

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE continuance of the war compels us to remind our subscribers and readers that during the past year Exploration of any kind in Palestine has been out of the question. To repeat what we observed a year ago, we may remark that we have been requested to suspend the issue or sale of our maps, especially of our new and revised edition of the general map, and new survey of the South Country, the Wilderness of the Wanderings, which was only just completed when war broke out. This has naturally entailed some inconvenience and considerable loss which, however, we cheerfully accept, seeing how largely we have been indebted to the War Office for allowing us to make use of the Officers of the Royal Engineers for all our Surveys and for the able service they have rendered in the past. In the meantime we may feel sure that after the war is finished and peace concluded we shall be able to carry on our work with greater facilities; and it is hoped that this pause will enable the Society to accumulate funds sufficient to undertake some of those more important examinations of ancient sites for which our means have not hitherto been equal. The Committee are fully alive to the claims and historical importance of several such sites, and will be ready when the time comes to set to work and, it may be hoped, without the long official delays which have, in so many cases, wasted time and money.

There are still many subjects of interest for discussion in the *Quarterly Statement*—Biblical, historical or archaeological; and the Committee trust that in reading or contributing to these the

subscribers will find, in the coming months, matter to compensate them for a temporary exercise of the patience which the war has made inevitable.

We print in this issue the conclusion of Miss Blyth's account of "Lord Kitchener's Work in Palestine." We have also been fortunate enough to find among the papers of Lord Kitchener a description of "Christmas at Bethlehem." So far as is known it has never been printed, and our subscribers will read it with interest. We have also a MS. left by the late Chairman, a description of Bonaparte's Expedition to Palestine in 1799, which is of special value just now. As it seemed undesirable to divide this rather lengthy article in two, it has been found necessary to hold over other important articles, including the contributions by Dr. Masterman and Prof. Macalister and Mr. Offord's Archaeological and other notes. We are able, however, to include Mr. Baldensperger's "Immovable East" with his account of Jaffa, which it is hoped will add to the topical interest of this the opening number of the new year.

An article in *The Near East* (1st December) on "Recent Conditions in Palestine" gives a very sad description of the internal conditions. Although the harvest has been good, the country has derived hardly any benefit from it, owing to the action of the authorities and the exorbitant prices. The greatest suffering is caused by the want of fuel and of lighting, and this is likely to be much increased as the winter draws on. "Even fruit trees have been cut down for wood, which is needed for the engines of the trains, now run for military purposes only. The destitution and exhaustion of the whole land are terrible." "Over all hangs the haunting dread that any incautious word or aspiration overheard and reported by a spy may be interpreted as showing 'pro-Ally' feeling, thus leading to the speaker being dragged before the authorities."

A letter has lately been received from an old member of the Society, an American subject, who left Palestine a few months ago, and is now in Europe. He writes that he was "surprised to see (in the April *Quarterly Statement*) a quotation from the *Morning Post* of March 14th, and papers of Alexandria, etc., 'Public executions are

frequent.' That is not so, or was not up to the time of my leaving Palestine." We are glad to learn from his letter that those persons who were said to have been executed were all alive at the time he left Palestine; and he concludes his letter by saying: "I can state that not one-tenth of the executions have taken place in Palestine and Syria which I have heard of since I arrived, as having happened during the last two years."

We regret to have to record the death, on 3rd October, of Mr. R. Phené Spiers, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., Member of the General Committee, and a very prominent figure in the architectural world. He edited Fergusson's History of Architecture, and wrote many works on the Greek, Roman and Oriental architecture. To the *Quarterly Statement* he contributed articles on the Great Mosque of Omeiyades at Damascus (1897, pp. 282-299), and on Baalbek (1904, pp. 58-64).

We regret to read (in *The Near East*) of the death, at the age of 92, of the Rev. Daniel Bliss, D.D., the venerable ex-President of the famous American College of Beyrout. He was the last surviving member of the American Mission which arrived in Syria in the middle of the last century, and which played a leading part in the moral and intellectual development of the Syrians. He landed at Beyrout with his wife by sailing vessel in 1855. A few years afterwards he returned to the United States with the object of raising funds for the establishment of a college in Beyrout, as he found, from his few years' experience in Syria, that the country was in more need of such an institution than anything else. His efforts in this direction were crowned with success, and he was greatly assisted by some members of the wealthy Dodge family of New York, who played a leading part later in the advancement of the college. Subscriptions were collected and invested in securities of the Northern States while the Civil War was in progress. The final success of the Northern States increased the value of these securities, and Dr. Bliss found at his disposal a fairly large sum with which to start his institution. In 1866 he bought a large plot of land at Ras Beyrout facing the sea, and subsequently added to it other plots in the vicinity. He established a Preparatory School,

a Collegiate Department, and a School of Medicine and Pharmacy, and, in 1900, a School of Commerce was added. A few years ago a branch of Dentistry was also established. Dr. Bliss continued to preside over the faculty of the College until 1902, when he retired on account of old age, and his son, Dr. Howard Bliss, succeeded him. The students of the American College numbered about 1,000 before the war. It was the intention, had the war not broken out, to add branches of Law and Engineering, and to call the institution a University.

In 1876 the Society published a volume of Photographs of Biblical Sites, by Lieut. H. H. Kitchener, R.E., F.R.G.S., containing twelve photographs taken by Lord Kitchener during the time he was at work on the Survey of Western Palestine, together with a short description of each written by himself. Some of the views taken are no longer obtainable, as new buildings have sprung up everywhere, altering or marring old sites. The descriptions, though so short, are charmingly written, and show what a strong feeling Lord Kitchener had for the Holy Land. He took the keenest interest and pleasure in the preparation of this, his only book, as his letters show, though the actual publication of it was left in Sir Walter Besant's hands, as Lord Kitchener returned to Palestine before it was in proof. There are about forty copies of this book still unsold, and these can be had on application to the office of the Society, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., at the original price of one guinea, postage extra.

We have received, through Prof. Paton, the General Secretary in the United States, a communication written by Prof. Wallace N. Stearns, the Local Secretary for North Dakota. Prof. Stearns has for some time past been advocating "international protection for great museums, galleries, etc." War and conquest, he points out, have repeatedly led to spoliation and destruction of objects and collections of artistic and historic value. All collections, museums, etc., have "more than passing or local interest, they render a service that transcends national lines and therefore are to be considered the heritage of all men in all times though held in stewardship by corporations and governments." He consequently proposes:—
(1) "that all such collections shall be regarded as inviolable, as

beyond the vicissitudes of war, as sacred from spoliation, and as under a common or at least a neutral flag; and (2) that it be considered incumbent on this organization to do everything possible to secure such protection, through diplomacy, correspondence, and petition—in coming international conferences and agreements.” He asks: “could not a committee of scholars be appointed, men whose achievements entitle them to respectful hearing, to draft resolutions for consideration and action by state departments?” The ideal seems to us thoroughly commendable, though obviously the Society cannot, in the present condition of Europe, take any part in establishing the suggested organization. We have much pleasure in printing the proposals at Prof. Paton’s request, and we wish the movement in the United States all success.

Fifty Years' Work in the Holy Land: A Record and a Summary, 1865-1915.—Under this title the late Colonel Sir C. M. Watson, K.C.M.G., etc., gave an entirely new revision of that *résumé* of the work of the Fund which has been issued from time to time in order to furnish readers, and—especially—new subscribers with a synoptical account of the more important aims and achievements. Such accounts have been published in 1870, 1872, 1886, and 1895, so that twenty years have passed since the last revision—years during which most valuable excavations have been undertaken, notably at Gezer. The year 1915, being the Jubilee of the Palestine Exploration Fund, a new edition was especially appropriate, and old subscribers as well as new will find that the book by the late Chairman of the Executive Committee gives an admirable bird’s-eye view of the work of the Fund. Although space allows the book to provide only the bare outlines of what has been done, the material is so arranged as to include all information necessary to explain the different expeditions and excavations. A map is also appended containing all the important names and sites. Chapters are written on the reason why the P.E.F. was established; the foundation of the Society in 1865; the preliminary reconnaissance of Palestine, 1865-6; the explorations at Jerusalem, 1867-70; the expedition to the Desert of the Exodus, 1869-70; the survey of Western Palestine in 1871-7; the survey of Eastern Palestine in 1881-2; the geological expedition and survey of the Arabah in 1883-4; the excavations at Lachish, Jerusalem, etc. (five chapters), the survey of

Southern Palestine in 1913-14; the Palestine Pilgrims' Texts, and a concluding chapter on the administration of the Society. There are two appendices: the chronology of the P.E.F., and the chronology of the publications. The book is published by the Committee of the Fund, and can be had on application to the Assistant Secretary, post free 3s. 6d.

Fifty Years' Work in the Holy Land. Colonel Watson's book (see the last paragraph) is having a steady sale; it should be read by all who would make themselves acquainted with the progress of Palestinian research.

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. 11.

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.*, 1915, 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 $\frac{1}{25000}$ 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 without further delay, 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 1915 was given in the Annual Report published with last 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 our former 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.

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 4, 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. XXXVIII, Part 6, Some Groups of Arabian Personal Names borne by Israelites of the Mosaic Period (*continued*), by Rev. W. T. Piltner ; Samaritan Phylacteries and Amulets (*continued*), by Dr. Gaster.

The Expository Times, Dec., 1916 : New Light on the Hittite Problem, by Prof. J. H. Moulton.

Irish Theological Quarterly.

Studies, Sept., 1916 : The Mohammedan Caliphate, by "Dynamis" ; etc.

The Near East : A weekly review of Oriental Politics, Literature, Finance and Commerce. Regular letters from special correspondents in Palestine and Syria ; etc. Dec. 15, The Future of Palestine, I, by Estelle Blyth.

45th Report of the Anglo-Jewish Association, 1915-16.

The Biblical World.

The American Journal of Archaeology, Vol. XX, 3 : Archaeological News from Egypt ; etc.

The American Journal of Philology.

The Jewish Quarterly Review.

Art and Archaeology, Vol. IV, Parts 2-5 : The Ancient City of Petra, by G. L. Robinson ; Studio of an Egyptian Portrait Sculptor in the XIVth century, B.C., by J. H. Breasted ; etc.

The Homiletic Review.

Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique, Jan.-June, 1915 : Princes Hellénistiques, Ptolemy IV, Ptolemy VI, Antiochos VIII, Grypos, by Gustave Blum ; etc. etc.

Échos d'Orient, 1916, Nos. 112, 113 : Les aspects religieux de la question d'Orient, etc., by S. Salaville ; La question arménienne, by P. Horste ; etc.

Sphinx, Vol. XII : The Harris Magical Papyrus transcribed and published by Ernest Akmar.

See further below, p. 51.

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 :—

The Archaeology of the Holy Land, by P. S. P. Handcock, M.A.

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

Duc de Luynes, *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.*