

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Died

ON THE 11TH OCTOBER, 1896,

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
(DR. BENSON),

President of the Society.

THE Committee received with great regret intelligence of the sudden death of their valued President, Archbishop Benson. His Grace had always been most courteous and kind, and taken a deep interest in the progress of the work of the Fund. They are happy to announce that the new Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, has consented to become the President.

The Committee again desire most earnestly to draw attention to the financial position of the Fund. In response to their appeal made at and after the Annual Meeting, 35 subscribers of half-a-guinea have increased their subscriptions to one guinea, four subscribers of one guinea have raised their subscriptions to two guineas, and 58 special donations have been received, amounting together to £150 9s. The outstanding balance against the Fund has been reduced to £790.

The importance of the excavations now in progress, to all who take an intelligent interest in ancient Jerusalem, cannot be exaggerated. The success that has hitherto attended the devoted labours of Dr. Bliss and Mr. Dickie is incontestable. They are now at work in the Tyropœon Valley. For the Committee to be compelled for financial reasons to suspend or delay the completion of these excavations would be most lamentable from every point of view.

The Committee would therefore, in order to avert such a catastrophe, respectfully ask the majority of subscribers to the Palestine Exploration Fund to consider whether they will not endeavour to increase their subscriptions, at all events while these important excavations are in hand.

But the great need of the Fund is *new annual subscribers*, and if everyone interested in the exploration of the Holy Land could succeed in inducing one friend to become a subscriber, the financial difficulties of the Fund would be at an end.

Sir Charles Wilson writes :—"The principal feature in this year's excavations has been the determination of the dimensions of the true Pool of Siloam, and the discovery of the church built, or perhaps only rebuilt, by the Empress Eudocia, on its north side. Here we have, without doubt, the pool mentioned in the Bible, and it is to be hoped that the site may be purchased and the whole pool thoroughly cleared out and restored to its original condition as far as this may be possible.

"Next in interest is the paved street with steps, which is apparently that by which Antoninus descended to Siloam. This street points towards the 'Double Gate,' and by following it up that all-important landmark, the steps that go up to the City of David, may be discovered, and a clue obtained to the position of David's sepulchre.

"Of great interest also are the dam of the lower Pool of Siloam, the rock scarp that possibly marks the line of the old wall, and the researches connected with the wall on the western hill.

"The Fund is, I think, to be congratulated on the result of this season's work, and the promise it affords of a rich harvest of discovery during the present year. It is clear that we have arrived at one of the most important sites for excavation, and may possibly, before the year is ended, discover a clue to the ancient topography of the city. The rubbish is very deep, and excavation difficult. This means additional expense, which I earnestly trust may be met by increased subscriptions before the spring work commences."

Under date December 16th, 1896, Mr. H. A. Harper writes as follows :—

Last month, while in Jerusalem, I was so fortunate as to see a good deal of Dr. Bliss and also of Mr. Dickie. The Committee of the Palestine Fund have good reason to congratulate themselves on securing the services of such able explorers.

I had the honour of presiding at a lecture Dr. Bliss gave to a large party of tourists, and it was impossible not to express a hope that such a lecture would be given in London.

In company with Dr. Bliss I visited the scene of the excavations, and had the benefit of his explanations. Not wishing to anticipate his report to the Committee, I confine myself simply to calling attention to what I think are distinct Biblical gains in the last season's work.

Jerusalem is known to me fairly well, as I have drawn and painted the city from almost every point of view, but I was not prepared to find that in the old days it had extended so much further on the south-eastern side than is generally supposed, and yet, standing on the ground, Dr. Bliss pointed out

the line of his excavations, some of the most interesting of which had already been filled in, for the rains were expected, and he had altogether this year opened quite a mile of tunnels.

I saw portions of walls, Jewish and Roman, proving that on this south-eastern side the city had extended quite down into the valley, touching the Valley of Hinnom on one side and the King's Gardens on the other, and it seemed most probable that this wall, or two walls, had included and enclosed the Pool of Siloam.

If we turn to the book of Nehemiah, chapter ii, verses 12 and 13, we see how the Prophet "went out by night by the gate of the valley." *It seems to me that Dr. Bliss has found that gate.*

Chapter vii, verse 4, says:—"Now the city was large and great." Anyone consulting a map in the light of Dr. Bliss's discoveries will, I think, admit that the city was indeed "large," and this increased size will also explain how it was possible for so many people to inhabit Jerusalem as spoken of by later writers.

In chapter iii, verse 15, we read:—"And the wall of the Pool of Siloah by the King's Garden and unto the stairs that go down from the City of David"; and in chapter xii, verse 37:—"And at the fountain gate, which was over against them, they went up by the stairs of the City of David, at the going up of the wall, above the house of David, even unto the water gate eastwards" (see also chapter ix, verse 4). Dr. Bliss has found a grand flight of steps (Jewish) leading from the Pool of Siloam up to the city. He will doubtless describe them in full, but probably we have there the very "stairs" Nehemiah speaks of, and those by which people were accustomed to go down to the Pool of Siloam in the time of Our Lord.

To my mind any excavation which throws light on Bible statements is of the greatest value.

The Committee learned with much regret that Mr. Dickie had been laid up with a severe attack of fever and had to take a short voyage (to Alexandria) for his recovery, Dr. Lunn having kindly offered him a passage on board the "Midnight Sun." Mr. Dickie has returned to Jerusalem quite recovered.

The Rev. Theodore E. Dowling reports that the Sixth Annual Course of Public Lectures in Jerusalem is arranged for the forthcoming tourist season on Saturday evenings, as follows:—

DATE.	HOTEL.	NAME.	SUBJECT.
March 6	Grand New Hotel...	Edwin Wallace, Esq., U.S. Consul.	Over Jordan: its history, physical characteristics, and present inhabitants.
" 13	Howard's Hotel ...	Rev. C. T. Wilson, M.A. ...	The Fellahin.
" 20	Grand New Hotel ...	Rev. T. E. Dowling...	Kerak and Petra in 1896.
" 27	Howard's Hotel ...	F. J. Bliss, Esq., Ph.D. ...	The Lebanon.
April 3	Grand New Hotel...	F. D'Erf-Wheeler, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S.E., F.R.G.S.	The Jews in Jerusalem.
" 10	Howard's Hotel ...	F. J. Bliss, Esq., Ph.D. ...	The present excavations at Jerusalem.

A Public Concert will also be given in the Grand New Hotel, during the tourist season, to aid the *Palestine Exploration Fund* in their expenditure on excavations.

On October 28th Baurath von Schick completed the fiftieth year of his residence in Jerusalem. The esteem in which he is universally held was shown by addresses of congratulation coming to him from various countries and by the degree of *doctor philosophiæ et artium liberalium magister* being conferred upon him *honoris causâ* by the University of Tübingen, which is in his native country. The Committee of the Fund sent a special letter to Dr. Schick expressing their cordial congratulations and high appreciation of the very valuable contributions which he has made to the knowledge of ancient and modern Jerusalem.

Dr. Schick reports that a new church is being erected on the site of "the original, or Byzantine, Church of St. Stephen," north of Damascus Gate (*Quarterly Statement*, 1890, p. 9).

He also mentions that "tradition places the house of Simon the Cyrenian in the *Vin Dolorosa*, the present *Tarik el Seraï*, called also *Tarik 'Aloun*," and that recently the lowest house of this street, where it enters a cross road, the corner house, having come into possession of the Franciscans, has been marked with an inscription, the arms of the Franciscans with the pierced hands, and to the right and left Jerusalem crosses, all cut in relief in new stones and put into the old wall. Veronica's house is 220 feet higher up the same street (towards the west) and on the same (the southern) side.

Attention is drawn in our present issue to the extremely interesting question of what really now exists in the Cave of Machpelah, below the floor of the existing Haram. The Rev. Canon Dalton, who, as governor of the sons of the Prince of Wales, had with them the rare privilege of entering and examining the interior of the mosque, has contributed some valuable and curious notes and suggestions in connection with the translation of David Reubeni's account of his visit to the same sanctuary in A.D. 1523.

Dr. Masterman, of Damascus, writes that the work of rebuilding the fine old mosque is now being pushed on with great energy. Seven or eight monolithic columns (quite new) with beautifully carved Corinthian capitals have been erected, and the bases of a good many more were already in position. The work is chiefly at the east end of the mosque, and apparently it is intended to do that before the west end.

The income of the Society, from September 21st to December 21st, 1896, was—from annual subscriptions and donations, including Local Societies, £1,004 9s. 5d.; from all sources—£1,378 16s. 6d. The expenditure during the same period was £1,233 11s. 6d. On December 21st the balance in the Bank was £293 4s. 3d.

Dr. Post's "Flora of Syria, Palestine, and Sinai," is now ready, and may be obtained on application to the author at Beirut. (*See advertisement.*)

The work embraces 126 orders, 850 genera, and 3,416 species, many of the latter, as well as numerous varieties, being new to science. It is illustrated by 445 woodcuts, and a coloured map, showing the botanical regions of the district covered. It contains a general analytical key to all the orders, and special keys to the larger tribes and genera. Much labour has been expended on these keys, and it is hoped that, by their means, the usefulness of the book will be greatly increased, especially for students and travellers.

His Grace the Archbishop of York has kindly accepted the office of President of the York branch of the Fund.

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

Henry J. Bailey, Esq., M.D., for Bishopstoke, Hants.

Rev. T. Forbes, for Bolton and Horwich, in place of Rev. S. Bond, resigned.

E. G. Treyer, Esq., has become Honorary Treasurer for Damascus and Beirut.

The first portion of M. Clermont-Ganneau's work, "Archæological Researches in Palestine," is now ready, and being sent to subscribers.

Memo. for Subscribers to the Survey of Palestine.—In the original programme it was intended that the "Archæological Researches" of M. Clermont-Ganneau should be published in one volume, but the work increased so much since its commencement that the Committee found it necessary to arrange for the publication of the whole in two volumes. Vol. II has been published in advance for the reasons stated in the prefatory note.

Vol. I, which treats of Jerusalem and its neighbourhood, is well forward, and, when ready, will be sent out to the first 250 Subscribers without any increase in their subscriptions for the full set.

There are only a few copies of the sets left at the price of £7 7s. When these have been cleared out the price will be raised to £12 12s. (*See advertisement in fore-part of Journal.*)

A third and revised edition of "Syrian Stone Lore," by Lieut.-Colonel Conder, R.E., is now ready.

An important work by Lieut.-Colonel Conder, R.E., entitled, "The Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem"—1099 to 1292 A.D.—and describing the condition of Palestine under the Crusaders, is now ready. It is based on the chronicles and contemporary accounts, both Christian and Moslem, and on

the information collected during the progress of the Survey, with descriptions of the scenes of the important events, and other information not to be found in previous histories of the Crusades. The whole will form an octavo volume of about 400 pages, with two maps, giving the Crusading names and boundaries of the "Fiefs" throughout Palestine.

Boha ed Din's "Life of Salah ed Din," translated from the Arabic, is in the Press, and nearly ready for publication. It forms the concluding volume of the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Series of Translations.

A complete set of the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Translations in 12 volumes, with Index, bound in cloth; price, £10 10s. For contents of volumes, see end of *Quarterly Statement*.

Branch Associations of the Bible Society, all Sunday Schools 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 Committee have to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Library of the Fund:—

- "Palestine, the Glory of all Lands." By Rev. Archibald Sutherland. Edinburgh, 1896. From the Author.
 - "Flora of Syria, Palestine, and Sinai." By Rev. George E. Post, M.A., M.D. Beirut, 1896. From the Author.
 - "Anecdota Oxoniensia—Mediæval Jewish Chronicles." By Ad. Neubauer. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1895. From Rev. Canon Dalton, C.M.G.
 - "Litterarischer Palästina-Almanach." By A. M. Luncz. Jerusalem, 1896. From the Author.
 - "Six Months in Jerusalem." By Rev. Charles Biggs, M.A., 1896. From the Author.
 - "The Veil Lifted—A New Light on the World's History." By H. Martyn Kennard. From the Author.
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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. A catalogue of Books in the Library will be found in the July *Quarterly Statement*, 1893.

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.

The third edition of the new ColloTYPE Print or Photo-relief from a specially prepared copy of the Raised Map of Palestine is now ready. Price to subscribers, 2s. 3d.; non-subscribers, 3s. 3d., post free.

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

It having again been reported to the Executive Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund that 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 of any sort or kind in their employ, and that **NONE OF THEIR WORKS ARE SOLD BY ANY ITINERANT AGENTS.**

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.

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 "'Ajlân" in one volume, 1s. each.

Casts of the Tablet, with Cuneiform Inscription, found at Tell el Hesay, 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 those who are entitled to receive it, but changes of address and other causes occasionally give rise to omissions.

The authorised lecturers for the Society are—

AMERICA.

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.*

ENGLAND.

The Rev. Thomas Harrison, F.R.G.S., The Vicarage, Appledore, Ashford, 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. Charles Harris, M.A., F.R.G.S., Appledore, Ashford, Kent. (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.*

SCOTLAND.

The Rev. J. R. Macpherson, B.D., Kinnaird Manse, Inchture, 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. W. Burnet Thomson, M.A., B.D., Galashiels, N.B. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *The City of the Great King; or Jerusalem and the Explorer.*
- (2) *The Temple, the Sepulchre, and Calvary.*
- (3) *Southern Palestine.*
- (4) *Jerusalem to Damascus.*
- (5) *Palestine and Jesus Christ (for children).*
- (6) *The Bible and the Monuments. Discoveries in Ancient Land.*

All illustrated with lantern slides.

WALES

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.*

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

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.*
