

RAINFALL AT JAFFA.

OUR correspondent Mr. J. Jamal forwards the following report of his meteorological observations at Jaffa :—

The amount of rain which fell in Jaffa during the winter season, commencing on October 20th, 1905, and ending May 15th, 1906, was as follows :—

5 days in October, 1905	...	2.10 inches.
2 „ November, 190535 „
14 „ December, 1905	...	9.90 „
12 „ January, 1906	...	4.00 „
14 „ February, 1906	...	5.72 „
4 „ March, 1906	...	1.10 „
5 „ April, 1906	...	1.10 „
2 „ May, 190635 „
58 days		24.62 inches.

Table showing the directions of wind, taken at 9 A.M., on the above-mentioned 58 days :—

Dates.	Winds.								Total Days.
	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	
5 days in Oct., 1905	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	= 5
2 „ Nov., „	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	= 2
14 „ Dec., „	1	1	0	3	5	2	0	2	= 14
12 „ Jan., 1906	0	1	1	4	1	2	3	0	= 12
14 „ Feb., „	0	0	0	0	5	4	5	0	= 14
4 „ Mar., „	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	= 4
5 „ April, „	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	= 5
2 „ May, „	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	= 2
58 days.	2	2	1	8	18	13	10	4	= 58

It will be noticed from the above table that on 27 rainy days the wind has been blowing from the E., S.E., and S., thus showing that the rain clouds coming up from those directions have evacuated the greater part of their contents on the mountains of Judea and Jerusalem before arriving at Jaffa. Clouds of rain coming direct from the Mediterranean, from the west or south-west, as a rule pour down their rain in torrents on the maritime plains, taking in Jaffa and leaving small showers for Jerusalem and its district. This explains why Jerusalem has received a greater portion of rain this season than Jaffa, the difference being about 14 inches between the latter and the former which is very unusual.

NOTE.—The rainfall in Jerusalem this season, as noted in the *Home Words*, has been about 39 inches. The rainfall at Jaffa in the preceding season was 23·50 inches in 63 days ; see *Q.S.* p. 70.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS.

Recueil d'Archéologie Orientale, Vol. VII, January–March, 1906. This number contains a number of short notes, principally on inscriptions, on Crusader documents, and on Makrizi's *History of Egypt*, to the latter of which some ingenious emendations are suggested. There is also an interesting paper on the word *sirr*, used in Muslim grave-formulae ; a review of Brünnow's work on Arabia ; notes on an enigmatical Byzantine inscription from Eshdud ; a summary of the work of the American expedition to central Syria ; and a large series of interesting epigraphic notes on inscriptions of Syria and Mesopotamia.

Revue Biblique, July, 1906. Beside some articles of theological importance, but not directly touching upon Palestine Exploration, this number contains an account by Prof. Clermont-Ganneau of another fragment of the great Beersheba rescript, which has recently come to light : the paper is accompanied by a facsimile. There is also an account of an Arabic description of Palestine in the Vatican Library, accompanied by a Latin translation : the first instalment of an account of the adventurous journey made by the Dominicans of St. Étienne, Jerusalem, from Nakhel in Wady el-'Arîsh to Petra : and an investigation of Saladin's journey from Cairo to Kerak and Damascus.

Notes de Mythologie Syrienne. By René Dussaud. The second