

Appendix to the Pilgrim's Text Society's translation of the Abbot Daniel. In the same neighbourhood tombs with *rolling stone doors* were found, also some Greek inscriptions.

7. Excavations on property belonging to a French gentleman on the eastern slope of Zion have revealed a number of rock-hewn chambers, which appear to have been used in ancient times partly as dwellings and partly as storehouses. In describing them Herr Schick remarks that nearly all the ground covered by the city of Jerusalem is found on examination to be honeycombed with these rock-hewn chambers. It is not improbable that the Jebusites were to some extent troglodytes. In the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles mention is made of a cave at Cyprus "where the race of the Jebusites formerly dwelt."

8. On the Mount of Olives very interesting discoveries have been made, including a Christian burial place, an extensive series of "catacombs," which had been made use of by Roman soldiers of the tenth legion, a number of Roman tiles, and other antiquities of various periods.

9. In a cave at Sarfs have been found human figures sculptured on the walls, resembling the "Proto-Phœnician" rock-sculptures near Tyre, and an inscription, believed by Professor Sayce to be evidently old Phœnician. An inscription which had escaped the observation of previous travellers has been noted by Mr. Hanauer at Beit el Khûlîl.

10. From Galilee Herr Schumacher has reported the discovery of a large cave at Nazareth; ancient and elaborate rock tombs at Haifa and Shefa 'Amr; exploration of the caves of Jessâs; discovery of various inscriptions, and of the rock-hewn apse of a church alluded to above.

11. The meteorological observations made under the auspices of the Fund which extend over many years are still being carried on, and the results are being published by Mr. Glaisher in successive numbers of the *Quarterly Statement*.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The Rev. J. Fallscher, of Nâblus, has forwarded drawings of several sculptured capitals and other stones found at Sebüstieh (Samaria) by M. Ali, the Government engineer there. One of these bears a bull's head with horns, and two others have human figures. They are apparently of Christian origin.

Herr Schick reports the discovery of an obelisk at Cæsarea and sends a drawing of it, which is given at p. 23. The top of the obelisk has not been found. It is believed that this is the first obelisk ever discovered in the Holy Land.

The present number contains an account of further observations of the rock levels of the city of Jerusalem confirming the supposition that east of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre there is a rock terrace surrounded, or nearly surrounded, by scarps of considerable height.

A letter from Jerusalem, published in the *Northern Christian Advocate*, Syracuse, New York, November 7th, 1889, has the following:—"There are strange rumours afloat about an inscription found at St. Stephens (north of Damascus Gate). It is said that the Romanists are anxious to hush up the discovery, as it would damage the credit of the Church of the Sepulchre. A person who professes to have seen and read it informs me that its contents are somewhat to the following effect: 'I, Eusebius, have desired to be buried in this spot, which I believe to be close to the place where the body of my Lord lay.'" Herr Schick has been asked to report to the Fund what he knows of this curious story.

The *Figaro* of October 22nd has an interesting and suggestive article headed "The Russians in Palestine." "Russia," it states, "proceeds in a manner peculiar to herself; she labours without noise, but this does not prevent her making great advances. Other nations who desire to extend their influence in Palestine proceed with the sound of the trumpet, and achieve only a minimum of success. Russia labours in silence, and obtains surprising results. It seems that Russians have undertaken to *Russify* Palestine, and they are doing it. Money does not fail her. There exists in Russia a great society bearing the title of "the Orthodox Society of Palestine," which supplies the Russian missionaries with the funds necessary for the creation and support of educational and benevolent establishments. The Pan Slavist Committees, and rich private individuals, also come to the aid of this politico-religious campaign, and the Russian pilgrims, who stream by thousands every year to Jerusalem, contribute morally and materially to the success of the work."

"At Nazareth there are two Russian schools for boys and one for girls. These schools, although founded only three years ago, already number more than five hundred pupils. At Beyrût a school for girls was established in 1887. Two hundred young women there receive Russian instruction. The schools of Beit Jâla, and many other localities, work to the satisfaction of their founders, and reckon from 80 to 100 pupils each. At Nazareth, and in other towns, there are hospitals and dispensaries. At Jerusalem and in its environs Russian establishments may be counted by the dozen. A million has been expended in the construction of two large hospices, where pilgrims from Russia may be cheaply supplied with all the comforts possible. It is easy to conceive that all this money spent in the country benefits the population and attaches it more and more to the Russian cause."

"We ought to note," the writer continues, "that the instruction given in the schools is absolutely *Russian*. Only Arabic and Russian are taught; every other language is rigorously excluded. Thus in a few years the Arabs will know nothing but what their Russian instructors have taught them, and will be impregnated only with Russian ideas! A congress of Russian professors recently met at Jerusalem 'to discuss and adopt a uniform system of instruction in Russian schools in Palestine, and to suggest measures for promoting and confirming Russian influence in the country.' The Czarewitch was present officially."

"A relation of a voyage to Tadmor begun y^e 29th Sept., 1691," from the original manuscript in the possession of Albert Hartshorne, Esq., F.S.A., and presented by him to the Fund, will shortly be published.

An important essay by Frederick J. Bliss, Esq., B.A., of Beyrût, on Ma'lula and its dialect, will be published in the *Quarterly Statement* during the year. Ma'lula lies north-east of Damascus. The author of the paper remarks that:—"Its situation and surrounding scenery are unique. Its cave-dwellings and rock-tombs give evidence of an ancient but active existence, while in its dialect is found a certain strange survival of the Aramaic which Christ spoke not 150 miles away."

Mr. Henry A. Harper's work, on "The Bible and Modern Discoveries" was published in December. It is an endeavour to present in a simple but yet connected form the Biblical results of twenty-two years' work of the Palestine Exploration Fund. The writer has also availed himself of the discoveries made by the American Expeditions and the Egyptian Exploration Fund, as well as discoveries of interest made by independent travellers. The Bible story, from the call of Abraham to the Captivity, is taken, and details given of the light thrown by modern research on the sacred annals. Eastern customs and modes of thought are explained whenever the writer thought they illustrated the text. To the Clergy and Sunday School Teachers, as well as to all those who love the Bible, the writer hopes this work will prove useful. He is personally acquainted with the land, and nearly all the places spoken of he has visited, and most of them he has moreover sketched or painted. The work is in one large, handsome volume of 600 pages. It is illustrated with many plates, and a map showing the route of the Israelites and the sites of the principal places mentioned in the sacred narratives. Price to the public, 16s.; to subscribers to the Palestine Exploration Fund, 10s. 6d., carriage included.

The work has had so far a very gratifying reception. The whole of the First Edition has gone, and a considerable number of the Second Edition were ordered before it could be got ready. This is the more satisfactory as hardly any press notices have yet been received. The number of subscribers to the Palestine Exploration Fund who have taken advantage of the reduced terms has been about 500. It should be noted that the book is admirably adapted for the school or village library.

Mr. (Guy le Strange's important work, "Palestine under the Moslems," which is a description of Palestine according to the mediæval Arab geographers, is also in the press.

The report of Herr Schumacher's Survey of Northern 'Ajlûn will shortly be published in separate form. It contains a map, plans and drawings of the important ruins of Gadara (Umm Keis), Capitolias (Beit Ras), and Arbeta (Irbid), none of which had ever before been surveyed, also of the Temple at el-Kabu and numerous tombs, sarcophagi, inscriptions, dolmens, &c. The price to the public will be 3s. 6d., to subscribers to the Fund, 1s. 6d.

The first volume of the "Survey of Eastern Palestine," by Major Conder, has been issued to subscribers. It is accompanied by a map of the portion of country surveyed, special plans, and upwards of 350 drawings of ruins, tombs, dolmens, stone circles, inscriptions, &c. The edition is limited to 500. The first 250 subscribers pay seven guineas for the three volumes, with an index; subscribers to the "Survey of Western Palestine" are privileged to have the volumes for this sum. The price will be raised, after 250 names are received, to twelve guineas. The Committee are pledged never to let any copies be subscribed under the sum of seven guineas. Mr. A. P. Watt, 2, Paternoster Square, is the Sole Agent. The attention of intending subscribers is directed to the announcement on the inside of the cover of this number.

Considerable progress has also been made with the second volume, which consists of M. Lecomte's beautiful drawings, illustrating the Mission of M. Clermont-Ganneau in 1874. The illustrations for the third volume, Mr. Chichester Hart's "Flora and Fauna" of the Wâdy Arabah, are nearly ready.

The Committee have added to their list of publications the new edition of the "History of Jerusalem," by Walter Besant and E. H. Palmer (Bentley & Son). It can be obtained by subscribers, carriage paid, for 5s. 6d., by application to the Head Office only. The "History of Jerusalem," which was originally published in 1871, and has long been completely out of print, covers a period and is compiled from materials not included in any other work, though some of the contents have been plundered by later works on the same subject. It begins with the siege by Titus and continues to the fourteenth century, including the Early Christian period, the Moslem invasion, the Mediæval pilgrims, the Mohammedan pilgrims, the Crusades, the Latin Kingdom, the victorious career of Saladin, the Crusade of Children, and many other little-known episodes in the history of the city and the country.

The books now contained in the Society's publications comprise an amount of information on Palestine, and on the researches conducted in the country, which can be found in no other publications. It must never be forgotten that no single traveller, however well equipped by previous knowledge, can compete with a scientific body of explorers, instructed in the periods required, and provided with all the instruments necessary for carrying out their work. The books are the following (*the whole set can be obtained by application to Mr. George Armstrong, for 37s. 6d., carriage paid*):—

By Major Conder, R.E.—

- (1) "Tent Work in Palestine."—A popular account of the survey of Western Palestine, freely illustrated by drawings made by the author himself. This is not a dry record of the sepulchres, or a descriptive catalogue of

ruins, springs, and valleys, but a continuous narrative full of observations upon the manners and customs of the people, the Biblical associations of the sites, the Holy City and its memories, and is based upon a six years' experience in the country itself. No other modern traveller has enjoyed the same advantages as Major Conder, or has used his opportunities to better purpose.

- (2) "Heth and Moab."—Under this title Major Conder provides a narrative, as bright and as full of interest as "Tent Work," of the expedition for the *Survey of Eastern Palestine*. How the party began by a flying visit to North Syria, in order to discover the Holy City—Kadesh—of the children of Heth; how they fared across the Jordan, and what discoveries they made there, will be found in this volume.
- (3) Major Conder's "Syrian Stone Lore."—This volume, the least known of Major Conder's works, is, perhaps, the most valuable. It attempts a task never before approached—the reconstruction of Palestine from its monuments. It shows what we should know of Syria if there were no Bible, and it illustrates the Bible from the monuments.
- (4) Major Conder's "Altaic Inscriptions."—This book is an attempt to read the Hittite Inscriptions. The author has seen no reason to change his views since the publication of the work.
- (5) Professor Hull's "Mount Seir."—This is a popular account of the Geological Expedition conducted by Professor Hull for the Committee of the Palestine Fund. The part which deals with the Valley of Arabah will be found entirely new and interesting.
- (6) Herr Schumacher's "Across the Jordan."
- (7) Herr Schumacher's "Jaulân."—These two books must be taken in continuation of Major Conder's works issued as instalments of the unpublished "Survey of Eastern Palestine." They are full of drawings, sketches, and plans, and contain many valuable remarks upon manners and customs.
- (8) "The Memoirs of Twenty-one Years' Work."—A copy of this book is presented to every subscriber to the Fund who applies for it. The work is a popular account of the researches conducted by the Society during the past twenty-one years of its existence. It will be found not only valuable in itself as an interesting work, but also as a book of reference, and especially useful in order to show what has been doing, and is still doing, by this Society.
- (9) Herr Schumacher's "Kh. Fahil." The ancient Pella, the first retreat of the Christians; with map and illustrations.
- (10) Names and Places in the Old and New Testament and Apocrypha, with their modern identifications, with reference to Josephus, the Memoirs, and *Quarterly Statements*.
- (11) Besant and Palmer's "History of Jerusalem," already described.

Branch Associations of the Bible Society, all Sunday Schools in union with the Sunday School Institute, the Sunday School Union, and the Wesleyan Sunday School Institute, will please observe that by a special Resolution of the Committee they will henceforth be treated as subscribers and be allowed to purchase the books and maps (by application only to the Secretary) at reduced price.

The income of the Society, from September 19th to December 19th inclusive, was—from subscriptions and donations, £426 15s. 10d.; from all sources, £653 19s. 4d. The expenditure during the same period was £740 5s. 1d. On December 21st, the balance in the Bank was £369 2s. 1d.

Subscribers are begged to note that the following can be had by application to the office, at 1s. each :—

1. Index to the *Quarterly Statement*, 1869–1880;
 2. Cases for Herr Schumacher's "Jaulân;"
 3. Cases for the *Quarterly Statement*, in green or chocolate.
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Early numbers of the *Quarterly Statement* are very rare. In order to make up complete sets, the Committee will be very glad to receive any of the following numbers :—

No. II, 1869; No. VII, 1870; No. III (July) 1871; January and April, 1872; January, 1883, and January, 1886.

It having again been reported to the Committee that certain book hawkers are representing themselves as agents of the Society, the Committee have to caution subscribers and the public that they have no book hawkers in their employ, and that none of their works are sold by itinerant agents.

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.

Subscribers who do not receive the *Quarterly Statement* regularly are asked to send a note to the Secretary. 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.

The only authorised lecturers for the Society are—

- (1) Mr. George St. Clair, F.G.S., Member of the Anthropological Institute and of the Society of Biblical Archæology.

His subjects are :—

- (1) *The Buried City of Jerusalem, and General Exploration of Palestine.*
- (2) *Discoveries in Assyria, Chaldea, and Palestine.*
- (3) *The Moabite Stone and the Pedigree of the English Alphabet.*
- (4) *Jerusalem of David, Nehemiah, and Christ.*
- (5) *Sight-seeing in Palestine: a Narrative of Personal Experiences.*
- (6) *Israel's Wars and Worship, illustrated by the new Survey.*
- (7) *The Gospel History in the light of Palestine Exploration.*

Address : Geo. St. Clair, Bristol Road, Birmingham, or at the Office of the Fund.

- (2) The Rev. Henry Geary, Vicar of St. Thomas's, Portman Square. His lectures are on the following subjects, and all illustrated by original photographs shown as "dissolving views:"—

The Survey of Western Palestine, as illustrating Bible History.
Palestine East of the Jordan.
The Jerusalem Excavations.
A Restoration of Ancient Jerusalem.

- (3) The Rev. James King, Vicar of St. Mary's, Berwick. His subjects are as follows :—

The Survey of Western Palestine.
Jerusalem.
The Hittites.
The Moabite Stone and other monuments.

- (4) The Rev. Thomas Harrison, F.R.G.S., Member of the Society of Biblical Archæology, 38, Melrose Gardens, West Kensington Park, W. His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *Research and Discovery in the Holy Land.*
- (2) *In the Track of the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan.*
- (3) *Bible Scenes in the Light of Modern Science.*