

THE  
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund decided at their last Meeting that, although the new Trade had not yet been received in London, Mr. R. A. Stewart Macalister should proceed to Jerusalem during October to make the necessary preparations for his work. Pending the commencement of new excavations, Mr. Macalister will be occupied in verifying details of recent discoveries in the Holy City and elsewhere. It is probable that he will visit Constantinople to render any assistance that may be required in the arrangement of the objects found in the course of his operations at Gezer, which are about to be placed in the new extension of the Imperial Museum.

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It is with very deep regret that the Committee have to record the death of Mr. John Dickson, H.B.M. Consul in Jerusalem, on Wednesday, July 4th. A brief account of his career will be found on another page (see page 268). The following description of the funeral is given in *Home Words* for Jerusalem :—

“The funeral took place on Thursday the 6th July. The procession left the Consulate at 4 p.m., and passing through the grounds of the Russian Palestine Society and down the Jaffa road, arrived at Christ Church at half past four. Both to the Church and thence to the Protestant Cemetery the procession was headed by a body of police, fifty soldiers from the local garrison, and about sixty cawasses. The roads and neighbouring houses were filled

with a reverent crowd of people, who had mostly gathered together to show their respect for one who had for so long been associated with the life of Jerusalem. From the Jaffa Gate to the Church and then back to the Gate the coffin was carried by eight British subjects. At the Church gate they were met by all the local English and German Protestant clergy, the sentences being read by the Rev. Canon Carnegie Brown as they passed up the aisle to the east end of the church. The Psalm was read by the Rev. J. E. Hanauer, the Lesson by the Rev. H. Sykes, Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, and some of the following prayers by the Right Reverend Bishop Blyth. The church was packed to overflowing, the congregation including the Syrian and two Greek Orthodox Bishops, the representative of the Armenian Patriarch, and of the Chief Rabbi, and many other Jews and Christians. All the Consuls then present in Jerusalem attended in full uniform, and went with the procession from the house to the church, and then to the cemetery."

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A very representative collection, illustrative of the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund, will be included in the British Government Section of the International Exhibition at Christ Church, New Zealand, which is to be opened on November 1st next. This collection, which was shipped in July, comprises the following:— A complete set of the maps published by the Fund from the original survey of Palestine on the scale of 1 inch to the mile, the Old and New Testament maps on the scale of  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch to the mile, the photo-relief map and plan of Jerusalem, illustrating the most recent discoveries; a set of the publications of the Fund and of the Library of the Palestine Pilgrim's Text Society; plans and photographs of the recent explorations by Mr. Macalister at the ancient city of Gezer; casts of inscriptions, contour models of Jerusalem and Sinai, &c., &c. A full description of the Exhibit is given in the British Official Catalogue.

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The British Government Exhibit at Christchurch, which is, to a large extent, of an educational character, will be in charge of Captain P. H. Atkins, who was the British Representative for Education at the St. Louis International Exhibition, 1904. It is hoped that the collection sent by the Palestine Exploration Fund will be of considerable interest to the subscribers to the Fund in

New Zealand and Australia, and that it will give a good idea of the work done during the past forty years for the extension of our knowledge of the geography and history of the Bible.

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The little steamboat on the lake of Galilee is now actually running. It meets the train from Haifa, which reaches *es-Semakh* on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and takes passengers to Tiberias and to *Tabagha*, at the North end of the Lake, for Safed. Although the machinery of the boat is said to be old, the arrangements are good, and it will interest English people to know that the Captain speaks English and Turkish. The proposed carriage road to Safed is, it is said, to be undertaken without delay. It will run from *Tabagha* via *Jauneh* (Rosh Pinneh) to Safed.

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The railway from Haifa to Damascus is not yet finished, but will, it is said, be very shortly completed. The carriages are most comfortable. A large and handsome railway station at the terminus in Damascus has been designed and will be shortly commenced.

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Two excellent Hotels have been opened at Nablûs and Jenin respectively: they should be a special convenience for residents in the land.

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In 1870 Messrs Thos. Cook and Son were appointed by the Khedive to act as the Agents of his Government for passenger traffic on the Nile, and they have just issued the 36th Annual Pamphlet of their arrangements. The experience of that lengthy period is made manifest in the new pamphlet by the luxury of the arrangements and the added facilities afforded for travellers in Egypt and the Sudan. No fewer than eleven of Messrs. Cook's steamers are announced to work the various services between Cairo, Assuan, and the Second Cataract during the coming season, while, by an agreement with the Egyptian and Sudan Railways, combined steamer and rail tickets are issued, which will enable Upper Egypt to be visited by those limited in time far more expeditiously than by the leisurely steamer alone. Besides through bookings to Khartoum and Uganda, Messrs. Cook announce several excursions from Khartoum by steamer on the Blue and White Niles. The

arrangements for inspecting the many architectural wonders which, with the exquisite climate, have made the Nile Valley the winter playground of the *élite*, are a model of experienced organisation.

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A good deal of excitement has been caused in the Nazareth district by the recent decision to transfer the whole of this political division from the jurisdiction of Beyrout to that of Jerusalem. The curious arrangement has thus come about that, although the intermediate districts of Nablûs and Jenîn belong to Beyrout, Nazareth and neighbourhood stand isolated as a part of the Pashalic of Jerusalem.

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The late Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Jacob Saul Elyashar, died on Saturday evening July 21st, aged 89 years. His death, although not unexpected, for he had been ailing for some time, was rather sudden at the end. He was born at Safed, and although representing the Sephardim Community in Jerusalem, was partly of Ashkenaz origin, one of his grand-parents being an Ashkenaz. He wrote several books on Jewish literature; he was a strong personality, and much respected as much for his talents as for his energetic endeavours on behalf of the Jewish communities in Palestine.

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The *Tombs of Marissa* receives a full notice in the April number of *Revue Biblique*, where it is recognized as "a very important contribution to the history and archæology of Palestine in the last centuries before our era." Several suggestions are made regarding the inscriptions. It may be mentioned that the leaflet containing the result of the investigations by Mr. Macalister at the Tombs last October has been published and can be had on application to the Acting Secretary by those who possess the volume.

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R. P. Barnabé Meistermann, O.F.M., in his recent study of the City of David, upholds the tradition which places Zion on the western hill, and seeks to justify it by archæology and Biblical history.

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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 which were sent by Mr. Macalister illustrating the excavations at Gezer and which were not reproduced in his quarterly report, have been held over for the final memoir.

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“Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre,” the last work of the late Major-General Sir Charles Wilson, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., &c., is now ready. In this work the late Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund has brought together for the first time all the evidence which the most exhaustive research enabled him to collect bearing on the subject of these Holy Sites; and probably no man living had at once so intimate a knowledge of all investigations in the modern Jerusalem, and so complete an acquaintance with what has been written about the Sites from the time of Constantine onwards. The price of the work (demy 8vo) is 6s., by post 6s. 4*d.*, and cheques should be made payable to the order of George Armstrong, Acting Secretary to the Fund, and crossed “Coutts & Co.”

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Mr. Macalister’s work, “Bible Sidelights from the Mounds of Gezer,” is now ready. It has been written to show how the results of digging in Palestine should appeal not only to the scientific anthropologist or archæologist but also to the Bible student who has no special interest in these sciences. The book contains a brief synopsis of the work of the Fund from its foundation to the present and a description of the site of Gezer, and its history.

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Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton have also published for Dr. Bliss a book entitled “The Development of Palestine Exploration.” Its author has the twofold qualification of scholarship and practical experience in Palestine exploration; the results of the latter having been already published in a work that is well known to all students of the subject. In the present volume Dr. Bliss makes no attempt to offer a detailed account of the results of this prolonged research. What he aims at is to tell the wonderful story of the quest as a whole—“the shifting point of view of travellers from age to age; the displacement of the Classic Geographer by the credulous pilgrim; the gradual evolution of the pilgrim into the man of science”—these are some of the prominent subjects with which Dr. Bliss has

dealt. The story is one of wider human interest, and does not belong exclusively to archæology or any of the numerous sciences that are its handmaids.

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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.

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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. See below, p. 182 *sqq.*

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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.

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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.

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The income of the Society from June 16th to September 20th 1906, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £155 9s. 4d.; from sales of publications, &c., £138 16s. 1d.; from Lectures, £9 9s. 0d.; making in all, £303 14s. 5d. The expenditure during the same period was £391 12s. 9d. On September 20th the balance in the bank was £289 14s. 4d.

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Subscribers who have not yet paid, will greatly facilitate the Committee's efforts by sending their subscriptions in early, and thus

save the expense of sending out reminders, the outgoings on the excavations at Gezer having been a heavy drain on their funds. The special donations during the quarter have been received from :—

Walter Morrison, Esq.	...	£20	0	0
J. I. Smail, Esq.	... ..	£10	10	0
J. Hingston Fox, Esq.	... ..	£5	0	0

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 1905 was published with the April 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, Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass.

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

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  $6\frac{1}{2}$  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. On view at the office of the Fund; further particulars may be had on application.

In order to make up complete sets of the *Quarterly Statement*, the Committee will be very glad to receive any back numbers which subscribers do not wish to preserve.

A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1905, 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, consisting of the "Survey of Eastern Palestine" (Colonel

Conder); "Archæological Researches in Palestine," in two volumes (Clermont-Ganneau); "Flora and Fauna of Sinai, Petra, and the Wady 'Arabah" (Hart), 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 and Justinian's Church, and (4) of the Haram Area as it is at present, have been received at the office of the Fund. The four 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 prices.

The Committee acknowledge with thanks the following :—

- "The Book of Genesis," treated as an Authentic Record, Vols. I and II, from the Author, Rev. George Greenwood, M.A. (Trinity College, Cambridge).
- "Baedeker's Palestine and Syria." From the publisher, Karl Baedeker, Leipzig.
- "The Annual of the British School at Athens," No. XI. Session 1904-1905.
- "La Ville de David. La Patrie de Saint Jean-Baptiste, avec un Appendice sur Arimathie." Par Le P. Barnabé Meistermann, O.F.M.
- "Questions de Topographie Palestinienne. Le lieu de la Rencontre D'Abraham et de Melchisédech, avec un Appendice sur le Tombeau de Sainte Anne à Jérusalem." Par Le P. Barnabé, D'Alsace, O.F.M.
- "Ancient Tyre and Modern England." From the Author, "Philo-Anglicanus."

“Lectures on Babylonia and Palestine.” By Stephen Langdon, Ph.D., Fellow of Columbia Univ., New York. From the publisher, Paul Geuthner, Paris.

“Al-Mashrik.”

“Jerusalem: Jahrbuch zur Beförderung einer wissenschaftlich genauen Kenntniss des jetzigen und des alten Palästinas.” By A. M. Luncz.

“Echos d’Orient.”

See further below, pp. 317 *sqq.*

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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.

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

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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.

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#### 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 { \_\_\_\_\_  
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NOTE.—Three Witnesses are necessary in the United States of America.  
 Two suffice in Great Britain.