to in England. It is from 8 to 10 feet thick, built of stones 6 or 8 feet long, and it has been found to the length of about 120 feet. It is almost certain that it is a portion of the second wall. It is likewise certain that the outside of the wall was to the west—that is to say, to the outside of the City; for this reason, that its external face was worked in a particular kind of way, a way found very rarely except in Palestine, showing that the outside was to the west. What we want to find out now is which direction beyond the 120 feet it takes. Upon that we are, at present, in doubt. The importance of it is that upon that direction turns the question whether the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was outside the wall or not. Unfortunately, it leaves off just in the place at which, according to one theory,

it would have turned to the north, so that it would enclose the site of the Holy Sepulchre, or to the east, in which case the site would probably be outside the second wall. Dr. Merrill and Mr. Schick, both on the spot, vary in their opinions respecting the direction. One takes the east and the other the north. It would be rather imprudent at present to say what steps the Committee have taken to ascertain that point; but, I need not say, we are all most painfully alive to the importance of ascertaining the fact; for upon it, unquestionably depends this—whether we must consign to the region of doubt and myth the report of the tomb of our Lord being within the site of the Holy Sepulchre, or whether we must still believe, as we have done for the last 1,500 years, that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre does enshrine the cave in which, for some brief space after death, our Lord lay. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Archbishop of York, on the motion of Mr. GLAISHER.

The CHAIRMAN then moved a formal resolution in support of the Fund, which was carried unanimously.

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