

## STONE MASK FROM ER-RAM.

DR. CHAPLIN'S stone mask from Er-Râm is curious. I have seen several of somewhat similar make, but of pottery, found near Um-rit, in Northern Syria, one, I think, representing a bearded head, is in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford. I have been disposed to regard these objects as Græco-Phœnician, and as being, perhaps, of votive character.

GREVILLE J. CHESTER.

## BIBLIOTHECA GEOGRAPHICA PALÆSTINÆ.

By PROFESSOR DR. REINHOLD RÖHRICHT. 1890.

EVERY student of the geography of Palestine must feel grateful to Prof. Röhricht for undertaking the very laborious task of compiling a bibliography and cartography of Palestine; and to the Berlin Geographical Society and Russian Palestine Society for enabling him to publish the result of his labours.

The Bibliography contains a reference to all works of any value on the geography and topography of Palestine from the fourth century to the present day; and to important articles in periodicals on the same subject. There are no less than 3,515 entries, representing as many different travellers or authors; and the catalogue of the MSS., translations, and printed editions of their works, and of the articles connected with them, occupies 597 closely printed pages.

It is interesting to notice the extraordinary growth of Palestine literature during the present century, and especially since Dr. Robinson first commenced a systematic examination of the geography of the Holy Land. Thus, for the 16th century there are 321 entries; for the 17th, 401; for the 18th, 318; for the 19th, 1,920, of which 1,629 are later than Dr. Robinson's first visit to Palestine in 1838.

The system adopted by Prof. Röhricht is to give in each case (1) a reference to all known MSS. of the work; (2) the titles of all printed editions; (3) a reference to translations; and (4) references to articles in magazines and newspapers which relate to the author or his subject.

The Bibliography has been prepared with great care; but, as is only natural in a work of such magnitude, there are many typographical errors. These are more numerous in the English references than in those in other languages, and it is much to be regretted that Prof. Röhricht did not get some Englishman acquainted with Palestine literature to revise

his proofs. These are, however, minor blemishes, and do not detract from the great value of the work as a whole.

The *Cartography* is the first real attempt that has been made to prepare a list of the maps and plans of Palestine, and, as such, though it is far from complete, it is of great interest and value.

Prof. Röhricht's book is not one for the general reader, but every one who wishes to study the geography and topography of the Holy Land, and to consult the original authorities, will find it invaluable as a work of reference.

It is very important that the bibliography of Palestine should be kept up to date. Articles of great interest appear from time to time in the monthly magazines, in the "Athensæum," in the "Academy," and in the daily papers, which, after the lapse of a few years, become difficult to trace when reference is necessary or desirable. I hope that, in future, it may be found possible to devote a page of each *Quarterly Statement* to the Palestine literature of the preceding Quarter. This should give the full titles of all published works, and references to all articles, published correspondence, &c., that have appeared in magazines or newspapers. The labour would not be great if subscribers sent a note of articles they have seen to the Secretary once a quarter. This Quarterly Bibliography would in time become extremely valuable, and it would greatly help Prof. Röhricht should he ever bring out a second edition of his great work.

C. W. W.

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