

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

THE Twentieth Quarterly Report on the Excavation of Gezer describes the result of the joining of the two pits, that of the Central Valley and that of the Eastern Hill. Another cave-cemetery has been found: it contained human remains but the store of deposits was disappointing. To the numerous types of Astarte plaques, Mr. Macalister has now been able to add a fresh and valuable one, noteworthy for its rich ornamentation. A curious tablet inscribed with lines can only be conjecturally explained; on the other hand, the tablet with the Hebrew inscription, to which a brief reference was made in the last *Quarterly Statement* (p. 271), has been submitted to scholars, and its general purport is now clear. We give in this issue remarks kindly contributed by Prof. Lidzbarski, of Greifswald, by the Rev. Prof. G. B. Gray, of Mansfield College, Oxford, and by Mr. Pilcher. Further remarks are invited from those who are able to offer suggestions. It may be added that it is proposed to publish separately the facsimiles of the tablet, with the contributions in this number; copies may be had on application to the Acting Secretary (price 1s.).

Among the other "finds" which Mr. Macalister reports we have to notice another so-called "Votive Altar." The scene represents a human figure on horseback, and presents several features of interest. A good specimen of ivory inlay, decorated with birds, also illustrates the artistic ability of the Gezerites. Another Hebrew inscribed jar-seal is noteworthy for its curious similarity to the puzzling characters discussed in the *Q.S.*, October, 1907, and January, 1908. Among the several miscellaneous objects of interest are a die, a

fragment of pottery with the painting of an octopus, and a bronze object, the exact use of which is uncertain. The work of excavation, meanwhile, is being steadily pushed on with a larger staff of labourers, and when this last trench between the Central and Eastern pits is completed, Mr. Macalister hopes to be able to dig at least one fresh trench in the Western Hill before the time expires.

By the courtesy of a correspondent we have received a file of cuttings from Jerusalem newspapers having reference to the proclamation of the New Constitution and the subsequent elections. The public enthusiasm and excitement were unbounded and attended by discharges of firearms and other displays calculated to disturb the timid: but there was no rioting or any ill-feeling. The word *houriah* ("liberty") is in all mouths, but its meaning is not so clear to their understanding. "The fellahin understand that the proclamation of the New Constitution means free liberty to do as they like. For instance, a fellah entered a shop, took up an article and coolly walked off with it. The shopkeeper called him back and asked him for the value. He replied '*houriah*.' Then the shopkeeper took the article from him and gave him a good beating, repeating the word '*houriah*' while he did so." This vague notion of "liberty" among the ignorant peasants has its troublesome side in dealing with them. The newspapers express themselves freely but moderately as to the oppression of the past, and point out what should be the duties of the new governor in caring for the welfare of the people—advice which he seems to have courteously acknowledged. The elections of members to the new Parliament gave rise to a certain amount of feeling, and some mistrust as to their being conducted fairly. However, they are over and, apparently, to the reasonable satisfaction of all parties.

At present the public interest at Jerusalem is largely concentrated on the question of a new water-supply which it has been proposed to bring from 'Arûb. The water-supply is indeed a very urgent question for Jerusalem. It is now seriously inadequate and this constitutes a standing danger to the inhabitants, whose numbers increase rapidly. Our correspondent remarks, however, that unless entrusted to a really skilled European engineer, the scheme will either fail altogether or become an additional danger.

Mr. Consul Blech's *Annual Report on the Trade of Palestine for 1907*, edited by the Foreign Office and Board of Trade, was issued early in this year. After touching on the inconvenience of the present division, for Government purposes, of the country—under which a district around Nazareth, in the midst of the Vilayet of Beirut, is assigned to the Province of Jerusalem—Consul Blech goes on to deal with the details of the trade and agriculture of the country as far as statistics can be gathered. During the year in question Palestine suffered from insufficient rainfall and consequent high prices of all food. He gives valuable notes of the exports and imports of Jaffa, and reckons that of these about £500,000 in value were for Jerusalem. Mr. Blech also points out that there is an opening for a good British firm of commission agents, at Jaffa, who would devote themselves to the study of local tastes and requirements and keep a sample room for the use of purchasers. The volume of imports has nearly doubled in five years and is likely to increase. He notes that some 500 motor-engines are in use for irrigation in the plain of Sharon. Of these he remarks that "the British is preferred, but the German manufacturer is more conciliatory as to terms of payment." The culture of the vine by the Jewish Colonisation Association appears to have been overdone, and that of fruit-trees is in some cases being substituted. Experiments in growing cotton have been made both in the plain of Sharon and about Jericho; and there seems to be every prospect of success were this carried out on a large scale. Among the public works likely to be carried out is a railway from Haifa by Nâblus to Jerusalem; and a German expert is examining the Dead Sea region to report to the Sultan as to its mineral possibilities. The water supply for Jerusalem is again a subject of anxious enquiry. The population is said to increase at the rate of 1500 per annum.

As we go to press we hear of the deaths of two valued supporters of the Fund in America. Mr. M. Hyde, of New York City, had long been one of our largest subscribers. Dr. Daniel Colt Gilman was elected the first President of the Johns Hopkins University, a post which he filled for twenty-five years, previous to which he was first President of the University of California. He was a man of great attainments and a most able administrator; and, besides his educational positions, served his country in many important capacities.

Mr. F. J. Bliss, Ph.D., of Beirut, Syria, is announced to give a course of lectures in December, 1908, on "The Religions of Syria and Palestine To-day," at Lake Forest College, Illinois, U.S.A. They are the "Bross Lectures" for 1908, and will be published in book form as volumes of the Bross Library. Among past lecturers have been Prof. Marcus Dods of Edinburgh and Prof. J. Arthur Thomson of Aberdeen. Prof. Orr's *Problem of the Old Testament*, as some may remember, was awarded the decennial Bross prize in 1905. Dr. Bliss is best known for his connection with the Fund during 1891-1900, in the course of which he undertook excavations at Lachish, Jerusalem, and (with Mr. Macalister) at the Shephelah.

We learn that the late Miss Constance Newton, who had worked the Hospital at Jaffa with forty-six beds for twenty-two years, made it over to the Christian Missionary Society a few weeks before her death.

Owing to want of space we are compelled to hold over a valuable series of notes from the Rev. J. E. Hanauer, gathered during the course of his residence in the district of Damascus. He writes that motor-cars now run from Damascus to Palmyra, covering the distance in ten hours, and that there is a movement on foot to restore the Triumphal Arch at Palmyra.

In reference to the inscribed weight illustrated in the last *Q.S.*, p. 281, M. René Dussaud remarks that it is a mina and that **M(NA)** should probably be read in the last line. He compares the double mina, 681 grs. in weight, of Syrian provenance, now in the Bibliothèque Nationale (*Cat. des Bronzes*, no. 2261). M. Clermont-Ganneau also writes *à propos* of the date which he thinks to be too high; and compares the weights discussed by him in *Archæolog. Recherches*, ii, p. 399, and *Rec. d'Archéologie*, iii, pp. 82 *sqq.*

With reference to the genuineness of the "Letter of Aristeas," describing the arrangements made by one of the Ptolemies for the Septuagint translation of the Old Testament, Mr. Offord remarks that it is worth noting that a word used in the treatise for a Graeco-Egyptian official *τάγματος*, or *τάγματικός*, occurs several times in the Greek papyri of M. Theodor Reinach, and thus was current at the date alleged for the production of Aristeas's work.

Mr. Joseph Offord writes: "in the *Archiv für Religionswissenschaft*, 1907, M. Seebourg describes two pieces of gold leaf from Jerusalem. They are inscribed $\Theta\acute{\alpha}\rho\sigma(\epsilon)\iota$ $\text{Εὐ}\gamma\epsilon\nu\eta$ $\sigma\iota\delta\acute{\epsilon}\iota\varsigma$ | $\acute{\alpha}\theta\alpha\nu\alpha\tau\iota\omicron\varsigma$ and $\theta\alpha\rho\sigma(\epsilon)\iota$ | $\text{Εὐ}\gamma\acute{\epsilon}$ | $\nu\eta$. They were probably for placing on the body in the grave."

We have received *Jerusalem in Bible Times*, by Lewis Bayles Paton, Ph.D., D.D., Professor of Old Testament Exegesis and Criticism in Hartford Theological Seminary. The author was, during 1903-4, Director of the American School of Oriental Study and Research in Jerusalem, and is already well known for his excellent *Early History of Syria and Palestine* in Nimmo's "Semitic Series." He has brought together in a very lucid manner such evidence as bears upon the question of the identification of the Biblical sites and topography of Jerusalem; and does this with modesty and a total absence of controversial spirit.

The Liverpool University Institute of Archaeology are issuing "Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology" (annual subscription 10s. for the four quarterly parts), of which numbers 1 and 2 of the first volume have been sent to the Office. These contain notes on a journey through Asia Minor by Prof. Garstang, a valuable record, with fifteen plates, of his expedition and of the Hittite and other monuments which were examined and copied. Upon one of these—the black stone from Tyana—a separate article is contributed by Prof. Myres. Prof. Garstang also gives a brief description of Winckler's discoveries of Hittite remains at Boghaz-Keui, with some serviceable criticisms on the culture-cycle and period to which the finds belong. Prof. Percy Newberry discusses the Egyptian "petty kingdom of the harpoon," in its bearing upon Egypt's earliest Mediterranean port, and two cults of the old Egyptian kingdom which have Aegean associations. Other papers by Miss Margaret Murray (the "harpooner" as one of the titles of the Egyptian kings) and by Mr. J. G. Milne (the copper coinage of the Ptolemies) make up an admirable number which is as creditable to the University of Liverpool as to British archaeological scholarship. We wish the new "Annals" every success.

Prof. A. R. S. Kennedy's discussion of "Some Problems of Herod's Temple" in the *Expository Times* (October, November) is

worthy of careful study. His investigations have led him to determine, to within a few feet, the precise location of Herod's temple and its courts. His first task is to ascertain the cubit used by Herod's masons, and from an array of evidence he concludes that "the builder's cubit of six handbreadths, from the later monarchy to the second century A.D., measured 17.6 inches, neither less nor more," that is 447-448 millimetres. A careful survey of the rock-levels of the Haram area, as fixed by Sir Charles Warren and others, leads him to accept Warren's scarped rock running east and west as the north boundary wall of Herod's temple. It is exactly 250 cubits distant from the centre of the sacred rock, and practically the same distance separates the west wall of the Haram from the same point. Other striking points of agreement lead to the recovery of the area (26 acres), and to the conviction that Herod's court must have served as the model for that of the second century temple at Damascus. Prof. Kennedy then discusses the gates of the great court, Robinson's arch, and the royal porch. All in all, he succeeds in presenting a very strong claim for the solidity of the results which he here presents.

The expedition of the Cornell University, U.S.A., to Asia Minor, Assyria, and Babylonia, has resulted in a vast collection of pottery fragments. The pottery on over 300 sites was studied and, in addition to this, many corrections were made in the existing maps, many unexplored localities searched, and numerous squeezes of inscriptions were secured.

The account of the journey of the Egyptian Sinuhit to Palestine has long been famous for its description of life among the natives of Kēdem, that is, the East, probably of the Jordan. In 1907, Mr. A. H. Gardiner discussed in the *Proceedings* of the Berlin University another copy of the journey, where Byblos (*Kepni*) was mentioned, and consequently inferred that Sinuhit's journey was to the Syrian coastlands. Now, however, M. Raymond Weill in *Sphinx*, Vol. XI, part 4, while recognizing that the Egyptian *Kepni* can be no other than *Gebal*, questions whether this is really the famous Byblos, and proposes to identify it with *Jibāl* (Gebal in Psalm lxxxiii, 7, the Gōbalitis of Josephus), in the Edomite district. The main point is that Sinuhit's travels were among a

Bedouin people, and that the picture we have of Palestine in the annals of Thotmes III, and the Armarna tablets, does not seem to pre-suppose the more primitive conditions which Sinuhit so clearly describes. For the Palestine of the XIIth Egyptian dynasty this question, which has been recently discussed by M. Weill and by Prof. W. von Bissing (*Rec. de Travaux*, 1907), is of considerable interest.

Many readers will be interested to know that a reprint of Mr. Armstrong's book *Names and Places in the Old and New Testaments* is now ready. The book has been out of print for some years, but has been frequently enquired for.

The attention of those interested in the subject of the Exodus of the Israelites is called to a new map of the "Desert of the Wanderings," from Mount Hor on the east to the Suez Canal on the west, and from Mount Sinai in the south to Beersheba in the north, which has been compiled by the War Office, and is based principally upon the sketch surveys of the Palestine Exploration Fund (scale 4 miles to the inch). In eight sheets, price 1s. 6d. per sheet.

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

The first edition of Mr. Macalister's work, "*Bible Sidelights from the Mounds of Gezer*," was quickly sold out, and a second edition is now on sale. It has been written to show how the results of digging in Palestine should appeal not only to the scientific anthropologist or archaeologist, 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. Price 5s. 4d., post free.

The *Painted Tombs of Marissa*, recently published by the Fund, is now recognized as a very important contribution to the history and archaeology of Palestine in the last centuries before our era. It may be mentioned that the leaflet containing the result of the investigations by Mr. Macalister at the Tombs has been published, and can be had on application to the Acting Secretary by those who possess the volume.

"*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., etc., 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. 4d., and cheques should be made payable to the order of George Armstrong, Acting Secretary to the Fund, and crossed "Coutts & Co."

Judas Maccabæus, by Colonel C. R. Conder, R.E. This interesting little book was among those of which the whole edition was destroyed in the fire at Messrs. Bain's warehouse last year. It is now reprinted and can again be supplied (4s. 6d.) on application to the 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., Beirut, 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 September 19th, 1908, to December 19th, 1908, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £643 0s. 9d.; from sales of publications, &c., £82 3s. 4d.; making in all, £725 4s. 1d. The expenditure during the same period was £828 15s. 6d. On December 19th the balance in the bank was £610 4s. 10d.

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, as the outgoings on the excavations at Gezer will be a heavy drain on the funds. Special donations during the quarter have been received from—

	£	s.	d.
Anonymous	100	0	0
Col. H. J. Hope Edwardes	10	0	0
J. Carfrae Alston, Esq.	10	0	0
Richard Cooke, Esq.	5	5	0
Lt.-Col. C. F. Fellows	5	0	0
George Mathieson, Esq.	5	0	0
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	£135	5	0
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Subscribers to the Fund are reminded that, whilst the receipt of every subscription and contribution is promptly acknowledged by the Acting Secretary, they are now published annually, and not quarterly. A complete List of Subscribers and Subscriptions for 1907 is given in the Annual Report published with the April number.

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

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 Miss Mary A. Wright, Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, 42, Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass.

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.

A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1905, containing the early letters (now scarce), 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.

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 History of the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews. From 1809 to 1908.” By the Secretary, Rev. W. T. Gidney, M.A. With preface by the President, a centenary hymn by the Bishop of Durham, and thirteen specially prepared illustrations.

“Revue de l'École d'Anthropologie de Paris.” Extracts : “La Proto-histoire Orientale et quelques éléments décoratifs Chypriotes,” “Anciennes Civilisations Orientales, fouilles et découvertes.” By René Dussaud.

“The Libraries of London ; a Guide for Students.” From the author, R. A. Rye, Goldsmiths' Librarian.

“The Expository Times,” November : “Some Problems of Herod's Temple,” by Prof. A. R. S. Kennedy ; “Recent Biblical and Oriental Archaeology,” by Prof. A. H. Sayce.

“Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology,” issued by the Liverpool Institute of Archaeology. Vol. I, nos. 1-2.

“Al-Mashrik : Revue Catholique Orientale Mensuelle,” October : “Deux congrès scientifiques à Berlin et à Copenhague.” By P. L. Cheikho, S.J.

“American Journal of Archaeology,” XII, 3. “Two new Inscriptions from Beersheba.” By Benjamin W. Robinson (supplementary to *Q.S.*, 1902, pp. 269-282, 385-388).

“The Biblical World,” October, 1908 : “Upper Galilee.” By Dr. E. W. G. Masterman.—November : “The Upper Jordan Valley.” By the same.

“Échos d'Orient,” September, etc.

Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania.—“Documents from the Temple Archives of Nippur,” Vols. XIV and XV ; “Legal and Commercial Documents,” Vol. VIII, part 1. By Arthur T. Clay. From Professor H. P. Hilprecht.

“The Annual of the British School at Athens,” No. XIII, 1906-1907. From the publishers, Macmillan & Co.

“Jerusalem in Bible Times.” From the author, Prof. Lewis B. Paton (Chicago University Press, and Luzac & Co., London, 4s. 6d.).

“Bulletin de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences,” St. Petersburg ; 1908, November.

“Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique” (École Française d'Athènes) ; 1908. Excavations at Delos.

&c., &c.

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 authorized 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 for the same.

NOTE.—Three Witnesses are necessary to a Will by the Law of the United States of America, and Two by the Law of the United Kingdom.
