

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

REMOVAL OF THE SOCIETY'S OFFICES.

Subscribers and others are reminded that the Offices of the Palestine Exploration Fund have been established in their new freehold premises, No. 2, **HINDE STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE, W.**, and all letters should now be so addressed. Hinde Street leads from the east side of Manchester Square, and No. 2 is next door to Mandeville Place, and on the south side of the street.

The Office and Museum are on the ground floor.

The Forty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund was held on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 11th, at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, London, W. The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of London presided, and there was a good attendance. Much interest was shown in the record of the work achieved by the P.E.F., and in the excellent address delivered by the Bishop. An account of the Meeting is given in this issue, to which we refer our readers for a full report of the proceedings.

After some vexatious delays, Dr. Mackenzie was able to start work again at 'Ain Shems on Monday, April 22nd. His old camping ground was sown with corn, and would therefore not be available till after the harvest. He and Mr. Newton were hospitably received in the neighbouring Convent of Beit Gemal. By the time

these lines are published they will be encamped among the stubble. Detailed descriptions of his work since April have been received from Dr. Mackenzie, and a general summary of the results, so far, is included in the report of Sir Charles Watson's remarks at the Annual General Meeting. The excavations show evidence of early Semitic occupation of the site, followed by Philistine influence; but, as far as present evidence goes, from the time of the Jewish monarchy, when some great catastrophe of fire and sword befel the place, Beth-Shemesh, as a walled town, seems to have perished utterly, and the site possibly remained unoccupied until it was chosen by Byzantine Coenobite monks for the erection of their convent. The extent and character of the town walls were ascertained and the South Gate laid bare last season; but presumably there were other gates whose positions are not yet found. Extensive foundations of houses, and much pottery indicating different epochs occur. Dr. Mackenzie will continue the work of excavation during July, but will suspend them by the end of the month, when the district becomes unhealthy.

Sir John Gray Hill sends a photograph of a Jewish inscription upon an ossuary found in a tomb on the Mount of Olives, and close to the tomb in which was discovered the Nicanor inscription, since presented by him to the British Museum (see *Q.S.*, 1903, pp. 93, 125 *sqq.*, 326 *sqq.*; 1905, pp. 253 *sqq.*). He observes: "I have found many tombs on my land, and I believe that from the German Institution, which is on a bed of flint and therefore unsuitable for tombs, up to and including the land of the White Fathers—about a mile—there has been a cemetery in olden times." To the south of the land belonging to the White Fathers, Sir John Hill has cleared out several old cave-dwellings, but signs of a later more civilized settlement are afforded by pieces of tessellated pavement which are scattered about. "There is also a huge olive mill in ruins, the lower part of which weighs, I should think, three or four tons; how it was taken there I cannot understand, as there is no road to the place, and no camel could carry it. There is also a very heavy stone basin to receive the oil, and the stone of both is not of the district, but looks like the stone found in the Hauran." Often, also, round stones such as were used in catapults were found on his land.

Our esteemed correspondent also sends us a reprint of a speech on "The Jews of Jerusalem," delivered by him at the opening of the Palestine Exhibition in Liverpool on June 4th. To this we hope to refer later. In sending it he calls attention to the fact that recent sinkings of shafts for pillars to support shops on the west side of the road entering the Damascus Gate, has shown a depth of about 16 metres to the rock within 20 feet of the city wall. The question is: when was the rock cut down? If before the Crucifixion, the wall from that gate—westwards—cannot have been the third wall, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre cannot be the true site.

Great Fire at Damascus.—It is not so many years since the Great Mosque of Damascus was destroyed by fire (October, 1893). It has since been restored, but much of its ancient interest and beauty then perished. It has now had a narrow escape from a repetition of the disaster. A fire broke out on April 26th in the quarter lying between the Mosque and the Castle. It raged during the night of the 26th and all the following day and night, and destroyed the great Sûk el-Hamidiyeh, the Asrumiyeh, and considerable portions of the "Cloth," the "Silk," and the "Greek" bazaars." The damage done is estimated at forty million francs (£1,600,000). The ruined bazaars were said to be still smouldering many days later. The houses close to the well-known Roman arch, adjoining the Mosque enclosure, were destroyed, and their demolition has exposed that and many of the ancient columns which formed a feature of the approach to the Roman Temple (see map, *Q.S.*, April, 1912). But a few days before the fire, Mr. Newton had been engaged in measuring and verifying the positions of these and other columns connected with this great Temple. These have hitherto, for the most part, been embedded in modern buildings and very partially visible. Since the fire, several of them stand exposed though blackened by smoke and fire. The Rev. J. E. Hanauer has forwarded several photographs, taken amidst the smoke of the débris and the dust of the demolition of tottering walls, which illustrate the exposure of these Roman remains and give some idea of the extent of the destruction. It may be interesting to note that the Great Mosque was first partially destroyed by fire in 1069, and a second time in 1400 by Tamerlane.

Mr. Herbert Clark writes, with reference to his collection of palaeolithic implements (*Q.S.*, April, pp. 82 *sqq.*), that No. 3 in Fig. 2 is flaked and worked on both sides, and is not a scraper but a fine patinated palaeolith; it is sharpened on one side by a bevel. The adze, No. 1, Fig. 3, is neolithic, also with a bevel on one side, the others are bevelled on both sides; the arrangement in Fig. 3 is to show the transition. In Fig. 4, Nos. 3 and 4 are not neolithic, they are palaeoliths, probably late. One is a whole saw, the other a section. In Fig. 5, No. 1 is a broad chisel or celt; the fact that the upper part of No. 1 is broken off probably accounts for the view (p. 84) that it is a borer. In Fig. 7 the objects come also from places south of Jerusalem. Mr. Clark observes that in the course of a recent visit to Knossos he found in the ploughed fields two beautiful ground celts, but no trace of flint.

Mr. Pilcher has written for the *Q.S.* an interesting and valuable monograph on the *Weights of Ancient Palestine*, the first half of which appears in this issue. Apart from the utility of the enquiry from a more academical point of view, the subject is of interest to many, and it will be seen that the weights unearthed in course of excavation are not isolated phenomena, but admit of being brought into association with other branches of archaeology. As, step by step, this investigation of details and correlation of results link up larger bodies of evidence, it is found that we are no longer dealing with data which are apparently of no interest and of merely trifling value, but we are gaining new light upon the vicissitudes of internal conditions in Ancient Palestine which is more immediately helpful to every intelligent student of the Bible.

We print in this issue an account of the cenotaphs of the patriarchs at the cave of Machpelah of special interest on account of the photographs which accompany it. We are indebted to the Editor of the *Northern British-Israel Review* for this permission. The author of the article, the Rev. A. B. Grimaldi, informs us that it is not generally known that an English paper is published weekly in Jerusalem—*The Truth*—now in its third year. We learn from this that a larger harbour at Jaffa, sufficient to accommodate sixty vessels, is on the point of being constructed. We also read that “the Jewish Orthodox Rabbis have issued an encyclical prohibiting Jewish visitors to Palestine from visiting

the Temple area, because, they explain, the curious tourist may unwittingly approach the site of the Holy of Holies, the spot upon which the High Priest alone was allowed to tread." It appears, however, that Jewish pilgrims from Warsaw strongly resented the prohibition, and "a rabbinical anathema has consequently been pronounced upon them." The same issue (May 10th) has a long account of the sacred rock in the Harâm, by the Rev. Mr. Grimaldi.

Archdeacon Dowling, who contributed notes on coins of Gaza in the last issue, has in the press a book entitled *Sketches of Caesarea (Palæstina): Biblical, Mediaeval, Modern. From earliest Caesar to latest Sultan.*

The Index to the *Quarterly Statements* previously published included the years from 1869 to 1892, and the need for its continuation to a more recent date has been greatly felt. Some of the most important of the discoveries and work of the Palestine Exploration Fund belong to later years. Such are the excavations of sites on and around Ophel, by Messrs. Bliss and Dickie, in the Shephelah, by Messrs. Bliss and Macalister, and the great work at Gezer, by Prof. Stewart Macalister, besides many valuable papers and discussions on the sites in Jerusalem and elsewhere. During the year just passed, the Committee decided to supplement the old Index by one which should include the completion of the work at Gezer, that is to say, from 1893 to 1910. The laborious task was undertaken by Mr. Dickie, whose familiarity with the matter dealt with, and conscientious exactitude, have now enabled the Committee to publish it with confidence. Price in cloth, 5s. ; unbound, 3s. 6d.

Plaster casts of the raised contour map of Jerusalem have been prepared and can now be had on application. The horizontal scale of the map is $\frac{1}{25000}$ and the total dimensions are 5 feet \times 4 feet 3 inches. The remains of the city walls and streets discovered on the Eastern and Western Hills are indicated in red lines. This map will be a most valuable help to the study of Jerusalem topography. Price £3 3s. Case and packing extra.

A new and improved edition of the large photo relief map of Palestine (5 miles = 1 inch) is now ready. Price 6s. 9d. unmounted.

Mounted on cloth, roller, and varnished, 10s. 6d. Size, mounted, 30 inches by 52 inches.

It may be well to mention that plans and photographs cannot all be published, but they are preserved in the office of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

Subscribers who have not yet paid will greatly facilitate the Committee's efforts by sending in their subscriptions early in the year, 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 1911 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. T. A. Ward has kindly consented to act as Honorary Secretary for Gloucester.

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.

A reprint of *Names and Places in the Old and New Testaments*, by Mr. George Armstrong, is now ready, price 6s. The book was out of print for some years.

A complete set of the *Quarterly Statements*, 1869-1910, containing some of the early letters (now scarce), with an Index, 1869-1910, bound in the Palestine Exploration Fund cases, can be had. Price on application to the Secretary, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, 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, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, 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, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 5, except Saturdays when it is closed at 1 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 General Secretary for Palestine, 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 :—

Society of Biblical Archaeology, 1912. Part 3. Weight Standards of Palestine, by E. J. Pilcher ; Part 4. The Lion-headed God of the Mithraic Mysteries, by F. Legge.

University of Liverpool: Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology, Vol. IV, No. 4. Pre-historic Painted Pottery, by T. E. Peet ; A New Royal Hittite Monument from N. Syria, by Dr. Garstang ; The Distribution of Mycenaean Remains and the Homeric Catalogue, by M. S. Thompson.

- The London Quarterly Review*, April, 1912.
- Studies: An Irish Quarterly Review of Letters, Philosophy and Science*, Vol. I, No. 1, March, 1912.
- Ars Quatuor Coronatorum* (Lodge No. 2076), Vol. XXIV, Part 3. Notes on Gnostic Sects and their possible Influence on Freemasonry, by D. F. Ranking, etc.
- The Syriac Forms of New Testament Proper Names*, by F. C. Burkitt, F.B.A., from the "Proceedings of the British Academy"; Discusses *inter alia* Nazareth, Cana, and other place-names.
- A History of Civilization in Palestine*, by R. A. S. Macalister, M.A., F.S.A. (Cambridge: at the University Press, 1912).
- The Religion of Israel under the Kingdom*, by the Rev. Adam C. Welch, Theol.D.
- The Religions of Modern Syria and Palestine*, by F. J. Bliss, Ph.D.
- Handbook for Palestine and Syria*, by Karl Baedeker. Fifth Edition: 1912. Price 14 marks.
- The American Journal of Archaeology*, Vol. I, 1912.
- The American Antiquarian and Oriental Journal*, Jan.-Feb., 1912.
- The Biblical World*, March-April, 1912.
- Revue Biblique*, April, 1912: Neby Samwil, by Proff. Savignac and Abel, etc.
- Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins*, Vol. XXXV, Part 2. The Jerusalem of Burchard of Mount Sion (concluded), by Pastor Ernst Rotermund; The Jewish-Aramaic Papyri and Ostraca from Elephantine and their Meaning for Palestinian Relations, by Prof. Steuernagel; etc.
- Palästina: Monatschrift für die Erschliessung Palästinas*, March, 1912.
- Palästina-Jahrbuch* of the German Evangelical Institute, Jerusalem, 1911.
- Al-Mashrik, Revue Catholique Orientale Mensuelle*: April, 1912. History of Silk in Syria, by Mag. Gast. Ducouso; Syria, 1782-1841, by an Eye-witness (from a MS. in the British Museum), by P. L. Malouf, S.J., etc.
- NEA ΣΙΩΝ, Jan.-Feb., 1912.
- Atti della R. Accademia dei Lincei*, 1911, fasc. 9 and 10.

See further below pp. 156 sqq.

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.

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.*
