

THE  
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

AT the request of the Committee, Mr. Macalister is paying a short visit to Palestine to examine carefully a few selected sites to ascertain which of them appears to present the greatest promise of success and the best advantage in working for the next campaign. He will also visit Constantinople, where the objects found during the late excavations are being arranged in the new museum building, which is now of great archaeological importance. In the meanwhile, the complete memoir of Gezer is in course of preparation by Mr. Macalister, and it is expected that it will be published early next year. It will be very fully illustrated, and will present a synthetic account of the bearing of the results of the excavation on the history, ethnology, and archacology of Palestine.

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General Sir Charles Warren has very kindly presented a number of important books to the Library of the Fund; a list of them will be given in the next issue of the *Quarterly Statement*.

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In *Home Words for Jerusalem*, July, the following announcement is given of the impending retirement of Dr. Percy d'Erf Wheeler, our esteemed Secretary at Jerusalem, and a member of the General Committee:—"We are sure that it must have come with a certain measure of shock to many of us when we heard that Dr. Wheeler is soon to leave us and the Jerusalem Mission, with which he has been connected for so many years. As we know, he has for some time

contemplated resignation after the completion of twenty-five years of service. Circumstances have, however, arisen that made it seem advisable, if not absolutely necessary, that he should leave us a little sooner, and in all probability he will go in the beginning of October. He has been appointed Head of the Mission in Manchester, which we have no doubt will prove a less trying position than he holds here, but which will at the same time give him plenty of scope for the exercise of his skill as a medical adviser. There is of course no hospital attached to that Mission, as Manchester is so well supplied with such institutions, nor, we suppose, will there be the great burden of private visits, which, at least as we know them in this climate, and in the insanitary conditions of place and people, must have been so great a burden, even though it has been cheerfully borne. . . . In losing the presence and work of Dr. Wheeler, we are not to be left to the tender mercies of a stranger, as Dr. Masterman has been appointed to succeed him. We believe he will return shortly before Dr. Wheeler leaves. He and his wife and children will, no doubt, receive a warm welcome, and we hope and believe our Medical Mission will prosper in his hands."

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Dr. Masterman has kindly undertaken to act as Local Secretary for the Fund in Jerusalem, in place of Dr. Wheeler.

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The following extract from *Home Words for Jerusalem* will also be of interest to our readers:—"Many of us who are acquainted with the American School of Archaeology here will be interested to know that a Jew, Prof. P. Gottheil, of Columbia, U.S.A., has been appointed as its head. Its previous heads have all been distinguished scholars, and Prof. Gottheil is no exception. He has always taken an interest in Palestinian topography, and has stimulated his students to work on the subject, and the Columbia monographs on Gaza and Sidon have been recognized as worthy contributions to the history of sites in the Holy Land. It must be acknowledged that the Jews have not taken a fair share in the modern work of research in Palestine. The appointment of Prof. Gottheil will give them an opportunity of showing their interest now. The post to which he is called is no sinecure, for students of Oriental subjects attend who hope to acquire first-hand an acquaintance with Eastern literature, languages, and life. We wish the professor every success."

Prof. Karl Marti, D.D., our Honorary Secretary at Berne, Switzerland, contributes an interesting study of the Gezer inscription to the German *Zeitschrift für die Alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*, of which he is the editor. He agrees that it is a palimpsest, and thus accepts Prof. Vincent's explanation of the disputed letter, rendering "two months" on the four occasions where it occurs (see *Quarterly Statement*, July, p. 190 *sqq.*). In his opinion it is hardly an official document, it appears to be more of a private nature, and it is possible that one may compare the Assyrian lists of plants, animals, countries, etc. He agrees also with Father Vincent that the reading "two months" is, philologically, an Aramaism, and finds nothing in the palaeography to prevent him accepting the date after 600 B.C. to which that scholar has proposed to assign the tablet. The problem of the date is also handled in this number of the *Quarterly Statement* by the editor (pp. 284 *sqq.*, below).

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In *The Biblical World* for July, Mr. S. Gobiet offers a novel translation of the Gezer stone. In his opinion it is a publication of a levy, or of direct taxes, due to one who signed himself at the bottom of the inscription as "the mighty one (*or* prince) of Gezer." Thus it begins "to his month of harvest; to his month of sowing," etc. Other comments on the Gezer inscription will be noticed as occasion arises, and we may remind readers that the facsimiles, together with the studies by Prof. Lidzbarski, Prof. Gray, and Mr. Pilcher (Jan., pp. 26-34), have been reprinted, and can be had on application to the Acting Secretary (price 1s.).

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An instructive article is contributed by Prof. Sayce to the June number of *The Biblical World* on "The Latest Hittite Discoveries." It is a popular description of the results of the researches of Prof. Hugo Winckler and others at Boghaz Keui in Cappadocia, showing how his own early view of the prominence of the Hittites in the latter part of the Second Millennium has since been proved by the happy discovery of cuneiform tablets. Perhaps one of the most romantic "finds" was a copy of the famous treaty between the Hittites and the Egyptian king Rameses II, the Egyptian version of which has long been known. Many important facts have now come to light, and the tablets serve to supplement the El-Amarna letters, and furnish much additional information on the

relations between Syria and Palestine, on the one hand, and the great Hittite kingdom on the other. Not the least interesting is the part which the queens of Egyptian and Hittite monarchs are found to play in the politics of the Old World. Prof. Sayce gives a rapid sketch of the chief events to the time when the Hittite empire came to an end under circumstances which are as yet far from clear. Somewhere about 1200 B.C., it seems, this great kingdom, whose influence extended far and wide, was suddenly overthrown, perhaps by an eastward advance of tribes related to the Dorian Greeks, and the scattered fragments only gradually were united, this time under the leadership, not of Northern but, as Prof. Sayce believes, of Southern Cappadocia. The Hittite records have opened up a new chapter in ancient Oriental history, and it is too soon to say how far the Hittite area, open to Aegean, Egyptian, and Babylonian influence, will affect current hypotheses of ancient culture and history. It need only be observed how Mr. Hogarth, in his lectures on *Ionia and the East*, has recently shown that we have here an important though little known factor in the study of the problems which concern the Eastern Mediterranean coast-lands, Palestine and Syria included.

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In the University of Liverpool *Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology*, Vol. I, No. 4, Prof. Garstang gives a preliminary report of his excavations at the Hittite site of Sakje-Geuzi, in the extreme north of Syria. Here is a district almost crowded with mounds which tell of settled communities in the past, and the expedition has brought results which sufficiently indicate the wealth of material waiting to be unearthed. Among the more remarkable discoveries was the portico of a palace, or temple, with sculptures of lions, sphinxes, priest-king, whisk-bearers, royal falconer, etc., all wonderfully preserved, and representing a peculiar local treatment of motives which are markedly Assyrian. They are not so crude, in some respects, as those of Zenjirli, and invite comparison with the art of the north, and on various grounds it is held that the sculptures are the work of the Hittites of North Syria, probably of about 850 B.C. It is about this period (from 854 B.C.) that Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, made repeated attempts to overthrow the great coalition of states, extending from Cilicia to Ammon and Israel, under the leadership of Damascus,

and when relations between Israel and North Syria were—whether friendly or hostile—particularly close. A little later and we reach the age of the important inscriptions of the king of Hamath (recording his defeat of Bar-hadad) and of the North Syrian kings of the middle of the eighth century B.C., all of which are written in a dialect partly “Canaanite” (*i.e.*, most closely akin to Hebrew and Phoenician) and partly Aramaic, and which in thought and religion find many noteworthy parallels in the Old Testament. The discovery of a “Hittite” palace or temple is, therefore, of no little interest for the study of Bible lands, and it illustrates the manner in which year by year research is recovering more and more of the environment of the Old Testament, and, at the same time, is implicitly demonstrating its uniqueness. Fuller details of the work at Sakje-Geuzi will be eagerly awaited in the hope that evidence may come to light to fill the blank in the history between the decline and fall of the northern Hittite empire and the period of the minor closely related principalities of the ninth and eighth centuries.

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The Princeton University Archaeological Expedition to Syria (1904-5) has now published two more volumes on the architecture and Greek and Latin inscriptions in Northern Syria. The latter belong generally to the third to sixth centuries A.D., and are mainly ecclesiastical. One notes among them the fragment of what was probably a boundary-stone which indicated the “limits of the asylum” of—apparently—the holy Mary. A rock-hewn tomb, consecrated to Zaranas, Paltos, Euenas, Thritas, and Zooras, son of Zebinas, bears the warning that it is not to be mortgaged or sold or shared, and that if another share it he shall pay to the most sacred treasury 2,000 drachmae. Often the inscriptions, with their more or less faithful citations from the Bible, are metrical, and in most cases they are instructive for the study of the Greek of North Syria, as also for the character of the population—Biblical, classical, and purely Semitic names being intermingled.

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The district of Jebel Rihâ, or J. ez-Zâwiyeh, is remarkable for its architectural remains. The majority of the sites are collections of large and handsome detached villas; they were residential towns with a church or two, perhaps a bath, and with rich ornamental

tombs, fringing the outskirts. Mr. H. C. Butler, who describes them, finds no complete parallel to them anywhere. These villas betoken "a high degree of public order and safety in Syria between the fourth and seventh centuries A.D. : that people could live in the country in small villas with no further defences than their own doors." The owners were evidently a well-to-do middle class—there are no remains to suggest any superior class—only far to the east the palace of *Ḳaṣr ibn Wardân* hints at the presence of rulers or governors. These people were men of taste, to judge from the ruins ; they were not owners of large landed estates, nor does the character of the country suggest wealthy pastoral communities. Mr. Butler pictures the richer inhabitants as growers of olives and vine ; everything points to these two sources of wealth that could be sent to the markets ; and given one chief industry, many other smaller industries and trades arose to supply the needs of the civilized community. The Princeton University is to be congratulated upon the success of its expedition, and upon the admirable manner in which the scholars who took part in it are publishing the results. What a field for research is being laid open for our younger English students with a knowledge of Greek and Latin and an interest in Palestine and Syria just before and after the Christian era !

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In the *Revue Biblique*, July, a summary is given of the published results of the Harvard Expedition to Samaria, by Prof. H. Vincent. He notes the clear archaeological stratifications from the Arab and Byzantine "epidermis" down to the characteristic Israelite layer, where there were the same old Hebrew letters, marking the stones, such as were found in the "palace" of Megiddo. A temple, about 25 by 40 metres, stood upon the terrace : it seems to occupy the site of a more ancient edifice, and it shows four distinct periods of workmanship from the latest Israelite period ("more precisely the commencement of the Hellenistic era") to the last Roman ages. The fragments of a statue were found near the altar, and from the fact that Josephus relates the dedication of a temple to Caesar (*Wars*, I, 24, 2), its identification with Augustus is natural, though not yet certain. The Latin inscription on the altar, with its allusion to the troops of Pannonia, is learnedly discussed by Father Vincent, who concludes his interesting summary with the suggestion (based upon the religious conservatism of the East) that the sanctuary

of Baal, famous for its altar erected by Ahab, would hardly be situated anywhere else than on the site where the sanctuary of Roman Sebaste occupies the place of Herodian Sebaste, which, in turn, is the temple of Hellenistic Samaria.

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 reports, have been held over for the final Memoir.

The income of the Society from June 19th, 1909, to September 19th, 1909, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £216 7s. 8d. ; from Lectures, £3 3s. 6d. ; from sales of publications, &c., £144 16s. 6d. ; making in all, £364 7s. 8d. The expenditure during the same period was £303 10s. 0d. On September 19th the balance in the bank was £643 2s. 8d.

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. Special donations during the quarter have been received from:—

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Balance of Legacy (\$2000) bequeathed by Miss Eliza O. Ropes, of Salem, Mass., U.S.A. ... ..	124	15	3
James Melrose, Esq. (Donation) ... ..	5	0	0
	£129	15	3

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 1908 was 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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., 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."

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*Judas Maccabaeus*, 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 in 1907. It is now reprinted and can again be supplied (4s. 6d.) on application to the Secretary.

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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.

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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.

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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 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. E. W. G. Masterman, will give all information necessary.

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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. Prof. Lewis B. Paton, Ph.D., Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, 50, Forest Street, Hartford, Conn.

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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. On view at the office of the Fund; further particulars may be had on application.

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A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1908, 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

The Committee acknowledge with thanks, among other journals and books, the following :—

*Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* (Liverpool Institute of Archaeology), 1909, II, 4: A Bird-cult of the old Egyptian kingdom, by Prof. Newberry.

*The Expository Times*, 1909, August: Prof. Sayce, on the archaeological background of Gen. ii, 4-iii, 24, and its wide divergence from the later record, Gen. i, 1-ii, 3.

*The Biblical World*, 1909, July: A description of the Samaritan Passover, by A. E. Bailey; the Gezer Stone, by S. Gobiet.

*Ancient Architecture in Syria*. By H. B. Butler. *Greek and Latin Inscriptions in Syria*. By W. K. Prentice (Publications of the Princeton University Archaeological Expedition to Syria in 1904-05; Section B, Parts 2 and 3, Northern Syria. See above, pp. 239, 240.)

*Revue Biblique*, 1909, July: R. P. Dhorme concludes his study of the Bible lands in the age illustrated by the Amarna tablets: the campaign of Abdi-Ashirta; the conquests of Azirú; Azirú, prince of Amurru; Azirú and the Hittites; the disorganization in the midst of Canaan. A cruise on the Dead Sea (*continued*, with illustrations), by R. P. Abel; Prof. Vincent, the American excavations at Samaria, and "archaeological gleanings"; new inscriptions from Jerásh, by F. M. Abel; review of Prof. Dalman's *Petra und seine Felsheiligtümer* (H. Vincent).

*Journal Asiatique*, 1909: i. The *u*, the *ka* and the *mina*, by Prof. Thureau-Dangin; ii. Assyriology in 1905, by M. Fossey; Phoenicians, Hellenistic Jews, and Berbers in the Basin of the Mediterranean, by M. M. Schwab.

*L'Académie Impériale des Sciences de St. Pétersbourg*, Vol. VIII, No. 10. Manichæan studies, by Carl Salemann.

*Zeitschrift d. Deutschen Palaestina-Vereins*, 1909, III: Pastor Robert Horning, on the various mosaics from Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine, and Sinai, with a full bibliography of the Medaba map; honey in Palestine, by Prof. Krauss.

*Mitteilungen u. Nachrichten* of the above, 1909, III-IV: The P.E.F. excavations in the Shephelah (*concluded*), by Dr. Thomsen; meteorological stations of the German Society in Palestine, by Prof. Blanckenhorn; Prof. Nestle on the "bürger zu Jerusalem" in an old German archive of 1385 asks for an explanation.

**NEA ΣΙΩΝ**, 1909, May-June: Clem. Karnapa on the excavations at Samaria.

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 authorized 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.

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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.*

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