

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

SINCE the issue of the last *Quarterly Statement* the excavations at Jerusalem have been steadily carried on, except for one fortnight in which they had to be suspended owing to the illness of some of the chief workers. During the absence of Dr. Bliss, to recruit after his severe attack of illness, the operations were ably superintended by Mr. Dickie. Dr. Bliss returned to Jerusalem in July.

Major-General Sir Charles Wilson sends us the following note on Dr. Bliss's report:—

"I have few comments to make on Dr. Bliss's last report on his excavations. Those excavations are increasing in interest, but it is still too early to base any theories upon them.

"The wall across the mouth of the Tyropœon Valley is evidently a masonry dam, or embankment, constructed when the Lower Pool of Siloam was made, and strengthened at a later period by the addition of the ruder masonry described by Dr. Bliss. When the dam was first built, and when it was utilised as part of the fortifications of the city, are problems that still remain to be solved. It will be sufficient here to draw attention to the somewhat similar arrangement at the mouth of the valley in which the Birket Israil lies. Considerable interest attaches to the manner in which the wall joins the rock on the east side of the valley, and also to the size of the Lower Pool, which is apparently much larger than was generally supposed.

"The portion of the wall uncovered by Dr. Guthe, to which Dr. Bliss alludes, did not seem to me, when I saw it, to have been part of the fortifications of the city. It looked more like a retaining wall partly built with old material; on this point, however, we must wait for fuller information. The excavations now going on in the plot of ground on the hillside near the Neby Daûd road promise to yield important results."

In answer to the question whether it has ever been ascertained whether the rock in the Greek Chapel in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, in which are shown the holes where the crosses stood, is really solid rock or a huge stone, Herr von Schick writes: "This has never been ascertained beyond doubt. All that can be said is that the crack or cleft has just the same direction and appearance as other rock clefts around Jerusalem. But this is not a full proof that it is rock and not a large stone."

Herr von Schick writes that as so many people ask him about the question of Calvary, he intends to make a model of the original ground of the city, with valleys round about, and showing the lines of the various walls. The scale is to be $\frac{1}{10000}$.

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer again draws attention to the manufacture of sham antiques which is going on briskly in the Holy Land. Specimens of the famous "Moabite pottery" which had been concealed for years, are now again in the market, and tourists are warned against purchasing them as genuine.

Mr. Hanauer reports that the dispute which had lasted for years between the owners of real property at Jaffa and the Government as to the tenure of their lands, has at length been decided satisfactorily, the orange groves, for which Jaffa is so famous, having been declared freehold (*mulk*), and not Crown land (*meeri*).

He also mentions that all Jerusalem dragomans are now required by the municipal government to pass an examination as to what they are to tell visitors to the holy places. The examiners are said to be the effendis of the mejlis—*i.e.*, the magistrates of the bench—and those who pass successfully are to receive a diploma!

The narrow-gauge railway between Beyrout and Damascus has been opened. On the slopes of the Lebanon the cog-wheel system is employed. Beyond Zahleh the line crosses the Bekah, ascends the Valley Yafîfa, and proceeds by Zebadani and the Valley of the Barada. The journey at present occupies as much as eight hours; it is worked by the French Company, who own the Damascus-road.

TOURISTS are cordially invited to visit the Loan Collection of "Antiques" in the JERUSALEM ASSOCIATION ROOM of the Palestine Exploration Fund, opposite the Tower of David. Hours: 8 to 12, and 2 to 6. Maps of Palestine and Palestine Exploration Fund publications are kept for sale. Necessary information will be gladly given by the Rev. Theodore E. Dowling, *Hon. Sec.*

Mons. Arséniew has presented to the Association specimens of Phœnician pottery.

Dr. Bliss lends some stones from Herod's Palace, Jericho.

Mr. Herbert Clark's two glass cases contain seals (Phœnician, Greek, Roman, and one Hebrew seal from Silwân); Assyrian and Babylonian cylinders; Greek, Roman, and Hebrew coins; bronze spear arrow heads; stone chisels; tear bottles, and a mirror.

The Rev. Theodore E. Dowling's selection of Jewish and Palestinian coins fills a large glass case.

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer's flying fox is conspicuous.

Mr. C. A. Hornstein exhibits birds and ancient lamps.

Mr. David Jamal lends a black stone head, brought by him from one of the numerous tombs scattered round about Galara.

Mr. G. R. Lees' photographs adorn the walls, and Dr. Wheeler's Torah, which was made use of in his Lectures on "The Jews of Jerusalem," and "Jewish Life in Palestine."

The Committee have to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Library of the Fund :—

- "Beschrijving van de Versameling Egyptische Oudheden," van Ds. L. Schouten, Hz. Leiden, 1885.
- "Catalogus van het Bijbelsch Museum," van Ds. L. Schouten, Hz. Utrecht, 1895. From the Author.
- "Bible Lands," by H. J. Van-Lennep, D.D.
- "The Land of Gilead," by Laurence Oliphant.
- "The Land of Israel—a Journal of Travels in Palestine," by Canon Tristram. From the Rev. John J. W. Pollock.
- "Au Delà du Jourdain : Souvenirs d'une Excursion Faite en Mars, 1894." By Lucien Gautier. From the Author.

The Committee will be glad to receive donations of Books to the Library of the Fund, which already contains many works of great value relating to Palestine and other Bible Lands. See list of Books, *July Quarterly Statement*, 1893.

The following have kindly consented to act as Honorary Local Secretaries :—

- Rev. J. F. Bailey, Ripon, in place of the Rev. G. G. S. Thomas, resigned.
- H. G. Seth-Smith, Esq., Auckland, New Zealand, in place of the Rev. Frank Seth-Smith, resigned.

Sir Walter Besant's summary of the work of the Fund from its commencement has been brought up to date by the author and published under the title, "Thirty Years' Work in the Holy Land." Applications for copies may be sent in to Mr. Armstrong.

Mr. George Armstrong's Raised Map of Palestine is on view at the office of the Fund. A circular giving full particulars about it will be sent on application to the Secretary.

A new Colotype Print, from a specially prepared copy of the Raised Map, is now ready, and can be had by subscribers, price 2s. 9d., post free.

The print is on thin cardboard, measuring 20 inches by 28½ inches.

Supporters of the Fund will be gratified to learn that this valuable work has met with great appreciation in nearly every quarter of the globe, and from many learned societies. Copies have been ordered and supplied for the Royal Geographical Society; the Science and Art Museum and Trinity College, Dublin; the Free Kirk College, Glasgow; Queen's College, Cambridge; Mansfield College, Oxford; and for subscribers in Russia, the Netherlands, the United States of America, Australia, Japan, and China, besides Manchester, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and other cities of our own country.

The following are some of the opinions which have been expressed by competent authorities respecting the value of this Map :—

"A Raised Map of Palestine must prove of the greatest interest to all who have visited or intend to visit the country, affording, as it does a picture *au vol d'oiseau* of all the physical features. Mr. Armstrong's interesting work will faithfully present to those who have had the advantage of touring in Palestine the old familiar routes they have traversed, and will give to those who have yet to enjoy such a journey a clear idea of the sort of country they may expect to see. . . . The educational use to which the map will be put will be very considerable."—*The Times*.

"There are the seas, the lakes, the mountains, and valleys, all so perfect and distinct that one can travel over the ground and visit the cities and towns. With the Bible in hand the holy sites can be inspected, the historical events of the narration can be followed, the movements of the various tribes can be traced, the operations of war can be grasped and easily understood. With this Raised Map before him a Moltke could sit and plan a campaign as if it were a chess problem."—*Daily News*.

"By the aid of such a Raised Map the untravelled student may picture the scenery of Palestine, under the allusions to its topography, and see where the roads of the country must run; he can follow the tracks of rival armies upon its battle-fields and understand better the conditions attaching to rival sites."—*Manchester Guardian*.

"It is certainly a most interesting and valuable Map, and in no other way, short of a personal visit, could one obtain so correct an idea of the contour of the Holy Land."—*Cambridge Tribune*, U.S.A.

"The Relief Map of Palestine is the most accurate that has yet been published of that country. It is based on the surveys made by Major Conder and Colonel Sir H. Kitchener for the Palestine Exploration Fund, and has been most carefully constructed by Mr. George Armstrong, who was himself employed on the survey. The relief enables the student to grasp at once the peculiar geographical and topographical features of the Holy Land and to understand the influence of those features on the history of the country and on the various campaigns from the conquest by Joshua to the expedition of Napoleon."—Sir C. W. WILSON, Major-General, R.E.

"Mr. Armstrong's Raised Map of Palestine is the only correct representation of the natural features of the country that has been published. It is scientifically accurate, and gives a better idea of the country than any flat map. It will be of great value to schools and to all scholars."—C. R. CONDER, Major, R.E.

"I wish another copy of your Raised Map. I am greatly pleased with it, I do not think I would like to teach the Old Testament without it."—Professor GEORGE ADAM SMITH, Free Church College, Glasgow.

"It came through in excellent order and has been pronounced the best thing of the kind that we have ever seen."—The Very Rev. Dean HOFFMAN, The General Theological Seminary, New York.

"All the professors and students expressed the most complete satisfaction and admired the correctness and fine execution which more than answered their expectation. They anticipate great practical and scientific usefulness."—HAR. M. LE BACHELET, Biblioth, St. Heliers, Jersey.

"I need not say that I am well pleased with the Map, and I must congratulate you upon the patience and skill which you have displayed in constructing it."—CHARLES BAILLY, Congregational Church School, Manchester.

"The Map arrived safely. I am very much pleased with the Raised Map and its colouring; you seem to have taken great pains with it. I hope Bible Students and Sunday School Teachers will come and study it."—W. H. RINDER, Philosophical Society, Leeds.

"I had the case opened and found the Map quite safe; it is a splendid piece of work and has given great satisfaction to the Committee."—C. GOODYEAR, Secretary and Librarian, Lancashire College.

"You have conferred an invaluable boon on all Scripture Students by your issue of the Raised Map. I shall not rest till I have one for my School."—The Very Rev. S. W. ALLEN, Shrewsbury.

"The Map is a beautiful piece of work and equally valuable to the historian, the geographer, and the geologist."—Captain F. W. HUTTON, Curator, Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand.

"The Map arrived all safe . . . and has given great satisfaction to everyone who has seen it."—The Rev. DOUGLAS FERRIER, Free Church Manse, Bothwell, N.B.

"The Map has come quite perfect and is much admired. You have erected a monument for yourself that will long endure."—Rev. THOMAS M. B. PATTERSON, Hamilton, N.B.

Subscribers to the PALESTINE PILGRIMS' TEXT SOCIETY who have not sent in their application for cases for binding the translations issued by the Society, are reminded that these are now ready, and that the whole issues—Nos. 1 to 26 (up to date)—have been arranged in chronological order, so as to make 10 volumes of equal size.

Index to the *Quarterly Statement*.—A new edition of the Index to the *Quarterly Statements* has been compiled. It embraces the years 1869 (the first issue of the journal) to the end of 1892. Contents:—Names of the Authors and of the Papers contributed by them; List of the Illustrations; and General Index. This Index will be found extremely useful. Price to subscribers to the Fund, in paper cover, 1s. 6d., in cloth, 2s. 6d., post free; non-subscribers, 2s. and 3s.

The museum of the Fund, at 24, Hanover Square, is now open to subscribers between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., every week-day except Saturdays, when it closes at 2 p.m.

It may be well to mention that plans and photographs alluded to in the reports from Jerusalem and elsewhere cannot all be published, but all are preserved in the offices of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

The first volume of the "Survey of Eastern Palestine," by Major Conder, 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. Subscribers to the "Survey of Western Palestine" are privileged to have the volumes for seven guineas. The price will be raised, after 250 names are received, to twelve guineas. The Committee are pledged never to let any copies be subscribed for under the sum of seven guineas. A. P. Watt and Son, Hastings House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., are the Sole Agents. The attention of intending subscribers is directed to the announcement in the last page of this number.

Mr. H. Chichester Hart's "Fauna and Flora of Sinai, Petra, and the Wâdy Arabah," which forms the second volume, can be had separately.

M. Clermont-Ganneau's work, "Archæological Researches in Palestine," will form the third volume. The first portion of it is already translated and in the press.

The maps and 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. See list of Publications.

In the year 1880 M. Clermont-Ganneau published, in 19 parts, the first portion of a volume of "Oriental Archæological Studies," and has now completed the volume by the issue of the remaining parts. The prospectus of this valuable work will be found in our advertisement pages.

Branch Associations of the Bible Society, all Sunday School Unions within 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 June 22nd to September 21st, 1895, was— from annual subscriptions and donations, including Local Societies, £199 10s. 6d.; from all sources—£411 11s. 8d. The expenditure during the same period was £542 12s. 11d. On September 23rd the balance in the Bank was £225 2s. 11d.

Subscribers are requested to note that the following cases for binding, casts, and slides can be had by application to the Assistant Secretary at the Office of the Fund:—

- Cases for binding Herr Schumacher's "Jaulân," 1s. each.
- Cases for binding the *Quarterly Statement*, in green or chocolate, 1s. each.
- Cases for binding "Abila," "Pella," and "'Ajlûn" in one volume, 1s. each.

Casts of the Tablet, with Cuneiform Inscription, found at Tell el Hesi, at a depth of 35 feet, in May, 1892, by Dr. Bliss, Explorer to the Fund. It belongs to the general diplomatic correspondence carried on between Amenhotep III and IV and their agents in various Palestinian towns. Price 2s. 6d. each.

Casts of the Ancient Hebrew Weight brought by Dr. Chaplin from Samaria, price 2s. 6d. each.

Casts of an Inscribed Weight or Bead from Palestine, forwarded by Professor Wright, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., price 1s. each.

Lantern slides of the Raised Map, the Sidon Sarcophagi, and of the Bible places mentioned in the catalogue of photos and special list of slides.

In order to make up complete sets of the *Quarterly Statement* the Committee will be very glad to receive any of the back numbers.

While desiring to give 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 authorised lecturers for the Society are—

The Rev. Thomas Harrison, F.R.G.S., Hillside, Benenden, Staplehurst, Kent. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *Research and Discovery in the Holy Land.*
- (2) *Bible Scenes in the Light of Modern Science.*
- (3) *The Survey of Eastern Palestine.*
- (4) *In the Track of the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan.*
- (5) *The Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, and the Cities of the Plain.*
- (6) *The Recovery of Jerusalem—(Excavations in 1894).*
- (7) *The Recovery of Lachish and the Hebrew Conquest of Palestine.*
- (8) *Archæological Illustrations of the Bible.* (Specially adapted for Sunday School Teachers).

N.B.—All these Lectures are illustrated by specially prepared lantern slides.

The Rev. J. R. Macpherson, B.D., Kinnaird Manse, Inchtute, N.B. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *Excavations in Jerusalem, 1868-70, 1894-5.*
- (2) *Lachish, a Mound of Buried Cities; with Comparative Illustrations from some Egyptian Tells.*
- (3) *Recent Discoveries in Palestine—Lachish and Jerusalem.*

- (4) *Exploration in Judea.*
- (5) *Galilee and Samaria.*
- (6) *Palestine in the Footsteps of our Lord.*
- (7) *Mount Sinai and the Desert of the Wanderings.*
- (8) *Palestine—its People, its Customs, and its Ruins.* (Lecture for Children.)

All illustrated with specially prepared lime-light lantern views.

The Rev. James Smith, B.D., St. George's-in-the-West Parish, Aberdeen.

His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *The Palestine Exploration Fund.*
- (2) *A Pilgrimage to Palestine.*
- (3) *Jerusalem—Ancient and Modern.*
- (4) *The Temple Area, as it now is.*
- (5) *The Church of the Holy Sepulchre.*
- (6) *A Visit to Bethlehem and Hebron.*
- (7) *Jericho, Jordan, and the Dead Sea.*

The Rev. J. Llewelyn Thomas, M.A., Aberpergwm, Glynneath, South Wales. His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *Explorations in Judea.*
- (2) *Research and Discovery in Samaria and Galilee.*
- (3) *In Bible Lands ; a Narrative of Personal Experiences.*
- (4) *The Reconstruction of Jerusalem.*
- (5) *Problems of Palestine.*

The Rev. Charles Harris, M.A., F.R.G.S., St. Lawrence, Ramsgate. (All Lectures illustrated by lantern slides). His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *Modern Discoveries in Palestine.*
- (2) *Stories in Stone ; or, New Light on the Old Testament.*
- (3) *Underground Jerusalem ; or, With the Explorer in 1895.*
Bible Stories from the Monuments, or Old Testament History
in the Light of Modern Research :—
- (4) A. *The Story of Joseph ; or, Life in Ancient Egypt.*
- (5) B. *The Story of Moses ; or, Through the Desert to the Promised Land.*
- (6) C. *The Story of Joshua ; or, The Buried City of Lachish.*
- (7) D. *The Story of Sennacherib ; or Scenes of Assyrian Warfare.*
- (8) E. *The Story of the Hittites ; or, A Lost Nation Found.*

Professor Theodore F. Wright, Ph.D., 42, Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass., Honorary General Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund for the United States. His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *The Building of Jerusalem.*
- (2) *The Overthrow of Jerusalem.*
- (3) *The Progress of the Palestine Exploration.*

Application for Lectures may be either addressed to the Secretary, 24, Hanover Square, W., or sent to the address of the Lecturers.