

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Committee are pleased to announce that the Archbishop of Canterbury has consented to act as President of the Fund. His Grace has written (through Canon Dalton):—"Most gladly do I accept the honourable position offered me of the Presidency of the Palestine Exploration Fund. I know its work, and I value it exceedingly."

Mr. James Glaisher, for some 20 years Chairman of the Executive Committee, died on the morning of February 7th, in his 94th year. He was buried at Shirley, about three miles from Croydon, on the 11th, and the funeral was attended by the present chairman, Major-General Sir Charles Wilson, and by the Honorary Secretary and the Acting Secretary. The Executive Committee sent a wreath of flowers, which was placed on the grave. A brief memoir will be found on another page.

The Committee are glad to be able to state that Mr. Macalister has resumed the work at Gezer, which was interrupted by the outbreak of cholera. Mr. Macalister is now engaged in clearing out the vicinity of the "high place," or temple.

The following letter has been addressed by Mr. Crace to the Editor of the *Times* :—

SIR,—In June last year you courteously allowed me to inform your readers that this Society was beginning the excavation of the site of the ancient Gezer, the "portion" given by Pharaoh to his daughter, Solomon's wife. The work was energetically carried on

by Mr. Stewart Macalister, until stopped, late in the year, by the serious outbreak of cholera, which carried off many of the workers. But by that time the discoveries had amply justified the selection of the site. A pre-Israelite megalithic temple, evidences of infant sacrifice, and varied forms of sepulture of at least two early races of inhabitants were brought to light, besides large numbers of objects illustrating the several periods of occupation.

The work is now being taken up again on the removal of quarantine restrictions; and what I desire to impress on those interested is that, inasmuch as the Imperial iradé authorising the excavation is for two years only, the work must be pushed on very vigorously if it is to be completed in the time. The site covers a large area, and needs an extra large force of workpeople.

The Committee estimate that, to accomplish what is begun (within the given time), they will require about £2,000 more than is provided for by their regular subscribers. They therefore appeal to the public to assist them to that extent. Contributions should be sent to Mr. George Armstrong, at the offices of the Palestine Exploration Fund, 38, Conduit Street, W.

J. D. CRACE, Hon. Secretary.

The Committee have received the following special donations towards the sum of £2,000 which they are desirous of raising:—

	£	s.	d.
Dr. Aldis Wright	100	0	0
The Lord Iveagh	25	0	0
Professor Macalister	25	0	0
Professor Bevan	20	0	0
James Hilton, Esq.	10	0	0
Mrs. Lewis	10	0	0
G. B. Lloyd, Esq.	10	0	0
Mr. Crace	5	5	0

The death of Sergeant Black, R.E., will be regretted by all who know what an important part he took in the survey of Palestine. Colonel Conder writes:—"He was selected from the Ordnance Survey to accompany Captain Stewart in 1872; and, that officer falling sick almost at once, while Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake went away on a visit to North Syria, Sergeant Black was left with only

Mr. Armstrong to carry on the work until my arrival. During these months excellent work was done, and I found the experience and high character of Sergeant Black of the greatest value. He was invalided home in 1875, after a most trying time in the south of Judæa. He again volunteered to accompany me in 1881, and was in Moab during the anxious months spent on the East Palestine Survey. He was eminently fitted, by his patience and prudence, to deal with Orientals, and his thoroughly conscientious pride in his work ensured the accuracy of the survey. He was also a highly educated man, and made many valuable suggestions in connection with Bible geography and antiquities. I had the pleasure, a few years ago, of writing to tell him of an unexpected test applied to the survey work, in connection with a very detailed Crusading account of the district round *Bablân* (*Castellum Bualorum*), at the foot of Carmel, which was entirely unknown when the region was surveyed, and which proved the completeness and accuracy of the map in this district, for which he was personally responsible. The letter which I received in reply showed the satisfaction with which he was able to look back on his work. Without such men the survey of Palestine would not have been what the public had a right to expect."

The following notes on the epidemic of cholera in 1902 are from a contribution by Dr. Masterman to *Home Words for Jerusalem* :—

"The Gaza district and all Southern Palestine received cholera through the overland route from Egypt *viâ* El Arish. Here, as is now well known, the 'cordon' was not strictly enforced, with disastrous results. Then either *viâ* Egypt, or, as seems probable, directly from Northern Arabia, the east of the Jordan was infected at the same time as, or perhaps earlier than, Gaza, and thence the disease spread northwards and north-west to the Jordan Valley. Ammân, where the Damascus-Mecca railhead now is, was the immediate centre whence the cholera attacked Tiberias and its district. Es-Salt and Jericho, and, lastly, in a manifest way by means of railway workmen from the railway, Damascus.

"The disease has, as is usual, been far more severe in the low lands than among the mountains. Thus, such places as Gaza, Jaffa, Lydda, and a great proportion of villages in the Plain of Sharon,

villages near the Plain of Esdraelon, and places in the Jordan Valley, like Tiberias and Jericho, have suffered terribly, whereas Damascus, Nazareth, Safed, Nâblus, Jerusalem, and Hebron have suffered scarcely at all; in the case of most the only fatal cases being those of fugitives from other places.

“The mortality appears to have been of the kind typical in such epidemics. Beginning almost unnoticed, the numbers of deaths increase rapidly from week to week, reaching a maximum in four or five weeks, and then rapidly decline. This is characteristic of each place attacked. Thus the deaths at Gaza were, as far as is known, as follows:—September 20th, 60; 27th, 96; October 4th, 123; 11th, 226; 18th, 292; 27th, 830; November 1st, 513; 8th, 67; 15th, 45; 22nd, 22—total 2,274.

“The height of the epidemic in Gaza was the week in October; in Lydda a week later, and at Jaffa the middle of November. What the death-rate in the villages in the plains may have been it is impossible to guess. Two or three places where I have information may give some idea. In Abu Shushah there are 30 new graves since the end of October; at Beit Jebrin 60 deaths are reported; at Jericho it is said 80 funerals have occurred, but many of these were from cases coming from east of the Jordan.

“Although the epidemic has fallen heavily on some towns and villages, others in close proximity have wonderfully escaped. Ramleh, for example, has been fortunate. With respect to the villages, I am informed that the inhabitants of Tell Zakariyeh were quite free from cholera, although many villages round were severely smitten.”

Mr. Hanauer, who has recently visited *Hajla* (Beth-hoglah), writes that the convent has been rebuilt, vineyards and gardens surround the *Ain*, but little is left of the frescoes in the chapels. Several changes also have taken place at *Karantel*, particularly in front of the “Cave of the Temptation” (Matt. iv, 1). The inside of the cave has been redecorated. Mr. Hanauer utters a warning against too readily accepting newly-discovered “mosaics,” as there is good reason to believe that forgers are turning their attention to them.

The Museum and Library of the Palestine Exploration Fund at Jerusalem have been removed from the room opposite to the Tower of David to the Bishop's Buildings, near the Tombs of the Kings, where the use of a room has been kindly permitted by the Rev. Dr. Blyth, Bishop in Jerusalem and the East. The Museum is open daily, except Sundays, and the Honorary Secretary, Dr. D'Erf Wheeler, will give all information necessary.

Mr. Macalister's two reports on the excavations at Gezer have been reprinted from the *Quarterly Statement* in pamphlet form, and can be obtained on application to the Acting Secretary, price 1s. 2d. post free.

The "Flora of Syria, Palestine, and Sinai," by the Rev. George E. Post, M.D., Beirût, Syria, containing descriptions of all the Phaenogams and Acrogens of the region, and illustrated by 441 woodcuts, may be had at the office of the Fund, price 21s.

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

The income of the Society from December 23rd, 1902, to March 20th, 1903, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £759 17s. 4d.; from Lectures, £35 19s. 6d.; from sales of publications, &c., £169 1s. 1d.; total, £964 17s. 11d. The expenditure during the same period was £980 16s. 11d. On March 21st the balance in the Bank was £424 7s. 10d.

Subscribers to the Fund are reminded that, whilst the receipt of every subscription and contribution is promptly acknowledged by the Acting Secretary, they will henceforth be published annually, and not quarterly. A complete List of Subscribers and Subscriptions for 1902 will be published in due course in a separate form.

Subscribers in U.S.A. to the work of the Fund will please note that they can procure copies of any of the publications from the

Rev. Professor Theo. F. Wright, Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, 42 Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass.

The Committee will be glad to communicate with ladies and gentlemen willing to help the Fund as Honorary Secretaries.

Subscribers will please note that they can still obtain a set of the "Survey of Palestine," in four volumes, for £7 7s., but the price has been increased to the public to £9 9s. The price of single volumes to the public has also been increased. Applications should be made to the Acting Secretary.

The price of a complete set of the translations published by the Palestine Pilgrims' Text Society, 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.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, 38 Conduit Street (a few doors from Bond Street), is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 5, except Saturdays, when it is closed 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 office of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

Photographs of the late 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 four photographs, with an explanation by Dr. Schick, can be purchased by applying to the Secretary, 38 Conduit Street, W.

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 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.

Authorised Lecturers for the Society.

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 Buried City of Jerusalem.*
- (2) *Discoveries in Palestine.*

ENGLAND.

The Rev. THOMAS HARRISON, F.R.G.S., St. John's Vicarage, Dewsbury Moor, Yorks. 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.)

The Rev. CHARLES HARRIS, M.A., F.R.G.S., The Elms, Windleshaw Road, St. Helen's, Lancs. (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. JAMES SMITH, B.D., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., St. George's-in-the-West Parish, Aberdeen. (All Lectures are illustrated with lantern slides, many of which are coloured.) 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.*

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.*

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

Application for Lectures may be either addressed to the Secretary, 38 Conduit Street, W., or sent to the address of the Lecturers.

The Committee acknowledge with thanks the following:—

- “The First Bible.” From the Author, Colonel C. R. Conder, LL.D., M.R.A.S., R.E.
- “Recueil d’Archéologie Orientale.” Tome V, Livraison 18. From the Author, Professor Clermont-Ganneau, M.I.
- “Al-Mashrik: Revue Catholique Orientale Bimensuelle.”

FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

I give to the Palestine Exploration Fund, London, the sum of _____ to be applied towards the General Work of the Fund; and I direct that the said sum be paid, free of Legacy Duty, and that the Receipt of the Treasurer of the Palestine Exploration Fund shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

Signature _____

Witnesses { _____

NOTE.—Three Witnesses are necessary in the United States of America; Two suffice in Great Britain.

Whilst 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.