

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Firman for excavating at Jerusalem terminated on 20th June; Dr. Bliss will come to England immediately to prepare for publication a memoir of the three years' work and its results. Application has been made by the Committee to the Sublime Porte for permission to undertake excavations elsewhere.

The general work of exploration in Palestine by means of excavations is full of promise. The remarkable success which has attended the excavations at Tell el Hesi and Jerusalem is sufficient indication of the important results which may be expected from such investigations if judiciously and perseveringly conducted.

The Committee regret that on the expiration of the Firman Mr. Dickie's connection with the work of the Fund ceased. His original contract was for six months, but he very kindly continued his services as long as the excavations at Jerusalem were being carried on, and has rendered valuable aid by his beautiful plans and drawings as well as in assisting Dr. Bliss in superintending the work.

We are permitted to publish in the present number a translation of an important paper by Professor Clermont-Ganneau on the recent remarkable discoveries at Mâdeba, which appeared in his "Recueil d'Archéologie Orientale" (Paris, Ernest Leroux). Mr. Dickie was requested by the Committee to visit Mâdeba for the purpose of obtaining an accurate tracing of the Mosaic Map of Palestine, but unfortunately, owing to local circumstances, his visit was not successful.

It is hoped to publish shortly a translation of an essay by M. Clermont-Ganneau on the "Capture of Jerusalem by the Persians in 614 A.D."

The Right Rev. W. R. Brownlow, Bishop of Clifton, writes with reference to "The Hodeporicon of St. Willibald," which he kindly translated and edited for the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society, that, when visiting Lucca last November, he saw the tomb of St. Richard, the father of St. Willibald. On the front of his altar there is an inscription enclosed in a circle as follows:—



"I could not discover any fragment of the inscription copied by Evelyn in 1645. There was an old worm-eaten copy of it, printed on paper, and mounted on a board. The old Church of St. Frediano, Irish Finnian, is extremely interesting, and dates from the sixth century, as also is the Cathedral.

"I thought you might be interested to know that St. Richard, whom Mr. Kerslake makes out was King of Crediton, is still known at Lucca."

Professor R. Phenè Spiers, F.S.A., is preparing a paper on the Great Mosque of the Omeiyades at Damascus. Mr. Dickie has been recently there to examine certain points which it was desirable to clear up, and the results of his investigations will be published with the Professor's paper, which it is hoped will be ready for the October *Quarterly Statement*.

Dr. Schick reports that the hotel at Jericho has been open during the past season. Carriages now go down from Jerusalem as far as the Jordan and Dead Sea. On the high ground by the shore of the latter a *café* has been established, and a few people have been living there. The steamer has ceased to work, and its machinery is being transferred to another boat of different construction.

The New English Mission Hospital at Jerusalem was opened in April. It is a very fine Institution, built upon the isolated block system from plans by Mr. A. Beresford Pite, of Hanover Square, London. There was a large assembly at the opening, nearly all the communities and nationalities in Jerusalem being represented.

The income of the Society, from March 22nd, 1897, to June 23rd, 1897, was—from annual subscriptions and donations, including Local Societies and Lectures, £271 12s. 7d.; from sales of publications, &c., £279 8s. 8d.; total, £551 1s. 3d. The expenditure during the same period was £973 0s. 5d. On June 23rd the balance in the Bank was £138 0s. 0d.

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

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.

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

Alexander Kenmure, Esq., Seoul.

Rev. F. W. Carpenter, M.A., Stockport.

Rev. Rowland Scriven, M.A., Dublin, in place of the Rev. Maurice Day, resigned.

Percy D'Erf Wheeler, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S., Jerusalem.

Rev. Albert A. Brockway, New York.

W. B. Ridges, Esq., Los Angeles, California.

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 now well forward, and, when ready, will be sent out to the first 250 Subscribers without any increase in their subscriptions for the full set.

The set consists of "The Survey of Eastern Palestine," by Lieut.-Colonel Conder, LL.D., R.E., in one vol.; "The Fauna and Flora of Sinai, Petra, and the Wady 'Arabah," by H. Chichester Hart, B.A., in one vol.; "The Archæological Researches," by Professor Clermont-Ganneau, in two vols. Four volumes in all.

There are only a few copies of the sets left at the price of £7 7s.

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, was published in January. 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 forms an octavo

volume of over 400 pages, with two maps, giving the Crusading names and boundaries of the "Fiefs" throughout Palestine.

The Committee have to announce that in accordance with a circular letter published in "Notes and News," January *Quarterly Statement*, 1896, the following translations have been issued to subscribers to the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society :—

"Marino Sanuto's Secrets,"
 "Burchard of Mount Sion,"
 "Jacques de Vitry,"

and that a translation has been made of Beh' ed Din's "Life of Saladin," A.D. 1145-1232, which forms the concluding work of the Text Series.

This translation has been compared with the original Arabic, and annotated by Lieut.-Colonel Conder, LL.D., R.E., with a preface and notes by Major-General Sir Charles Wilson, K.C.B., F.R.S., R.E.

The work is now being issued to subscribers.

A complete set of the translations in 13 volumes, with general index, bound in cloth, price £10 10s. A catalogue describing the contents of each volume can be had on application to the Secretary, 24, Hanover Square.

Major-General Sir Charles Wilson, the Director of the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Translations, writes in reference to the "Life of Saladin" :—"The present volume closes the series of translations issued by the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society, and I am glad to take this opportunity of conveying the thanks of the Committee to those gentlemen who have so kindly and readily given their assistance in translating, annotating, and editing the works. Without the cordial assistance of those gentlemen it would not have been possible to carry out the original programme of the Society, and place within the reach of English readers the more important of the records which the early and mediæval pilgrims have left of their pilgrimages to Jerusalem and the Holy Land. The Committee and the Society are also deeply indebted to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, who has done so much to further the interests of the work."

Copies of the "Life of Saladin," bound in cloth, with an index, can be had separately. Price to Subscribers to the Fund, 6s. 6d.

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 :—

"Christ in His Holy Land." By the Rev. Alexander A. Boddy. From the Author.

"Emmaus Identified." By Mrs. Finn, M.R.A.S. From the Author.
From M. Clermont-Ganneau. Nos. 8-13 of his "Recueil D'Archéologie Orientale," which contains the following, among other, articles:— Cachet israélite aux noms de Ahaz et de Pekhai; Les archers palmyréniens à Coptos; La Grande inscription nabatéenne de Petra; Le sépulchre de Rachel et le tumulus du roi Archélaüs; La prise de Jérusalem par les Perses en 614 (J.—G.); La Carte de la Palestine d'après la Mosaïque de Mâdeba; Épitaphes palmyréniennes d'Alep; Localités arabes de l'époque des Croisades; De Hesbân à Kerak; Les Nabatéens dans le pays de Moab.

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.

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.

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.

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

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 Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund desire to make clear that they have no book on their List of Publications called "Picturesque Palestine," nor is any person authorised to represent this book as published by the Society; nor has the Society any book-bawkers in their employment.

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.

Application for Lectures should be addressed to the Secretary, 24, Hanover Square, W.