

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE fiftieth Annual General Meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund was held on the 22nd June, the Most Reverend the Archbishop of Canterbury, President of the Fund, occupying the chair. In spite of the adverse circumstances there was a good attendance, and great interest was taken in the proceedings. There were on exhibition a set of publications, the large and small raised maps, and the large contour model of Jerusalem. The Meeting being the fiftieth anniversary of the inauguration of the Fund, it was appropriate to survey the great work which it had been able to achieve during half-a-century, and to indicate the possibility of achieving results quite as important, if not more so, when, in due course, active exploration can be resumed. In an address, Colonel Sir Charles Watson, drew attention to the results attained in the past, and gave a most interesting summary of the chief land-marks. It is necessary that readers should bear in mind how great are the additions made to our Biblical knowledge since the Fund was first established. Only when one considers the Biblical handbooks, commentaries and maps of fifty years ago, can one realize the positive gains that have accrued. Not only has the Fund been exercising a stimulating influence upon other countries, but the character of the work it has undertaken or initiated has been so varied and solid, that it has every reason to be proud of what it has been able to accomplish through the support of subscribers and contributors.

Such work, it may be pointed out, has been twofold. It has been partly of direct significance for the Bible: the results have been directly visible and intelligible; their bearing upon Scripture could be seen at once. But, in addition to this, much of the work has been indirectly valuable for Biblical knowledge. It has contributed to the world of knowledge in general. Inscriptions, archaeological remains, meteorological reports, etc., often appear "dry" and uninteresting. Occasionally they are seen to strengthen or weaken some argument which is of importance for Biblical science; but very often their value is not immediately obvious to the ordinary reader. Yet it must be remembered that no evidence is ever valueless. Every datum falls into its proper pigeon-hole and plays a part, large or small, in increasing our knowledge of human history. Thus it is that our knowledge of to-day is founded upon innumerable enquiries in the past—enquiries, many of which did not perhaps seem to be fruitful, and it will be so in the future. Just as again and again in these pages important results have been recorded, partly by direct discovery and partly through the effect of a great array of evidence, so we may be sure that unremitting labour in the field of Palestinian exploration will bring us, from time to time, results immediately fruitful, and abundant evidence which will take its place in preparing for results equally valuable.

Although the present conditions do not permit active field-work, there is much to be done in the way of dealing with the material in hand, and in preparing for the future. There is not one of the belligerent nations that is not aware that there will in due time be a return to ordinary life. We must not be behind other nations in the world of knowledge; the work of Palestinian exploration must not be allowed to slacken. Consequently it is necessary that we should remind ourselves that scientific labours, such as the Fund undertakes, are vital to the general well-being of a nation. We must not be backward in promoting the progress of sound knowledge, and we must unite in furthering a department of research which has already done so much to make the Bible alive and real. No one can doubt that the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund has brought a vast amount of light to bear upon the Bible. The effect has been to make it more living and real to ordinary readers, and thereby to bring home its permanent value to ordinary minds.

This is especially important at the present age, and the Fund appeals confidently to all classes who have at heart the progress of knowledge on purely scientific principles, and the increasing influence of the Bible.

Mr. Joseph Offord, whose interesting article on the ancient papyri relating to the Jews in Upper Egypt in the fifth century B.C. is completed in this issue, has very kindly presented to the Fund two squeezes of a Greek inscription. He writes: "Hearing that there has been for some time, in the Alexandria Museum, a Greek inscription found at Kefr el-Dawar near Alexandria, the old Schedia, which mentioned a Jewish synagogue at Schedia, I asked Dr. Breccia to send me a copy." In a note in the Museum Catalogue upon this inscription, Dr. Breccia states: "The Jews residing at Schedia had consecrated a synagogue to the health of King Ptolemy III and his wife and sister Berenice and their son." "I have much pleasure," says Mr. Offord, "in presenting the squeezes to the Palestine Exploration Fund, with the hope that the inscription will be published."

In drawing attention to the books needed for the Library of the Fund, we may mention especially Lagarde's *Onomastica Sacra* (2nd ed., 1887), and the *Antonine Itinerary*. An edition of the latter by Parthey and Pindar was published at Berlin in 1847, see below, p. 111.

The New Survey: Double Annual for 1914-15.—The material resulting from the Survey of the Southern Country ("The Desert of the Wanderings") in the early part of 1914 proved to be more voluminous and more complete than could have been anticipated, seeing how short a time was available, owing to climate and other considerations. The whole Survey party must have worked with an energy and industry exceeding that of any previous expedition, notwithstanding the unusual difficulties which beset them from the nature of the country. The notes and descriptions of the various localities included are full and careful, and Messrs. Woolley and Lawrence are to be congratulated on having made them vivid and

interesting, and on having secured so many and characteristic photographic illustrations as well as plans. The few inscriptions collected have been examined and carefully analysed by Mr. Marcus Tod, of Oxford. They are all personal memorials but afford some exact dates.

Altogether the amount of material largely exceeds what should suffice for a double volume of the *Annual*—i.e., for two years. But, on careful consideration, the Committee thought that the reasons for publishing the whole together and without undue delay were so strong that they felt compelled to disregard the strictly economical question, so far as subscribers are concerned, and to publish the whole as a double *Annual* for the years 1914-15.

The reasons for this course were:—

1. That the region is one which so greatly interests all Bible students.
2. That it has never previously been surveyed or systematically examined.
3. That it may never again be so thoroughly examined and reported on.
4. That the disturbed condition of all Europe makes it improbable that any work of excavation can be undertaken for the present.

The price of the book to the public outside the Society is 45s.

An account of the *Annual* will be found in the April issue of the *Q.S.*, pp. 61-63.

The Committee are bringing out a new edition of the ($\frac{3}{8}$ in. to the mile) Map of Western Palestine, of which the original edition has been for some time out of print. It is in six sheets, and will be, primarily, a travellers' map. The roads and railways constructed since the original survey have been added. For the sake of clearness, only the modern names are given. The hill shading is in a lighter tint for the same reason. All the country beyond that actually surveyed is shown in outline only. In a few years it may be possible to add much of this in a further edition. In the meantime, this is

the clearest map and the easiest to consult of any yet issued by the Society. The price of the complete six sheets will be 7s. 6d. If desired, the map can be mounted on linen and a roller, or to fold. It will be ready for issue when the war permits.

The Library of the Palestine Exploration Fund contains many duplicate volumes, including standard works by Robinson, Ritter, Stanley and others. They may be had separately, and a list, with the price of each volume, has been prepared, and can be obtained on application.

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 1911, 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. (now Prof.) 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.

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

Plaster casts of the raised contour maps (large and small) of Jerusalem have been prepared and can now be had on application. The horizontal scale of the large map is $\frac{1}{2500}$ and the total dimensions are 5 feet by 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. The scale of the smaller map is $\frac{1}{100000}$ and the size 20 inches square. Price without addition of early walls and streets £1 5s.

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 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.

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 1914 was given in the Annual Report published with the April number.

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 the late Mr. George Armstrong, is now on sale, 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.

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 :—

Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, Vol. XXXVII, Parts 3 and 4 : Samaritan Phylacteries and Amulets, by Dr. M. Gaster.

The Irish Theological Quarterly, April, 1915.

Studies, March, 1915.

The Deity of the Crescent Venus in Ancient Western Asia, by Jos. Offord ; from the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, April, 1915.

University of Pennsylvania : Publications of the Babylonian Section : Historical Texts (Vol. IV, No. 1), Hist. and Grammatical Texts (Vol. V), Grammatical Texts (Vol. VI, No. 1), by Dr. Arno Poebel ; Legal and Administrative Documents from Nippur, chiefly from the dynasties of Isin and Larsa, by Edward Chiera, Ph.D.

The Materials for the History of Dor, by G. Dahl, Ph.D. ; from the *Transactions of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Science*, Vol. XX, Yale University Press.

American Journal of Archaeology, January–March, 1915 : An Inscribed Tomb at Beit Jibrin, by W. J. Moulton.

The Biblical World, March–May, 1915 : Archaeology and the Book of Genesis, by Prof. L. B. Paton ; Amorite influence in the Religion of the Bible, by Louis Wallis.

Art and Archaeology, Vol. I, Nos. 5 and 6 : With the Moors in Andalusia, by C. V. Clark ; The Mosque of St. Sophia, Constantinople.

The Jewish Quarterly Review, April, 1915.

The Homiletic Review, May, June, 1915.

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.

The Committee desire to acknowledge with thanks the following contributions to the Library :—

From Mrs. Ross Scott :—

A Winter on the Nile, by the Rev. Charles D. Bell, D.D.

In Scripture Lands : New Views of Sacred Places, by Edward L. Wilson.

- Une Croisière autour de la Mer Morte*, by Father Abel.
- Light from the East, or the Witness of the Monuments*, by C. J. Ball, M.A.
- Ancient Sculpture*, by George Redford, F.R.C.S.
- Scarabs: An Introduction to the Study of Egyptian Seals and Signet Rings*, by Percy E. Newberry.
- Kanaan en D'Omliggende landen, vertoont in een woordenboek uit de H. Schrift en Josephus*, by F. Halma.
- Planches du Voyage dans La Basse et La Haute Egypt*, by M. Denon.
- New Light on Ancient Egypt*, by G. Maspero.
- Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt*, by C. S. Sonnini.
- The Four Gospels in Syriac. Transcribed from the Sinaitic Palimpsest*, by Robert L. Bensly, J. Rendel Harris, and F. Crawford Burkitt.
- Sacrorum Evangeliorum Versio Syriaca Philoxeniana ex Codd. MSS. Ridleianis in Bibl. Coll. Nov. Oxon. Repositis Nunc Primum Edita; cum Interpretatione et Annotationibus, Josephi White, A.M.* (4 vols.)
- An Old Syriac Bible.*
- Biblical Discoveries in Egypt, Palestine and Mesopotamia*, by J. Politeyan, B.A.
- Lands and Peoples of the Bible*, by J. Baikie.
- The Druses of the Lebanon: their Manners, Customs and History, with a translation of their Religious Code*, by G. W. Chasseaud.
- From the Author, James Urquhart, F.S.A. (Scot.) :—
- The Life and Teaching of William Honyman Gillespie.*

The Committee will be grateful to any subscribers who may be disposed to present to the Library any of the following books :—

- Duc de Luyne, *Voyage à la Mer Morte* (1864); published about 1874.
- K. von Raumer, *Der Zug der Israeliten*. (Leipzig, 1837.)
- L. de Laborde, *Voyage de l'Arabie Pétrée* (1829).
- Lagarde, *Onomastica Sacra* (1887).

The Antonine Itinerary—an edition by Parthey and Pindar was published in 1847 at Berlin. An edition in Russian is also extant, but is therefore not available save to the few who know that language.

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.*
