

T H E
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

SINCE the publication of the July issue of the *Quarterly Statement* active steps have been taken in the preparation of the "Joint Expedition of the Palestine Exploration Fund and the *Daily Telegraph*." Prof. R. A. S. Macalister reached Jerusalem early in September, and the same day went to Ophel and selected a site for beginning the excavation, namely, a large field on the ridge-summit, more or less vertically above the Virgin's Fountain. A small area to the left of it has also been applied for, so that the nature of the Tyropeon debris can be tested. Incidentally it may be added that it was necessary to remove the suspicions of some natives of Siloam that there were designs upon the Haram, which is actually some 200 metres distant! These entirely groundless fears were of course removed, but the incident is an indication of the sort of difficulty that now and then besets the scientific excavator. Prof. Macalister writes that he hopes to obtain the services of his old tried foreman Yusuf; meanwhile, he is making the necessary arrangements for the hiring of labour, the collecting of excavating implements, and the like.

Prof. Macalister's extremely illuminating series of articles on the history of Jerusalem appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* during the latter part of June (21st, 22nd, 25th, 29th), and the beginning of July. Reports of his progress will be published there from time to time, and the first of them was already sent off from Jerusalem

about the middle of September. The proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, it will be remembered, announced (June 21st) that "The entire direction of the excavations will remain in the hands of the Fund, and it has been decided that reports of the progress of the work published in the *Daily Telegraph* shall be at the service of any other newspaper, free of cost" (see *Q.S.*, July, p. 103). Through the press and through the quarterly reports, therefore, the public will be kept informed of the work as we proceed, and we must refer our readers back to the July issue, and especially to the account of the Annual General Meeting, for a statement of what we hope to achieve through the excavation of the famous site.

In view of the wide diffusion of the news of this new and important undertaking the Committee confidently hope that donations and fresh annual subscriptions will flow in. Prof. Macalister, who is being assisted by the Rev. J. G. Duncan, will be the better able to undertake the excavation exhaustively if we have adequate funds behind us and are ready for any emergency.

It would be a great misfortune if supporters of the Fund imagined that because we have now the guaranteed minimum of £5,000, they can afford to relax their efforts to get together more money. The £1,000 guaranteed from the P.E.F.'s general funds practically exhausts every penny of our reserve fund, leaving us nothing for publication of the results, or for any emergency. If possible, this fund should not be touched at all. Further, the work cannot possibly be brought to completion, or anything approaching completion, for £5,000. Professor Garstang has put the needed sum at £15,000, but this is, we believe, an under-estimate. We would remind any possible new subscribers that a donation of five guineas followed by an annual subscription of one guinea, qualifies for *Membership*, and that the payment of twenty-five guineas qualifies for *Life Membership*.

A list of special donations will be found on p. 161.

Considerable interest has been taken in the announcement made in the last issue, of the "Joint Expedition of the Palestine

Exploration Fund and the *Daily Telegraph*," and we print below some of the letters we have received:—

Fulham Palace, S.W. 6.

July 17th, 1923.

Dear Dr. Masterman,

Thank you for your letter and the current number of the "Palestine Exploration Fund."

I am most interested to hear of the prospective excavation of the site of the City of David, which I sincerely hope it may be possible to carry out.

I am delighted to know that my friend Lord Burnham has come forward so generously to help the scheme in such a practical manner. Naturally with the change of regime one has always much hoped that further excavations might be attempted.

Most heartily do I wish all possible success to the work of the Expedition.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) A. F. LONDIN.

31, Cleveland Square,

Hyde Park, W. 2.

23rd July, 1923.

Dear Dr. Masterman,

I am indeed glad to know that, the preliminary difficulties having been overcome, the Palestine Exploration Fund is now able to participate in the excavation of the historic site of Mount Ophel.

The Palestine Administration is deeply interested in this undertaking, and will use its best efforts to promote its success.

Within the boundaries of this site were once included edifices and tombs, of which even the vestiges would be of the deepest interest to mankind.

Whether such vestiges will or will not be discovered no one can foretell, but it is certain that the attempt should at least be made.

The Palestine Exploration Fund, and those who are associated with it, are engaging in a fascinating task, as well as fulfilling a plain duty to archaeology.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HERBERT SAMUEL.

Lambeth Palace, S.E. 1.

August 2nd, 1923.

Dear Dr. Masterman,

Most cordially do I wish God-speed to the new endeavour which is being made in and around Jerusalem to throw light by further excavation upon the Old Testament story. I remember being impressed many years ago when resident for a time in Jerusalem with the possibilities which might attend deeper research than was then possible in the Hill of Ophel. Opportunities are now ours which were non-existent in those days, and beyond question we ought to use them.

I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) RANDALL CANTUAR.

We regret to have to announce the death of two good friends of the Fund. Dr. David Watt Torrance, who died at Tiberias on August 25th, was a well-known member of the Scottish Mission, whose life-work, as told by himself in *A Galilee Doctor* (Hodder and Stoughton), was a veritable romance. Dr. Gaskoin Wright, who died at Metheringham on Sept. 11th, worked for thirty years under the C.M.S. at Nablus, and endeared himself to many by his warm and untiring hospitality.

Our Assistant Secretary, Mr. George J. H. Ovenden, has been able to send us further notes on the excavations at Beisan, by permission of Dr. Clarence Fisher, the American Director. Two photographs of the Tell and of the Egyptian area accompany the letter. Mr. Ovenden says:

“The Expedition of the University Museum of Philadelphia concluded a most interesting season’s work by the end of August. Since our notes in the April *Q.S.* the decipherment of the Rameses II stela has been completed. Though not perhaps the equal of the Seti stone in geographical interest and the quality of the workmanship, it yet turns out to be of considerably more importance than was at first supposed. Most of its twenty-four lines of text are taken up with laudatory phrases, but in one line mention is made that Rameses used Semites in the building of his name-city in the Delta, which, it is believed, definitely establishes him as the Pharaoh of the Oppression.

“On the last day of the work this remarkable series of Egyptian finds was further added to by the discovery of a life-size statue of Rameses III, within a few metres of the stelae. It is of basalt, rather crude local work, and, except for the cartouche of the king on either shoulder, is uninscribed.

“The building in which these monuments were found is a fortress, constructed of large sun-dried clay bricks. It consists of a series of small chambers and long corridors surrounding open courts; the existing walls standing in some places three metres high, and being plastered over with a mixture of mud and lime. The floors, with an underbed of rubble, were overlaid with a thick coating of cement. The main entrance, near the N.W. corner of the building, has the great sill and portions of two jambs *in situ*. The stone is basalt, carefully fitted and dovetailed into the brick masonry of the main walls.

“A large area of this fortress was destroyed by fire, and, as some of the pottery found there belongs to as late as 1000 B.C., it is temptingly suggested that the whole place may have been destroyed by David after the catastrophe of Saul.

“After this it appears that the site remained more or less desolate for a very long time, as only a comparatively small layer of insignificant mud brick walls intervenes between the Egyptian and the Classical levels. This is assigned to the Scythians.

“The classical building referred to in the April *Q. S.* appears to have been first commenced in the Seleucidan period, and not completed until the Roman times. From fragments of a frieze bearing the garlanded head of Bacchus, it is believed to have been dedicated to that god. The finding of terra-cotta figurines of Bacchus being nursed by Nymphs in the cemetery last season also points to this.

“An old well on the summit, which has been cleared out to a depth of thirteen metres below the Egyptian level, revealing in its sides successive layers of mud brick and rubble walls, and not yet reaching the rock, gives promise that the whole excavation of the Tell, when completed, will furnish a complete series of periods down to the Neolithic.”

The Rev. C. C. McCown, Professor of New Testament Literature, Berkeley, California, draws our attention to an error in Vol. III of the *Survey of Western Palestine*. On p. 150 a picture is shown as the tomb of Samuel. It is really the tomb of Samet at the village of Sar'a, which is described on p. 158, and is mentioned in various places in the same volume. How little it has changed in the last forty years is shown by a photograph which he kindly sends us and which he took in November, 1920, when he was in Palestine as a member of the American School of Oriental Research. The view was taken from almost the same spot as that shown in the memoir.

The attention of subscribers is respectfully called to the following request. Money Orders, especially those for small amounts, should in future be made payable to the P.O., "W.1," the postal district in which the Office of the Fund is situated. Those marked G.P.O. must be taken to the General Post Office, which is a considerable distance away, and time and money are consumed in cashing them. The co-operation of subscribers in this matter would be very highly appreciated.

Subscribers will recollect that the map of the Negeb or Wilderness of Zin, which should have accompanied the 1914-15 Annual, had then to be withheld from publication owing to the War. The Committee are glad to announce that the map has now been prepared for the Fund by the War Office, and a copy will be supplied gratis to those Members desirous of procuring it to complete their record of the 1914 Survey. Applications should be addressed to the Assistant Secretary.

Photo-relief map of Palestine: This popular little map, which is reproduced by colotype process from the well-known raised maps, has been reprinted and is now on sale. It measures (with margin) 29 x 19 inches and contains some hundreds of Biblical names. The price to subscribers is 2s. 6d., and to non-subscribers 3s.; postage 6d. extra.

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 list of books received will be found below, pp. 162, 163.

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

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 Committee gratefully acknowledge the following special donations towards the excavation of the City of David:—

Donations to Ophel.

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Cossar	0	10	0
Rev. W. Ross, B.D.	1	0	0
V. A. Williamson, Esq., C.M.G. ...	10	0	0
Joseph Moore, Esq.	10	0	0
Rev. Dr. Knapp	2	0	0
Mrs. Rothwell	10	0	0
James Melrose, Esq.	5	0	0
Richard Cadbury, Esq.	25	0	0
” ” (Life Member)	25	0	0

Donation to General Funds.

George Bell, Esq.	10	0	0
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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. 1.

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. 1.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W. 1, 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 Prof. Elihu Grant, Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, Haverford College, Pa.

The Committee have also to acknowledge with thanks the following :—

The Near East, July 26th : Excavations at Carthage, by Dr. L. Carton.
The Prophets of Israel in History and Criticism, by H. M. Wiener, LL.B.

The Exodus in the Light of Archaeology, by Rev. J. S. Griffith, with a foreword by the Dean of Canterbury.

The Expository Times.

The Journal of Egyptian Archaeology, April.

American Journal of Archaeology, 1923, 2 : A terra-cotta relief from Sardes, by T. L. Shear. (Interesting traces of Mesopotamian influence.)

Palestine.

The Zionist Review.

Homiletic Review.

American Journal of Philology.

The Annual of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, vols. ii and iii (1921-22), edited by W. J. Moulton. 1923.

Bulletins of the American Schools of Oriental Research, Nos. 9 and 10.
Art and Archaeology.

Journal of the American Oriental Society, xlii, 1, 2. A pharmacological note on Ps. lviii, 9, by D. I. Macht ; Nabonidus in Africa, by R. P. Dougherty.

Journal Asiatique, Jan.-March, 1923 ; also the Index from 1913-22.

Société Asiatique : Les fêtes du centenaire (1922).

Biblica, Vol. IV, 2. Wine in the Bible and the Talmud, by Prof. J. Döllner ; bibliographies ; the excavations at Beisan, by Father A. Mallon.

L'Unité dans le Christ, by Michel d'Herbigny, Roma.

Orientalistische Literaturzeitung : *Monatsschrift für die Wissenschaft vom ganzen Orient* : edited by Prof. W. Wreszinski, with the co-operation of Prof. G. Bergsträsser, Dr. Haus Ehelolf, and Prof. A. v. le Coq.

Palästina-jahrbuch, 1922-23 : Galilee, by Dr. Dalman ; a Greek inscription from Bethlehem, by the same. Gibeah of Saul, S. Linder ; the excavations at Tell el-Ful, Prof. Albright ; a Jewish gravestone from Joppa, Dr. A. Alt.

Bible Lands, July, 1923. Jerusalem (a paper) : Beduins and their camels in the Desert ; The temple of the moon at Ur of the Chaldees, etc.

Selections of a Commentary on the Pentateuch, by Rabbi Raphael Mordecai Malki (XVIIth cent.), i; *Essays on Palestine History*, by Elieser Rivlin, Jerusalem. 5s.

The Palestine Weekly, June 15th: Dr. Torrance of Tiberias; June 22nd: Our northern frontier; Palestinian Wakfs; [Reprints of Prof. Macalister's articles to the *Daily Telegraph*].

Al-Mashriq. Revue Catholique Orientale Mensuelle.

NEA ΣΙΩΝ.

From the Author:

The Origin of the Gospel according to St. John. By the Rev. Prof. J. A. Montgomery, University of Pennsylvania. Winston Co., Philadelphia, 1923. 50 cents.

The Exodus in the Light of Archæology. By the Rev. J. S. Griffiths.

"Le Prime Relazioni della S. Sede con la Cina per Opera de' Frati Minori e l' Itinerario Orientale di Fr. Giovanni de' Marignolli di Firenze (1338-53)." Testo e note del P. Girolamo Golubovich, O.F.M.

"Itinerarium Cuiusdam Anglici Terram Sanctam et alia Loca Sancta visitantis (1344-45)." By P. Girolamo Golubovich, O.F.M.

Both presented by the Author through Rev. Andrew Egan.

From Mrs. Conder:

"Quarterly Statements," 1867-1922, including all Colonel Conder's carefully annotated copies.

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

The Memoirs of the Survey of Western Palestine.

The Quarterly Statement, from 1869 up to date.

Duc de Luynes, *Voyage à la Mer Morte* (1864); published about 1874.

K. von Raumer, *Der Zug der Israeliten.* (Leipzig, 1837.)

Lagarde, *Onomastica Sacra* (1887).

New Edition of the Babylonian Talmud, English Translation. Original text edited, formulated and punctuated by Michael L. Rodkinson.

Revised and corrected by the Rev. Dr. Isaac M. Wise. Published by the New Amsterdam Book Company, New York. Vol. I, *Sabbath*, already in the Library, subsequent volumes wanted.

Sir George Arthur, *The Life of Lord Kitchener.*

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.*
