

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Committee desire to appeal very earnestly to subscribers and their friends to assist them in completing the Excavations of Gezer as thoroughly as possible before the expiration of the extension of time granted by the Sultan. *Special donations* are invited.

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury has kindly consented to take the chair at the Annual General Meeting at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, and has appointed three o'clock on Friday, July 14th. Tickets of admission will be issued to subscribers and their friends on application to the Acting Secretary, at the office of the Fund, on or after July 1st.

The Eleventh Quarterly Report on the Excavation of Gezer is devoted primarily to a description of those buildings which Mr. Macalister in the last report regarded as belonging to the Maccabean period. An interesting Greek inscription has been unearthed which appears to refer to the "Palace of Simon," and if the interpretation be correct, there seems to be good reason to believe with Mr. Macalister that the discoveries made at Gezer during the last three months are immediately connected with the conquest of Gazara by Simon the Maccabee, an account of which is given in I Maccabees xiii. It is unfortunate that the inscription itself is not so clear as could be desired, but the archæological evidence is confirmatory, and one may hope that further excavation may bring more epigraphical evidence to light.

The special donations to the expenses of the Excavation of Gezer comprise the following:—Walter Morrison, Esq., £50.; Lord

Amherst of Hackney, £21; Charles Lewis Brooke, Esq., £20; S. Vaughan Morgan, Esq., £10; Miss Robinson, £5; Henry Wagner, Esq., £5; small donations, £13 15s. 0d.; £124 15s. 0d. in all; bringing the total up to £974 8s. 2d.

Subscribers are warned against purchasing from dealers, whether in this country or in Palestine, any antiquities as coming from particular sites which have been excavated by the Fund. All antiquities found in those sites by the officers of the Fund are scrupulously handed over to the Turkish Government, and any found by the illicit digging of natives are, when sold by them to dealers, invariably attributed to sites other than those from which they really come, lest the diggers be discovered and punished.

We are glad to be able to announce that the Fund's latest publication of a work containing a full description of the Painted Tombs at Marissa will probably be issued by the time the present number is in the hands of subscribers. The volume contains numerous plates, several of which are coloured; these illustrate the tombs, their internal decoration, the painted friezes, and the inscriptions. There are, further, 24 figures in the text, consisting of plans and sections, facsimiles of graffiti and inscriptions, &c. The letter-press is the work of the Rev. Dr. Peters, of New York, and Dr. Thiersch, of Munich, both well-known archæologists. The former contributes a general introductory account, whilst the detailed descriptions of the tombs are by both authors, as also are the complete edition of the Greek inscriptions and graffiti, and the discussion of the eras. Dr. Thiersch gives a valuable chapter upon the place of the tombs in the history of art and culture, whilst Dr. Peters concludes the work with an account of the miscellaneous objects which were found in the tombs.

In the present number we have been able to print further specimens of Palestinian folk-lore collected by the Rev. J. E. Hanauer. A large number of them have recently been published by him in conjunction with Professor Mitchell, late Director of the American School at Jerusalem, under the title "Tales Told in Palestine." We trust that this will make these interesting stories known to a wider circle of readers.

The paper in the present number on "The Camp of the Tenth Legion at Jerusalem" (pp. 138-144) forms part of a chapter on the ancient walls of Jerusalem, which Sir Charles Wilson has written for his forthcoming book on "Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre." In the July number of the *Quarterly Statement* some extracts will be published from his discussion of the "second" wall of Josephus.

From *The Times* of February 17th we read that the Official Receiver's report to creditors and shareholders under the failure of the Syria Ottoman Railway Company states that the company was constituted under Turkish law, and was formed in order to carry out the concession granted by the Turkish Government to J. R. Pilling and Jos. Elias for the construction of a railway from Acre and Haifa to Damascus. The date of incorporation was November, 1901, and the winding-up order was made in February, 1904.

Mr. R. Phené Spiers, F.S.A., whose interesting article on Baalbec (1904, pp. 58-64) our readers will doubtless remember, has contributed a valuable discussion upon the trilithon in *The Builder* of February 11th. It is illustrated with plans and some beautiful plates, which afford an excellent idea of the gigantic size of the stones of which the trilithon is composed. We may recall the interesting fact that the three huge blocks of stone are from 60-64 feet in length, 13 feet high, and about as many feet in thickness, whilst that which still remains in the ancient quarries is 71 feet in length, and would probably weigh about 1,500 tons. We hope to be able to give some account of Mr. Spiers' article in an early number.

We learn that the late Mr. Frederick D. Mocatta, F.R.G.S., has bequeathed the sum of £100 to the Palestine Exploration Fund. He was always greatly interested in Palestinian research, and for many years was a member of the General Committee.

The Damascus-Mecca railway is being pushed on, and has already been utilised for the transport of troops. The Reserves called out in Southern Palestine were assembled at Jerusalem, and marched to 'Ammán, where they entrained for Ma'an. Thence they

marched to 'Akabah, and embarked for Yemen. The members of the railway administration are all Moslems.

According to French papers, the Porte have approved of the construction of a railway from *Hamah* to Aleppo by a French Company. This will place Aleppo in direct railway communication with *Beirút*.

The Spanish dialect (Castilian) spoken by the Spanish Jews of Jerusalem, which has suffered little corruption during their 400 years' residence in the city, is beginning to attract the attention of students of the Spanish language.

From a paper in *Altneuland*, it would appear that the Jewish colonies in Palestine derived much benefit from the activity of the Anglo-Palestine Company in 1904. The Jews, in spite of their small numbers, are acquiring considerable influence in Palestine. New colonies have been formed in the north, and in the south the area of some of the colonies has been increased. The tenant farmers are doing well, and a small society of Russian Jews has rented land on the *Buteiha* Plain, north of the Sea of Galilee. The model farm at *Sijera* has been very successful in training new colonists to agricultural pursuits. Co-operative societies have been formed for the collection and sale of oranges, and their success is leading to the formation of similar societies for the sale of other produce. The cultivation of oranges and almonds is being largely extended. Successful experiments have been made in the growth of cotton, without irrigation, and in the cultivation of ground nuts; and tobacco has only failed from want of experience.

From the latest report of the German Society for the Exploration of Palestine, it would appear that the extra subscriptions received during 1903 for the excavations at *Tell el-Mutesellim* (Mejiddo) amounted to £1,940. Of this sum H.I.M. the German Emperor contributed £1,300, and the "Orient Gesellschaft," £500.

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

illustrating the excavations at Gezer which are not reproduced in his quarterly report are held over for the final memoir.

A number of lectures are to be delivered in Scotland and the provinces on the Fund's excavations at Gezer, and it is hoped that where arrangements have not yet been made, subscribers and those interested in the work will communicate through the Local Secretary.

The attention of subscribers and others is called to *A Table of the Christian and Mohammedan Eras*, from July 15th, A.D. 622, the date of the Hejira, to A.D. 1900, price by post, 7d. Also to the *Meteorological Observations at Jerusalem*, with tables and diagrams by the late Mr. James Glaisher, F.R.S. Tourists and all desirous of accurate information about the climate of Jerusalem should not fail to send for a copy, price 2s. 6d.

The attention of subscribers is also called to a work by Sir Charles Warren, entitled "The Ancient Cubit and our Weights and Measures." He brings evidence to show that all weights and measures (except those of the metrical system) are derived from one source—the double-cubit cubed of Babylonia.

The Museum and Library of the Palestine Exploration Fund at Jerusalem are in 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.

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.

The income of the Society from December 17th, 1904, to March 21st, 1905, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £627 10s. 10d.; from sales of publications, &c., £107 1s. 11d.; making in all, £734 12s. 9d. The

expenditure during the same period was £761 10s. 10d. On March 21st the balance in the bank was £467 4s. 6d.

Subscribers will greatly facilitate the Committee's efforts by sending their subscriptions in early, the outgoings on the excavations at Gezer being just now a heavy drain on their funds.

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 1904 will be published in a separate form with this number.

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, Quiney Street, Cambridge, Mass.

The Committee will be glad to communicate with ladies and gentlemen willing to help the Fund as Honorary Secretaries. The following gentleman has kindly consented to act:—Arthur M. Oliver, Esq., West Jesmond Villa, for Newcastle-on-Tyne, in place of A. Brooke Lloyd, Esq., resigned.

The Acting Secretary has now completed a Small Photo-relief Map of Palestine, on a scale of 10 miles to the inch. It has been made from the Large Raised Map published in 1893, and contains all the principal biblical sites and their altitudes. All the chief topographical features are faithfully reproduced, and students of the Bible will find it an indispensable guide. Fuller particulars may be had on application to the office, where the map may be seen.

Subscribers and others may be reminded that the new Raised Map of Palestine, constructed from the Surveys of the Palestine Exploration Fund by the Acting Secretary, is ready. It is on the scale of $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles to the inch and measures 3' 6" \times 2' 6". It has already been used with great success by Professors of Old Testament history, and by teachers in Sunday Schools, and may be especially recommended for large classes of students. Further particulars may be had on application.

A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1903, containing the early letters, with an Index, 1869-1892, bound in the Palestine

Exploration Fund cases, can be had. Price on application to the Acting Secretary, 38, Conduit Street, W.

Subscribers of one guinea and upwards 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, W.

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.

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, (5) of the Hechel in Solomon's Temple, (6) of the Hechel in Herod's Temple, (7) of the Tabernacle, have been received at the office of the Fund. The seven photographs, with an explanation by Dr. Schick, can be purchased by applying to the Acting 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 acknowledge with thanks the following :—

"Recueil d'Archéologie Orientale." From the Author, Professor M. Clermont-Ganneau. Tome VI, Livraisons 20-23.—§ 33. *Fiches et Notes* : Inscription d'El-Maqsoura ; *Αἰξάνι* ; Martha ; Phaena de la Trachonite ; Le nom phénicien Gerhekal ; Inscription bilingue de Qal 'at Ezraq ; *Χάγη Βοσρπα* ! Saint Epiphane et l'alchimie. § 34. Le roi de "tous les Arabes." § 35. Leucas et Balanée. § 36. Vente de sépulcres. § 37. Nouvelles découvertes archéologiques dans le Haurân. § 38. La

province d'Arabie. § 39. Les nouvelles dédicaces phéniciennes de Bodachtoret. § 40. Albert le Grand et Père chaldéenne. § 41. Sépulcres *ἀσάλευρα*. § 42. Un monogramme attribué à l'empereur Nicéphore Phocas. § 43. Une *zemeziyé* médiévale avec inscription et armoiries arabes. § 44. Un texte arabe inédit pour servir à l'histoire des chrétiens d'Égypte

"Al-Mashrik : Revue Catholique Orientale Bimensuelle."

"Tales Told in Palestine." Collected by the Rev. J. E. Hanauer ; edited, with illustrations, by H. G. Mitchell.

See, further, "Foreign Publications," pp. 160 *sqq.*, below.

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.

For list of authorised lecturers and their subjects, see end of the Journal, or write to the Secretary.

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 do not necessarily sanction or adopt them.

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.