

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the General Committee was held at the Rooms of the Fund, 24, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, July 18th, 1893.

James Glaisher, Esq., F.R.S., occupied the Chair.

Among those present were W. Aldis Wright, Esq., LL.D.; Basil Woodd Smith, Esq.; Lieut.-Col. C. M. Watson, C.M.G., R.E.; William Simpson, Esq.; J. D. Crace, Esq.; W. Morrison, Esq.; Professor Edward Hull, F.R.S., LL.D.; Henry Maudslay, Esq.; H. C. Kay, Esq.; the Rev. A. Löwy; F. J. Bliss, Esq., &c.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY read the following Report of the Executive Committee:—

GENTLEMEN,

In resigning the office to which they were appointed at the last Annual Meeting of the Fund your Executive Committee have the honour to render the following account of their labours:—

They have held twenty-one meetings for the transaction of business.

The Excavations at Tell el Hesi (Lachish), begun by Professor Flinders Petrie in the spring of 1890, and continued by Mr. F. J. Bliss in the following year, were closed in December last (1892). During that period the earth of a third of the huge mound was cleared away to a depth of 60 feet, revealing the foundations of portions of eleven separate towns, one above the other.

Great quantities of potsherds were removed and every piece examined, but only a few had marks on them; numerous pots of various sizes lamps, heads, scarabs, cylinders, idols, bronze and iron implements, consisting of spearheads, battle-axes, edges, chisels, punches, needles, hair-pins, nails, knives, pincers, blow-pipes, sickles, &c.,—some beautiful specimens of flint implements, stone balls, a store of burnt barley, a wine-press, and a furnace were found, but the greatest find of all was a small clay tablet having a cuneiform inscription on both sides of it, being in shape and form of letters identical with the tablets found at Tell el Amarna. All these finds have been reported and fully illustrated in the *Quarterly Statement*.

The tablet with the cuneiform inscription has aroused additional interest in the work of the Society. A transliteration and translation of the inscription by Professor Sayce will be found in the *January Quarterly Statement* of this year, and another is given by Major Conder in his translation of 176 letters of the "Tell Amarna Tablets," published in the early part of this year.

The Firman for excavating expired in March last, and as the final report from Mr. Bliss was against continuing the researches at Tell el

Hesy, your Committee decided to apply for a new Firman to dig elsewhere. Negotiations are still going on, and it is hoped that a favourable reply will be received soon.

In the interval Mr. Bliss came to England to recruit his strength after the severe attack of typhoid fever he has undergone. He is now engaged in writing a full report of his work, which will be published in the autumn. On Tuesday, June 6th, at 20, Hanover Square, under the auspices of your Committee, Professor Petrie in the Chair, Mr. Bliss gave an account of his work at Lachish. The meeting was well attended and the lecturer was cordially thanked for his interesting lecture.

Herr Schick continues his researches in Jerusalem and reports on fresh discoveries as they occur. He has made a thorough examination of Aceldama and drew a plan and section of the place, and a thorough examination and plan of the "Tombs of the Prophets" which are now the property of the Russians. His paper on the second wall will be read with much interest; and he has given a list of the technical terms in Arabic, used for tools, materials, and modes of building.

At the ruins of Jubeiah, between Kulonieh and Kustul, two standing stones with grooves were found which are similar in construction to those found near Deir Aban, probably the remains of some olive or wine-press.

A stone (soft Mizzeh) weight with an inscription on it, supposed to be a talent, was found by the Algerine Brethren at St. Ann's.

Mr. Schick reported that no discoveries of any importance whatever were made during the construction of the railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem. (A map showing the course of the line will be found in the *January Quarterly Statement*.)

Considerable progress has been made with the Akka-Damascus Railway—five miles of rail have been laid down along the foot of Carmel from Haifa, no discoveries of an archaeological nature have been made as yet, but there is every reason to expect that the construction of this great railway will unearth many buried places and objects of the greatest interest.

Dr. Chaplin reports that the plaster with ancient frescoes has been removed from the walls of the Church of the Convent of the Cross at Jerusalem, and destroyed.

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer reports further discoveries of mediæval remains in the Mosque near the Great Synagogue of the Perushim Jews which he and Mr. Schick believe to be the ruins of the Church of St. Martin. Other remains west of the Damascus Gate are suggested to have belonged to the "Maladrerie" or Lepers' Hospital of the Middle Ages.

The Rev. Theodore E. Dowling reports that the Jerusalem Branch Association of the Fund has secured a room within and near the Jaffa Gate, where maps and all publications of the Society can be seen and purchased.

During the tourist season Lectures were delivered in Jerusalem for the benefit of travellers and others by the following members of the Fund:—

	Subject.
The Rev. A. Hastings Kelk, M.A.	“Walks about Jerusalem.”
The Rev. John Zeller	“The Druzes.”
The Rev. J. E. Hanauer	“The Walls and Gates of Jerusalem.”
G. Robinson Lees, F.R.G.S.	“The Temple Area.”

A further series of Lectures is in preparation for the next season.

We have received a large number of inscriptions collected at various ruins in the Hauran by the Rev. W. Ewing during his travels there. These are in the hands of Professor Ramsay, of Old Aberdeen.

Your Committee are much indebted to Dr. Murray, of the British Museum, for valuable assistance rendered in the translation of Greek inscriptions.

Mr. G. Robinson Lees, F.R.G.S., sends photographs of a Greek inscription found over the door of a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane, which Dr. Murray, of the British Museum, has translated; of a piece of mosaic pavement found on the Mount of Olives close to the base of “The Tower,” with descriptive notes; he also mentions that some very fine specimens of glass, pottery, lamps, and a beautiful carved head had been unearthed at Caesarea.

At “Jacob’s Well,” which Mr. Lees visited lately, he found the place considerably altered in appearance; some *debris* had been cleared away and the ruins were in the charge of a Greek abbot, who had done something towards preserving them.

The Rev. George E. Post’s description of his researches in a journey to Palmyra was completed in the April number of the *Quarterly Statement*.

In the current number he contributes a narrative of his researches in the Lebanon, Anti-Lebanon, and Damascus. Each paper has a valuable list of plants collected on the way.

Mr. Alexander Howard, the well-known tourist contractor, presented to the Museum of the Fund the skin of a crocodile, which was killed by the natives in the marshes at Nahr ez Zerka, south of Haifa; the Fellahin ate the flesh and preserved only the skin without the head and feet; the skin measures 7 feet 6 inches; with the head it would measure probably over 9 feet.

Mr. Baldensperger has furnished a most interesting paper in reply to “Questions” on the Folklore of Palestine. Mr. Baldensperger has lived many years in close contact with the natives, and has had a rare opportunity to collect the information which he gives.

Your Chairman has completed his exhaustive tabled records of the Meteorological Observations, recorded by Herr Dreher, at Sarona, Jaffa, during the ten years, 1880–89, inclusive. These records contain a mine of information on the subject.

Mr. Glaisher is now engaged on the observations recorded at Jerusalem, beginning with the year 1882, and with those of Tiberias, beginning 1891, taken by Dr. Torrance.

Your Committee mentioned in the last Annual Report that much attention had been given to the tomb situate at the foot of the hill over Jeremiah's Grotto, believed by the late General Gordon to be the tomb of Our Lord.

A lengthened correspondence was published in the "Times" on this tomb. The subject being of great interest, a selection of the principal letters, together with the "Times" leader, was reprinted in the January *Quarterly Statement*.

In addition to this correspondence, the papers on the subject by Herr Schick, who has lived, studied, and worked in the Holy City for over 40 years, and a paper by the Rev. J. E. Hanauer, have been read with great interest.

Mr. Schick states, "My conviction is that the question of the real Calvary will never be satisfactorily settled by controversy, *but only by excavation.*"

A summary of the papers on this subject, published in the *Quarterly Statement* and other publications, was also given.

Your Committee are pleased to say that the Museum of the Fund is much appreciated. Many subscribers and visitors avail themselves of the opportunity to inspect the various objects.

Since the date of the last Annual Meeting 219 new Subscribers have been added to the list, and 125 have been taken off through death and other causes, leaving an increase of 94 new Members.

The new line of railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem has been laid down on the one inch to a mile scale sheets, and copies can now be had.

The first part of M. Ganneau's archæological researches in Palestine has been translated, and it is expected that the second part will be in the hands of the translator at an early date.

A new edition of the Index to the *Quarterly Statements* has been compiled. It includes the years 1869 (the first issue of the Journal) to the end of 1892. The Contents are:—Names of the Authors and the Papers; List of the Illustrations; and General Index. This Index, it is hoped, will be found extremely useful.

A new and revised edition of "Heth and Moab" was issued early in the year.

The "Tell Amarna Tablets," by Major Conder, was also published in the beginning of this year. It contains the translation of 176 letters of the 320 cuneiform tablets found at Tell el Amarna, which are chiefly from Palestine and Syria.

"The City and the Land" was published in the autumn. It contains the seven lectures delivered in the spring of last year. Both these works have had a very fair reception.

Your Committee have pleasure in reporting that the long promised Raised Map of Palestine, the work of the Assistant Secretary to the

Fund, Mr. George Armstrong, is now completed, and that copies of it can be had in fibrous plaster, framed and coloured. It has been a work of great labour, occupying about four and a half years. The altitudes and formations are accurately based on contours of 100 feet gradations, calculated from the scientific survey, thus showing at a glance the whole features of the country.

A list of the books in the Library is published in the July *Quarterly Statement*.

During the past year the following donations to the Library have been acknowledged with thanks to the donors :—

- “Har Moad, or Mountain of the Assembly,” by Rev. O. D. Miller, D.D.
- “Voyage en Syrie et en Egypte,” per M. C. F. Volney, 2 vols., from Dr. Chaplin.
- “Plantæ Postianæ,” Fasciculi I–IV, from the author, Dr. Post.
- “The Land of Promise,” by H. Boner, D.D., from J. A. Eastwood, Esq.
- “The Holy City, Jerusalem ; its Topography, Walls, and Temples,” from the author, S. Russell Forbes, D.D.
- “The Temple of Ezekiel’s Prophecy,” from the author, Henry Sulley.
- “Forty Days in the Holy Land,” from the authoress, Elizabeth Harcourt Mitchell.
- “The Everlasting Nation” (in 4 vols.), from the editor, Rev. A. A. Isaac, M.A.
- “The Fifth Gospel,” from the author, J. M. Potts, D.D., LL.D.

Your Committee have sent a complete set of the Society’s publications, together with a copy of the raised map, to the Chicago Exhibition. The exhibits will be found in the British Section, Gallery of the Liberal Arts Buildings, by the side of the Oxford University Extension Exhibit.

The Rev. Professor Theodore F. Wright, Hon. General Secretary and Lecturer for the Fund in the U.S.A., has been appointed the Society’s representative at the Chicago Exhibition. The Rev. Dr. Waterman, Hon. Secretary for Chicago, has kindly offered to render every assistance.

The Rev. J. R. Macpherson, B.D., Kinnaird Manse, Inchtute, N.B., has been appointed Lecturer for the Society in Scotland.

The Rev. L. G. A. Roberts has been appointed Lecturer for the Fund in Canada.

Your Committee have pleasure in recording their best thanks to their Honorary Secretaries, who render such valuable assistance without any remuneration whatever.

Since the last Annual Meeting the following papers have been contributed to the *Quarterly Statement* :—

By Herr Baurath Schick—

- “Description of Aceldama,” with various References and Plans ;
- “Ancient Stone Weights found by the Algerine Brethren of St.

Ann's"; "New Sewer Near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre"; "The Railway from Jaffa to Jerusalem," with Map; "On the Site of Calvary"; "Reflections on the Site of Calvary"; "The Tombs of the Prophets"; "The Course of the Second Wall"; "Arabic Building Terms"; "The Ruins of Jubeiah."

By W. St. Chad Boscawen—

"The Tell el Amarna Tablets in the British Museum."

By the Rev. J. E. Hanauer—

"On the Controversy regarding the Site of Calvary"; "Mud Showers, and their Effect on Buildings in Palestine"; "St. Martin's Church and other Medieval Remains."

By the Rev. Haskett Smith—

"Identifications Suggested in Murray's Handbook."

By the Rev. W. F. Birch—

"Ancient Jerusalem."

By the Rev. Canon Brownlow, M.A.—

"Identification of Saints in the Maronite Calendar."

By Surgeon-General Hutchinson, M.D.—

"The Tomb of Our Lord."

A reprint from the "Times" of the correspondence on the Site of the Holy Sepulchre.

By F. Robinson Lees, F.R.G.S.—

"Antiquities from Cæsarea"; "Tomb with Greek Inscription Near Garden of Gethsemane"; "Mosaic Pavement on the Mount of Olives"; "Jacob's Well."

By F. J. Bliss, B.A.—

"The Excavations at Tell el Hesi during the Spring and Autumn of 1892," with numerous Illustrations.

By the Rev. Professor Sayce, LL.D.—

"The Cuneiform and other Inscriptions Found at Lachish and elsewhere in the South of Palestine"; "On an Inscribed Bead from Palestine"; "The Site of Kirjath-Sepher"; "The Phœnician Inscriptions on the Vase Handles found at Jerusalem."

By James Glaisher, F.R.S.—

"On the Strength or Pressure of the Wind at Saron, recorded Daily by Herr Dreher in the Ten Years, 1880-89"; "Meteorological Report from Jerusalem for the Year 1882."

By Chas. Fox, M.R.C.S., F.S.S.—

“The Latitude of Mount Horeb” ; “Notes and Queries.”

By Major Conder, D.C.L., R.E.—

“Sinai and Syria before Abraham” ; “Notes on Shishak’s List” ; “Recent Hittite Literature, &c.”

By Philip J. Baldensperger—

“Peasant Folklore of Palestine” (Answers to Questions).

By Rev. George E. Post, M.A.—

“An Expedition to Lebanon, Anti-Lebanon, and Damascus,” List of Plants Collected.

Since the last Annual Meeting the undernoted gentlemen have kindly consented to act as Honorary Local Secretaries :—

- Rev. H. B. Waterman, D.D., 3436, Rhodes Avenue, Chicago.
- „ W. Bailey, Colney Heath Rectory, St. Albans.
- „ Robert Campbell, St. Margaret’s Manse, Dunfermline.
- „ Robert Edmund Parr, West Hartlepool.
- „ E. H. Cross, D.D., Belvedere, Trinity Road, Folkestone.
- „ W. Early, Hadley, Wellington, Salop.
- „ J. M. Otts, Greenboro’, Ala., U.S.A.
- „ S. F. Maynard, Gressingham Vicarage, Lancaster.
- „ G. G. S. Thomas, 2, Princes Terrace, Ripon.
- „ P. A. Gordon Clark, West Free Church, Perth.
- „ J. T. Barber, Falls Church, Va., U.S.A.
- „ Frank P. Miller, Litchfield, Ill., U.S.A.
- H. S. Noblett, Esq., Ashton Place, Cork.
- Rev. Geo. W. Baile, B.A., 17, Upper Sackville Street, Dublin.
- „ Robert Macpherson, B.D., The Manse, Elgin.
- „ J. R. Macpherson, B.D., The Carse of Gowrie, Perthshire.
- „ Wm. Gillies, The Manse, Timaru.
- E. F. J. Love, Esq., B.A., Queen’s College, University of Melbourne.

We record with great regret the deaths of the following members of the General Committee since last Meeting :—

- Dr. Carl Sandreczki.
- Henry S. Perry.
- The Dean of Lichfield (Rev. C. H. Bickersteth).
- W. H. Freeland.
- His Grace the Duke of Sutherland.
- Colonel G. E. Grover, R.E.
- Sir William Mackinnon, Bart.

Your Committee have pleasure in proposing that the following gentlemen be elected members of the General Committee :—

The Bishop of Chester.
 The Dean of Chester.
 The Bishop of Lichfield.
 The Bishop of Durham.
 The Bishop of Carlisle.
 The Bishop of Bath and Wells.
 The Dean of Canterbury.
 The Rev. Canon Cheyne.
 The Rev. Canon Driver.
 The Rev. Daniel Bliss, D.D.
 Rev. Professor A. F. Kirkpatrick.

The following is a summary of the receipts and expenditure for the year ending 1892. The balance sheet was published in the April *Quarterly Statement* :—

At the end of 1891 there was a balance in the bank of £314 6s. 3d. The income from donations and subscriptions for the year was £1,690 14s. 6d. ; proceeds of lectures £104 9s. 3d. ; sales of publications £644 14s. 1d. ; for damage by fire to books the Northern Insurance Company paid £150.

The expenditure in the same period was, for exploration £853 6s. 7d. ; for printing, binding, lithographs, photos, illustrations, &c., £838 9s. 8d. ; for management—including rent, salaries, wages, advertising, insurance, stationery, &c., £665 10s. 2d. The posting and carriage of the *Quarterly Statement*, books, maps, parcels, &c., costing £133 6s. 9d.

At the end of 1892 the balance in the bank was £413 10s. 11d.

The CHAIRMAN said :—I think the Report will be considered to be very satisfactory. Hitherto, at our Annual Meetings, it has been my privilege to speak of the gentlemen who were working for us. They were usually far away, and last year, when Mr. Bliss announced the discovery of the tablet, he was very ill, and your warm sympathies were extended to him. I need say very little about him to-day, for we have Mr. Bliss himself with us (applause), and instead of my speaking of his labours I would rather that he should himself tell us of what he has done, and of other matters which will be of interest to this Meeting. (Applause.)

Mr. BLISS.—Three years ago, at this Meeting, Dr. Petrie gave an account of his *reconnaissance* at Tell el Hesi. Of course at this mound—which is 60 feet high, 200 feet square at the top, and about 350 at the base—a work occupying only six weeks could necessarily have been conducted only by shafts and cuttings. Dr. Petrie was not even able to work at the top of the mound, because it was covered with crops, the removal of which would have been very expensive. He, however, came to the general results that we had here the city of Lachish, the lowest

and most ancient town at the base, being of somewhere about the seventeenth century B.C., representing the Amorite constructions before the time that the Israelites had come into Palestine, and the top of the mound representing the fifth century B.C., when Lachish disappeared from history. These results, definite as they seemed to be, were attained, not from any inscriptions, but mainly from the successive fortifications, together with the pottery, which he found. His results, while accepted by many people, were doubted by others. It was said that the time that he had, and the materials that he worked from, were not sufficient to attain such definite results. My work occupied four seasons; extending over two years. All that could be gained from shafts and pits, and cuttings, had been learned by Dr. Petrie's work; therefore, nothing remained for me to do but the arduous task of cutting down the mound. I found that to cut down the whole mound, and carefully to examine it all, would be too much, so I decided to cut out one-third of it, layer by layer, which involved the removal of more than 500,000 cubic feet of earth. When you remember that we found needles—and indeed smaller objects—you may imagine what a tremendous task it was. I soon found that the hill consisted of layers, and that the base of each layer could be determined by the foundation of the mud-brick buildings as they appeared. I uncovered the bases of eight towns, and, as my plans and photographs will show, these were actually traced and measured. Besides these, there were three others unplanned, making 11 in all. This, of course, was the main result of my work, and it is a far more important result than would be at first supposed. This, I believe, was the first time that a Tell had been systematically cut down, before the strata were harmed by cuttings, and with all the objects marked according to their different levels. Signs which indicated the undisturbed strata in this Tell will justify us in inferring a similar stratification in other Tells, if such signs are found in an examination of their sides. Thus we will be saved the task of enormous cuttings. Once prove that dateable objects are found *in situ*, and we have a key which may open up the chronology of the various strata. Now, in examining these different strata, I am sorry to say that I came across only a number of mud-brick buildings, of no architectural importance. We found, however, the base of a large hall, which probably consisted of three large rooms, the whole covering a space of 100 feet by 40 feet, with the bases of pillars which probably supported the roof, giving us a large hall with passages, and the rooms sub-divided by columns. We also found a wine-press, with the various pits that would be necessary for the making of wine; and we also found a furnace, which has caused a great deal of discussion. At first we thought it was a smelting furnace, but all that we can be sure of, now that the matter has been carefully investigated, is that this was some ancient furnace, perhaps merely for pottery. In order to date the various strata we had to study all the finds. The tablet, which has been referred to, which was found in the third town, under a great layer of ashes, dated this town at 1450 B.C.

I cannot here go into details, but only affirm that all our objects taken independently, have come to establish in general, with a few modifications, the chronology which Dr. Petrie so cleverly inferred, which I think is a wonderful confirmation.

I am inclined to think that the first town was more ancient than was supposed by Dr. Petrie. This, however, is uncertain, as no dateable objects were found under the third town.

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.—Did you get down to the rock ?

Mr. BLISS.—I got down to the original earth. Now, the question of identification will, of course, interest you. Dr. Petrie identified the place as Lachish from certain considerations. These considerations have been confirmed by my work, but I am sorry to say that I cannot add any new proof. Tell el Nejileh and Tell el Hesy are probably Eglon and Lachish.

They are three miles from each other, but until the spade has been put into Tel el Nejileh we cannot be perfectly sure which is which.

And now a word in regard to the history of the exploration. I suppose we had a good many hardships, but these I don't particularly remember, because we have so many delightful memories. Our relations with the Government were most friendly. The official appointed by the Governor of Jerusalem to conduct the work was a gentleman, and in all his relations to me he was honourable and helpful, and I may also say that we were on very good terms, not only with the Governor of Jerusalem, but with the local government. Our friends, the Arabs, who surrounded us, are real genuine friends, who would be glad to have us come back and camp side by side. With the workpeople I was also greatly pleased. Of course it was necessary to be firm, but I hope that I am a considerate master at all times. The work they did was considered good. If you know just how to manage these people it is very easy to get a lot of work done ; it is also very easy to have a lot of lazy people about you. On the whole, we got very satisfactory work. My father's testimony as to the labour is of course a very good one, as he is President of a large college that has been building for over 20 years, and has employed all sorts of labourers. And he, after a short stay with me there, was very much astonished at the amount of work that our people did. Of course, we had a good deal of risk in the climate. The place was very unhealthy in the autumn, on account of the stagnant water lying in the stream, just by the Tell, which, by the way, was doubtless the place where Philip baptized the Ethiopian. During the autumn it was extremely discouraging. We had guard after guard fall ill, and workman after workman, and servant after servant, and the only one who kept well was myself. But in the spring I contracted typhoid fever, from which I happily recovered. I should like, in closing, to say how much I appreciate the feeling of sympathy and the hearty and cordial co-operation evinced by the Committee. Any request that I have made has been promptly considered and answered. (Applause.) Having lived so long abroad, I know what all sorts of Committees are, and what delay means, but I have never had my work delayed from one post to another, because everything

has been at once responded to, and I must say it has been a cause of great thankfulness to me, and I would wish, Mr. Chairman, to thank you for the great kindness you have shown to me and my work. I should like to say further, that it is a pleasure to me to hear that this tablet, which I found, has really been seen by Dr. Chaplin, in the Museum at Constantinople. This, I hope, will be solid proof to the Turks that we mean to work honourably with them.

The CHAIRMAN.—If any gentleman has any remarks to make upon the Report, I shall be glad to hear him.

Mr. Löwy.—Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen, I take the liberty of calling attention to a matter which I consider of the highest importance to this Committee. Two years ago I suggested that there should be delivered lectures in order to attract public attention to the useful work done by the Palestine Exploration Fund, and I believe that we have now the satisfaction of knowing that the public have gradually been induced to take a considerable interest in the glorious work undertaken by our Society. I take the liberty of repeating the suggestion which I made on that occasion, and I believe that it would be extremely useful to have, not many lectures, not for instance every week, because people are very much occupied in London—but, say, four lectures delivered during three or four months. I think the Palestine Exploration Fund is worthy of more public recognition. It has thrown an immense flood of light upon the history which is buried in the ground, and therefore it is desirable that we should take measures in order to draw educated people towards the work which is being done. And I think it is only necessary to give information to the people who are interested in the history of the East to attain this object. But there is also another thing which has to be borne in mind—the more money we make, the more good we will be able to do. Therefore I respectfully submit that courses of lectures should again be given in order that London, and England, may be made acquainted with the great work that is being done. The Report which has been read is full of interesting matters. It is proof of the work that has been done, and I hope, as we have begun so we shall continue. I conclude these remarks with a question: Are there other Tells in the neighbourhood which could be explored? I am asked, gentlemen, to move the adoption of the Report, which I do with the greatest pleasure.

Professor HULL.—Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen, may I be allowed to second this resolution? I have great pleasure in doing so. The Report is full of interest, and it gives an account of most admirable work done during the past year, not only at Tell el Hesi, by our friend Mr. Bliss, but also of other and good work, particularly the model of Palestine; and I sincerely congratulate the Committee and Mr. Armstrong, who have devoted so much time to this work, upon the results achieved. I think it is a beautiful work, and accurately represents the physical features of the country, of which I have some slight knowledge. I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN.—With respect to the question asked about more Tells—there are many. But the law of Turkey is that we can only work at one place at one time. I hope, however, that any further applications we make will be granted. I don't know whether Mr. Bliss has anything further to say with regard to this question?

Mr. BLISS.—I think you have replied to it, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN.—Gentlemen, I think now I ought to say that we are indebted to our Honorary Secretary, who is not here. He has been for some time in Chicago, being a delegate from the Authors' Society, giving his views upon the question of copyright and as to the friendliness between authors and publishers here and authors and publishers in America—a very ticklish subject indeed, and I will say no more about it. (Laughter.) I should like to ask you to give a hearty vote of thanks to the Honorary Secretary, because he is willing always to work in your interests, at all seasons. I am sure you will carry that vote of thanks with acclamation.

The vote was cordially endorsed by the Meeting.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, there is our friend the Treasurer, who not only receives the money, but who goes through every item of the accounts with a care and skill that is indeed wonderful. In fact, he looks after every penny. I am sure, gentlemen, we are deeply indebted to Mr. Morrison, and should also give him a vote of thanks.

The vote was unanimously accorded.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, there is Mr. Armstrong; I must say a word about him. I sometimes think that he is overworked. After leaving the office at times I think this, and I sometimes want to suggest that a little more assistance should be given him, and really, if the work increases, some assistance will have to be given to him, but, as it is, the work has been done well and admirably, and therefore, I am sure you will thank him for the admirable way in which the work has been done. (Applause.)

The vote was carried.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, gentlemen, I think Mr. Bliss is indeed worthy of our thanks. You have heard to-day his very lucid statement, and the excellent results achieved by his work. I have to ask you to thank him, and also Mr. Schick, who is very good to us in the matter of collecting and sending to us information. Such a person in Jerusalem is most valuable, and I must ask you also to accord him a hearty vote of thanks.

The vote of thanks to Mr. Bliss and to Mr. Schick of Jerusalem was unanimously accorded.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, gentlemen, you have just heard from Mr. Bliss about the kindness of the Governor of Jerusalem, and of his usefulness to us. It is a pleasing thing to find the Turks work hand in hand

with us, and I therefore have to ask you that you should give a hearty vote of thanks to the Governor of Jerusalem.

The vote was accorded.

The CHAIRMAN.—Will you convey that to the Governor of Jerusalem, Mr. Bliss?

Mr. BLISS.—I will, Mr. Chairman, with great pleasure.

The CHAIRMAN.—Then, in Jerusalem, we have Mr. Lees and the Rev. J. E. Hanauer, who have given us very much help, and I would propose that we give a hearty vote of thanks to them.

The vote was accorded.

Mr. MAUDSLAY.—Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen, I have myself been in Jerusalem, in the years 1873, 1874, and 1875, and I there saw the good work done by this Society. I think under the circumstances, therefore, that those whom the Chairman has chosen to work with him should be re-elected upon the Executive Committee. I should like to say also a word about the accuracy of the work which has been done in Palestine, and we should not forget to appreciate the excellent work done by the officers sent out by the Government, which work has been found to be very correct. I wish also to move a vote of thanks to the Executive Committee for the good work they have done.

Mr. LÖWY.—I have great pleasure in seconding that. I am much obliged to the managers of this Society for the good work they have done.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

Professor HULL.—I have to move a special vote of thanks to our Chairman, as we all know how heartily and how earnestly he works, and how well the Society has prospered under his auspices. I have, therefore to move that the hearty thanks of the general Committee be given to our able and worthy Chairman. (Applause.)

Mr. LÖWY.—I have the greatest possible pleasure in seconding that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said:—I thank you very much, indeed, gentlemen, for the recognition you have given to my work in connection with this Society. I take very great interest in the work. I feel that I want more Tells opened, and I think in a short time we shall be able to go on with our work very well indeed. One of the best things in connection with this Society at the present moment is that we have never yet heard of anything that has been published by us that the public have not taken as being true. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.
