

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Committee have heard with deep regret of the death of Mr. C. W. M. Van de Velde, who, in the year 1851, undertook, unaided and at his own cost, the task of producing a reliable map of the Holy Land. Mr. J. D. Crace, a member of the Executive Committee, thus writes of him :—

“ He was a Lieutenant in the Dutch Navy. What led to his going to Palestine and devoting himself to a survey of that country I do not know ; but he did devote himself and all his private means to that object. The result was a map of about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch to a mile, accompanied by sections showing the altitudes through several lines, and was by far the best and most complete map of Palestine until our own survey was accomplished. His was done by himself *alone and entirely at his own cost*. Our own came just in time to cut off any considerable return to him by his publication of the great work of his life ; yet he has never shown any jealousy or resentment. Mr. Van de Velde was, fortunately, an accomplished artist as well as a skilled surveyor, and for the last 25 or 30 years has supplemented what means remained to him by his beautiful water-colour paintings—most delicate, highly-finished drawings, generally of the scenery of the Riviera, Corsica, &c. These he used to bring to England and show privately every season. He had many English friends. He was a man of very gentle, courteous, and modest disposition, very responsive to any kindness, and of deeply religious feeling ; small of stature, of alert figure, and clear-cut features ; in manner very quiet, very simple. He spoke English perfectly.”

The *Times* of March 24th has the following :—

“The death is announced from Mentone of Mr. C. W. M. Van de Velde, a distinguished Dutchman, who expired there on the 20th instant, after an illness of about three months' duration. Born in 1818, in Friesland, he entered the Royal Dutch Navy at an early age, serving in Java and the East Indian Archipelago, where his great ability as a cartographer caused him to

be appointed to the hydrographical office at Batavia. Besides a large map of Java he published a folio work entitled 'Gezichten van Nederlansch Indie,' copiously illustrated with views of the Dutch possessions there. On returning to Europe, and impelled thereto by his deeply religious nature, he engaged in the formidable task of mapping Palestine single-handed. Nothing daunted by a failure to obtain help in England, he set out alone on his surveying expedition in December, 1851, achieving by indomitable industry and perseverance such success that those engaged in later years by the Palestine Exploration Fund in a more minute survey frankly admitted the complete exactitude of all that Van de Velde had done. The result of his labours and travels in the Holy Land was published by Messrs. Blackwood in 1854-55, while his map of Palestine was issued in 1857 by Justus Perthes, Gotha. The French Government, in recognition of his merit, had previously made him a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. He was widely known and appreciated as an artist, not only in his own country, but also in England, France, and Germany, his delicate and truthful water-colour sketches being much admired. His original survey of the Holy Land he presented to the Palestine Exploration Fund some time since."

The Committee are still awaiting the Firman for continuing the excavations. As soon as it arrives the work will be recommenced.

The office of the Fund is now established in the new premises at 33, Conduit Street (a few doors from Bond Street), where the Museum is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 5, except Saturdays, when it is closed at 2 p.m.

Dr. Bliss's detailed account of his three years' work at Jerusalem is now in the press, and will be published shortly as a separate volume, with the title "Excavations at Jerusalem, 1894-1897." The book will be copiously illustrated by maps and plates.

Dr. Masterman writes from Damascus, on February 3rd:—"We have had the most extraordinary weather here of late. For seven days we received no post, through the railway line being completely blocked with snow in the Lebanon. One train from Beyrout was almost buried, and the passengers suffered the greatest privations. It took upwards of 500 men seven days' hard work to dig out the train, and get the line clear again. You will also be interested to hear that the extension of the line from Beirut to Tripoli is being rapidly pushed on. The new line will start from the same railway station as the Damascus one. I believe it now reaches nearly half-way to Tripoli. The railway here has just changed hands, the original company having found it impossible to work it on the expensive lines on which it was begun. It is now to be worked much more cheaply; especially is reduction to be made in the expenses of the French staff, who have so far been receiving very large salaries in proportion to the smallness of the railway. The Hauran trains now only run three days a week."

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer writes:—"The bas-relief observed at Mejdol, and described in the *Quarterly Statement* for January, 1897, p. 33, has turned out to be Byzantine, and is interesting as a small but exceedingly well-preserved specimen of the works of art with which, according to Chorikios, of Gaza—or Choricus, A.D. 520)—his native city and other cities on the Philistian coast were adorned, and for a full description of which I may refer those whom the subject may interest to Dr. K. B. Stark's 'Gaza, und die philistäische Küste,' Jena, 1852, pp. 598-611."

Professor R. Brunnow sends the following note:—

"Chalet Beauval, Vevey,

"January 16th, 1898."

"I find in the January number of the *Quarterly Statement*, p. 33, a short notice on Greek inscriptions from Jerash. The two first fragments belong, as Dr. Thompson supposes, to the same inscription which both I and my friend, Prof. von Domaszewski, saw in a complete condition on the occasion of our visit to Jerash last April, when it had just been found. We did not take a squeeze as we were rather pressed for time and the letters were perfectly clear. This inscription, as well as several others, was published in the 'Mittheilungen und Nachrichten' of the German Palestine Society, 1897, No. 3, p. 39, of which I am sending you a copy. Perhaps you will kindly refer to it in the next number of the *Quarterly Statement*. It is much to be regretted that the inscriptions in the East Jordan country should not be taken better care of; I have no doubt that this almost perfect block was broken up very soon after we had been to Jerash, and probably if we had not happened to pass through at the time it would have been lost, with the exception of the fragments recovered by Dr. Thompson. The long and very perfect inscription published by Germer-Durand in the 'Revue Biblique,' 1895, p. 387, No. 30 (*θαυρος ομι*) has been broken in two, one half now serving as a lintel in a modern building.

"I should like particularly to call your attention to our reading of line 5 in the Kusr Bshér inscription (*ib.*, p. 38). Germer-Durand reads (from a squeeze made by Dr. Bliss) CASTRA ET EORVM MŒNIA FOSSAMENTIS; but there is not the slightest doubt that our reading is the correct one. It is perfectly clear on the squeeze I made, and we both saw it distinctly on the stone. I may add that Prof. Domaszewski is one of the foremost Latin epigraphists."

The income of the Society, from December 21st, 1897, to March 26th, 1898, was—from annual subscriptions and donations, including Local Societies, £736 8s. 9d.; from Lectures, £20 1s. 4d.; from sales of publications, &c., £208 8s. 11d.; total, £964 19s. 0d. The expenditure during the same period was £645 7s. 3d. On March 28th the balance in the Bank was £999 15s. 2d.

Messrs. Blackwood are about to publish a new work by Lieut.-Colonel Conder, called "The Hittites and their Language." It treats of the history and civilisation of this people, and of the decipherment of the inscriptions

usually ascribed to them. It will be illustrated with copies of all the principal texts in this peculiar hieroglyphic script, amounting to upwards of seventy in all, found in Mesopotamia, Armenia, Asia Minor, and Syria.

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

- Rev. John Holden, Mansfield House, 126, Unthinks Road, Norwich.
 Rev. G. W. Thatcher, M.A., B.D., Mansfield College, Oxford.
 A. Knight, Esq., Singapore, India.
 Rev. George G. S. Thomas, Hornsea, near Hull.

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.

Lieut.-Colonel Conder's work, "The Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem"—1099 to 1292 A.D.—describing the condition of Palestine under the Crusaders, 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. It forms an octavo volume of over 400 pages, with two maps, giving the Crusading names and boundaries of the "Fiefs" throughout Palestine.

A translation of Behâ ed Din's "Life of Saladin," A.D. 1145-1232, forms the concluding volume of the Palestine Pilgrims' 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.

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

The price of a complete set of these translations, in 13 volumes, with general index, bound in cloth, is £10 10s. A catalogue describing the contents of each volume can be had on application to the Secretary, 38, Conduit Street.

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 fourth 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 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 office of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

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 :—

“La Crypte du Credo.” By P. Léon Cré. From the Author.

“Recueil D'Archéologie Orientale,” livraisons 18–23, tome ii. By Professor Ch. Clermont-Ganneau. 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. A catalogue of Books in the Library will be found in the July *Quarterly Statement*, 1893.

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-hawkers in its 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, Jerusalem. Hours: 8 to 12, and 2 to 6. Maps of Palestine and Palestine Exploration Fund publications are kept for sale.

Photographs of Dr. Schick's models (1) of the Temple of Solomon, (2) of the Herodian Temple, (3) of the Haram Area during the Christian occupation of Jerusalem, and (4) of the Haram Area as it is at present, have been received at the office of the Fund. Sets of these photographs, with an explanation by Dr. Schick, can be purchased by applying to the Secretary, 38, Conduit Street, W.

Application for Lectures should be addressed to the Secretary, 38, Conduit Street, W.

At p. 57 of the *Quarterly Statement* for January last the table of typical Siloam letters was printed without the requisite headings to the columns. It should be as follows:—

	Earlier Gems.	Later Gems.	Siloam Inscription.	Bar-Cochab Coins.
Aleph				
Zain				
Sade				
Goph				

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance in Bank 31st December, 1896—		By Exploration	832 15 8
Net Balance	£314 12 8	Printing and Binding new Editions, including	
Subscriptions paid in 1896 in		the <i>Quarterly Statement</i>	708 19 1
advance for 1897	45 11 2	Maps, Lithographs, Illustrations, Photographs,	
	<hr/>	Casts, Lantern Slides, &c.	391 14 8
	360 3 10	Advertising, Insurance, Stationery, and Sundries	71 19 10
Legacy left by the late Edward Cooper, Esq. ..	1,000 0 0	Postage of Books, Maps, Parcels, including the	
Donations and Subscriptions	2,008 5 4	<i>Quarterly Statement</i>	136 7 5
Proceeds of Lectures	65 15 4	Salaries and Wages.. .. .	391 15 10
Sales of Books	534 2 11	Office Rent, Gas, and Coals	229 17 10
Sales of Maps, Photographs, Casts, and Lantern		Liabilities paid off during the year	787 18 6
Slides	228 6 7	Subscriptions paid in 1897 in	
		advance for 1898	£70 0 1
		Net Balance	575 5 1
			<hr/>
			645 5 2
		Balance in Bank 31st December, 1897	596 14 10
		,, in hand	48 10 4
			} 645 5 2
			<hr/>
	<hr/>		£4,196 14 0
	£4,196 14 0		<hr/>

NOTES AND NEWS.

Examined and compared with Vouchers and Cash and Bank Books and found correct.

WALTER MORRISON, *Treasurer.*

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

The total income of the Fund for the year 1897 was, from Donations and Subscriptions, £2,008 5s. 4d.; from Legacy by the late Edward Cooper, Esq., £1,000; from Lectures, £65 15s. 4d.; from sales of publications, £762 9s. 6d. Total, £3,836 10s. 2d.

The expenditure on excavations at Jerusalem amounted to £832 15s. 8d. In June the Firman expired, and the excavations were closed. Immediately thereafter an application was made for permission to dig elsewhere, and the Committee are now waiting for this permission to continue the work.

The amount, £708 19s. 1d., spent on printing, binding, &c., is increased this year by the publication of "Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem," "Saladin," and new editions of other works; it also includes the *Quarterly Statement*, which is sent free to every subscriber of 10s. 6d. and upwards. On the other side the sales of books amounted to £534 2s. 11d., showing that there is a steady sale for both old and new books.

On maps, photographs, casts, &c., £391 14s. 8d. was spent; of this amount £228 6s. 7d. has been received back.

On advertising, insurance, stationery, &c., the sum of £71 19s. 10d. was spent.

The postage of books, maps, parcels, including the *Quarterly Statement*, cost £136 7s. 5d.

The management, including rent of office, amounted to £621 13s. 8d.

At the end of the year the liabilities were all cleared off. The Society is entirely free of debt, a period unique in the history of the Society since its foundation in 1865.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank, Decem- ber 31st, 1897.. ..	596	14	10	Current Expenses.			
In hand	48	10	4				
	£645	5	2				
Stock of Publications in hand, Surveying In- struments, Show Cases, Furniture, &c.							
In addition there is the valuable library and the unique collection of antiques, models, &c.							

WALTER MORRISON, *Treasurer.*