

information about a weight of 700 G.T., but not of the same shape (also see Madden, *Jewish Coins*, p. 277): 5-kat standard weight, this weight was found in the ruins of Thebes, and is now in the British Museum. The normal weight may be taken to be 700 grains. An account of it was given by M. Chabas in the *Revue Archéologique* (Paris, 1861). Mr. Poole shows that the weights of the Ptolemaic copper coins were based on such units, whilst the weights of the gold and silver were Euboic. The weight is of a dark greenish stone; a sketch of it is given in Madden's *Jewish Coins*. It is inscribed in hieroglyphic "Kat 5 of the Treasure of On, belonging to the King."

Mr. F. L. Griffiths (*Proc. Soc. of Bibl. Arch.*, 1894) gives an interesting example of the use of 7 from the Rhind Papyrus (1600 B.C.). It is evidently the precursor of the British 7 wives of St. Ives:—"An old woman had 7 houses, each house had 7 cats, each cat catches 7 rats, each rat eats 7 barley corns, each barley corn produces 7 bushels of corn. How many bushels of corn do the cats save?" Answer,  $16,807 = (7)^5$ . Here is another question from the same: The oxherd says, "I am contributing to you  $\frac{2}{3}$  of  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the oxen you committed to me." Answer,  $\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} \times 315 = 70$  brought by the oxherd, 315 having been committed to him. This indicates a use of 7 amongst the people.

My conclusion is that after c. 2000 B.C. the numeral 7 came into use amongst the people of Egypt, and we must look for this weight of 700 G.T. (as  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 7,000 G.T.) amongst tribes like the Egyptian using multiples of 10 and 7.

## REVIEWS AND NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

*Historical Sites in Palestine.* By Lieut.-Com. Victor L. Trumper, R.N.R., M.R.A.S.

This little book includes in one cloth-bound volume four pamphlets which were issued during the war especially for the benefit of the members of the "Egyptian Expeditionary Force." To some extent it covers the ground taken by the late George Armstrong's *Names and Places in the Old and New Testament*, but differs from it in giving the modern name first and then the known or suggested Historical associations of the Site. It is a handy pocket

volume which should be of great value to the studious tourist ; some of the information he will not readily obtain in the ordinary guide books. It is, however, a condensed summary, and the reader would do well to amplify and check the information by reference to standard works. Possibly as a result of its having been printed abroad, there are a good many misprints, some in large type, e.g., Mahlah for Malbah, Sebbstieh for Sebastieh, Samaackonitis for Samachonitis, &c. There are a few statements more seriously open to criticism. For example, Kh. Merash is certainly *not* Mareshah, which was proved by the Palestine Exploration Fund excavations to have been on the site of Tell Sandahannah. The statement that "In ancient times there was no perennial spring in the City of Jerusalem, and the inhabitants were dependent on rain water stored in rock-cut cisterns or in aqueducts," is quite incorrect. It has also been proved for several years that the level of the Dead Sea does *not* vary 16 feet per annum, but only two or three feet. Hyrcanius, fortress at Arak el-Emir was, according to Josephus, called Tyre (Tyros), not Hyrcanium, and the old name of Amman was Philadelphia, not Philadephus. That Capernaum was at Kh. Minieh, or Cana at Kefr Kenna, or the Waters of Merom at Lake Huleh are all extremely doubtful, if not impossible. The identification of Tell el-Mutesellim with the city of Migiddo has now, since recent excavations, been generally accepted by scholars. Kefireh and Katanneh are not identical sites. Many such details require revision.

While, however, pointing out defects, which we trust may receive attention in later editions, we most warmly recommend this handy little book as one which, if studied carefully, is sure to deepen the interest in that aspect of Palestine which must always be considered where the Holy Land is concerned, viz., its "Historical Sites."

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