

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND'S PUBLICATIONS.

IN the last *Quarterly Statement* mention was made of some change contemplated by the Committee. Except in the case of the final memoir of the Gezer Excavations, now in the press, the change may be said to begin from this issue.

The Committee's object is to so economise, by avoiding the double publication of the same matter, as to be able to place in the hands of every subscriber of a guinea annually, the *complete* report of the year's work, instead of issuing, some time afterwards, a separate book at a necessarily high price, containing much that has already been published.

Thus, the "Gezer" memoir, when published, will cost the purchaser not less than 4 guineas. The similar memoir of any future excavation will come out in yearly parts and be received by the guinea subscriber *free*. The price to others than subscribers will be, for each annual part, £1 5s.

In the meantime, the *Quarterly Statement* will be published and distributed as before, and will include the usual special articles and correspondence. Reports on the progress of excavations will appear, but, except where the subject may seem to invite the special attention of experts, these reports will be less detailed than heretofore.

One copy will be sent free to every subscriber: but all extra copies must be paid for at the published price.

It will be seen that no very sweeping change is to be made; but the annual subscriber of not less than one guinea will become possessed of the full results of future excavations, in 4to form, without further outlay. The Committee hope that, as this advantage becomes known, the number of such subscribers may be largely increased.

Together with the change made in the *Quarterly Statement*, the opportunity has been taken to revise the table of transliteration of Hebrew and Arabic, in consultation with Sir Charles Watson who has devoted much study to a comparison of the different systems in use. It is now proposed to modify slightly the diacritical marks, using, for example, the more distinct h instead of ħ, k instead of ḳ, and so on. Long vowels will be represented thus: ā instead of â. The table will be found on p. 62 of the present number, and it is hoped that contributors will co-operate so as to obtain as far as possible consistency in the transliteration of Oriental words. Those words which have become thoroughly familiar in English will of course be retained in their ordinary spelling, e.g. Mohammed, Koran.

We print below (pp. 8-11) extracts from recent letters of the Fund's Explorer, Dr. Duncan Mackenzie, who, at the time of writing, was engaged in pursuing valuable investigations at the ancient ruins of Petra. The results of his researches, during this interval, before the excavation of Beth-Shemesh can be properly undertaken, will be published in due course.

In the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, Part II, 1910, Principal G. A. Smith criticizes an article by Professor Nathaniel Schmidt on Kadesh-Barnea. He suggests that Barnea is perhaps of non-Semitic origin, and that the name may survive in Forni, a hill to the south-east of 'Ain Ḳudeis (or rather 'Ain Ḳdēs). The last-mentioned, as both agree, is not certainly the exact site of Kadesh, chiefly on the grounds of the scanty fertility of the site, in contrast with the neighbouring wells and wādies, and of the well-known fact that place-names tend to drift in Palestine and Syria.

Dr. Masterman informs us of an extraordinarily interesting discovery made by Prof. Reisner at Sebaste. Just outside the walls of the great building which is identified with a palace of the age of Omri and Ahab, there was found in the oldest strata about one hundred and twenty pottery fragments with Hebrew inscriptions in ink. About seventy are clear and legible and prove to be business receipts for oil, wine, or for the hire of messengers, and mention many interesting Hebrew names. The characters resemble those of the Siloam inscription. Among these fragments was an Assyrian

cuneiform inscription mentioning the name of Ahab and the contemporary king of Assyria. We shall look forward with keen interest to fuller details, and meanwhile offer our heartiest congratulations to the American excavators who seem to have made the most remarkable discovery of old Hebrew epigraphical material that has been known.

The completed Church of St. George, the Cathedral of the Anglican Communion in Jerusalem and the Near East, of which Mr. G. D. Jeffery is the architect, was consecrated on November 1st (All Saints' Day). The church is built on the lines of William of Wykeham's, New College, Oxford. It is the result of the persevering efforts of Bishop Blyth during his episcopate of the last twenty-three years. The Bishop was assisted by the Bishops of Chichester, Meath and Khartum; the Dean of Ely and some forty of the Anglican clergy were present. The Greek Patriarch and the Bishop of the Jordan, also bishops of the Armenian, Syrian, Coptic, Abyssinian and other Eastern Churches attended. At the subsequent reception the Patriarch spoke in sympathetic words, praying for the welfare and success of the English Church.

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.

The income of the Society from September 15th to December 15th, 1910, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £401 5s. 1d.; from sales of publications, £61 12s. 3d.; making in all, £462 17s. 4d. The expenditure during the same period was £498 8s. 7d. On December 15th, the balance in the bank was £556 0s. 7d.

Subscribers who have not yet paid will greatly facilitate the Committee's efforts by sending in their subscriptions, and thus save the expense of sending out reminders.

Subscribers to the Fund are reminded that, whilst the receipt of every subscription and contribution is promptly acknowledged by the Assistant Secretary, they are now published annually. A complete List of Subscribers and Subscriptions for the year 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. The Rev. G. S. Belasco has kindly consented to act for Ramsgate, and R. D. McGlashan, Esq., for Highgate.

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. 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.

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 send for a copy, price 2s. 6d.

The Arabic astrological treatise by a Jerusalem Christian native, translated and annotated by Miss Gladys Dickson, and first published in the *Quarterly Statement*, 1908-9, can now be obtained in pamphlet form (price 1s. post free).

A reprint of the late 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.

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 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.

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 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.

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.

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.

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

Annual of the British School at Athens, Session 1908-1909 : The east pediment sculptures of the Temple of Aphaia at Aegina, by D. Mackenzie.

Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, Jan.-June, 1910.

Transactions of the Canadian Institute, Feb., 1910.

The Biblical World, 1910, Aug. : The site of Cana of Galilee, by Dr. E. W. G. Masterman ; Sept. and Oct. : Jar-burial customs and the question of infant-sacrifice in Palestine, by Dr. W. H. Wood.

Agricultural and Botanical Explorations in Palestine, by Aaron Aaronsohn (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Bulletin No. 180; 1910).

Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, Vol. XXXII, Part 6: The origin of the Phoenician alphabet, by Prof. Sayce.

Palästina: Monatsschrift für die Erschliessung Palästinas, 1910, Nos. 8-12.

Mitteilungen und Nachrichten des Deutschen Palaestina-vereins, 1910, Nos. 3 and 4: On the altar at Jerash, by Prof. Karl Budde; meteorological observations, 1909-1910, by Prof. Blauckenhorn; ez-Zerife near Hashm abu Sabele, by E. Baumann.

Zeitschrift d. Deutschen Pal.-Vereins, XXXIII, heft 4: The Palestine route of the Itinerarium Burdigalense, by Dr. Hartmann; notes on a new map of the Pal.-Egyptian borderlands, by Dr. Hans Fischer; etc., etc.

Talmudische Archäologie, Vol. I, by Dr. Samuel Krauss. (Leipzig, 1910.)

Revue Biblique, Oct., 1910: Assyria and the Bible-lands (*contd.*), by Prof. Dhorme; a new Minaean inscription from El-Öla, Dedan, by Profs. Jaussen and Savignac; exploration of the Jordan Valley, by Prof. Abel; archaeological notes, by Prof. Vincent.

Journal Asiatique, May-June, 1910.

Échos d'Orient, Sept., 1910.

Neuvième Congrès International de Géographie: Geneva, 1908. *Compte Rendu*, II.

Une Croisière autour de la Mer morte, by Prof. F. M. Abel. A portion has already appeared in the *Revue Biblique*, 1909-10.

Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei, 1910, Fasc. 3 and 4.

NEA SION, Sept.-Oct., 1910.

Al-Mashrik: Revue Catholique Orientale Mensuelle.

Walks about Jerusalem, by Rev. J. E. Hanauer.

British Weights and Measures, by Col. Sir C. M. Watson.

The Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem, by W. Harvey and others.

History of the London Society for Promotion of Christianity amongst the Jews, by Rev. W. D. Gidney.

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.

The Committee desire to draw the attention of Subscribers to the Banker's Order Form enclosed, the use of which would greatly facilitate the administrative work of the Fund.

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.*