

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

WE publish in the present number Dr. Bliss's second report of the excavations, which covers the period up to December 21st, 1898, when the work was stopped by the advent of the heavy winter rains. The drawings of the objects found are by Mr. Macalister. The operations at Tell Zakariya were recommenced on March 20th.

Among other interesting notes, Dr. Schick has sent in a plan and description of the most recent discoveries at Jacob's Well, which we hope to publish shortly.

Dr. Torrance writes from Tiberias:—"Roman glass, coins, jewellery, and occasionally statuettes, are still found by the Fellahin in the villages around the lake, especially Fik and Kefr Haub, but I have not seen anything of special value. Probably many things of interest will be found in connection with the excavations and cuttings along the line of the Haifa-Damascus Railway, which I am glad to say is recommenced. The summer during the past year in Tiberias was unusually mild, but the autumn was very hot and trying, and, after the commencement of the rains, dysentery and malaria were very prevalent amongst all sections of the community, European and native. Measles and diphtheria have also been prevalent, but no small-pox. For the first time for about twenty years the Rawalli Arabs came west of the Jordan in October of last year. They made a detour round the Sea of Galilee with their camels,

numbering considerably over 100,000 I should think. On the east they had nothing to eat, and were driven by hunger to the west. Young camels were sold in Tiberias for the merest trifle, many for a medjedie = 3s. 4d., and some sick and hungry ones for a beslick, about 6d.!

“Our hospital work is having a wide-reaching influence. Besides townspeople we come in contact with Arabs from nearly every tribe in the east of Syria.”

Dr. Torrance also reports:—“A month ago a great flight of locusts passed over Tiberias, the swarm taking the greater part of two days to pass. Flamingoes settle on the Sea of Galilee. I shot a beautiful specimen in the neighbourhood of Tiberias.” (See Survey of Western Palestine, “Fauna and Flora,” p. 113.)

We are informed by Mr. Pilling that the construction of the Acre-Damascus Railway is at length assured. Arnold F. Hills, Esq., of the Thames Ironworks, under contract with the railway company, has taken over the control of this most important and interesting enterprise. The works of construction have been already resumed on an extensive scale. It is anticipated the first section of 61 miles from Acre and Haifa to the River Jordan will be opened for public traffic before this time next year. Our Committee have made arrangements with Dr. Schumacher for the prompt and regular transmission of information respecting discoveries likely to interest our readers which may be made in carrying on the work.

Owing to pressure on our space the publication of the Rev. John Zeller's paper on “The Bedawin” is postponed.

The Committee are glad to say that they have received the remainder of the MS. of Professor Ganneau's “Archæological Researches in Jerusalem and its Neighbourhood.” The MS. has been translated, and is now in the press.

Dr. Bliss's detailed account of his three years' work at Jerusalem, published as a separate volume, with the title

“Excavations at Jerusalem, 1894–1897,” and copiously illustrated with maps and plans, may be procured at the office of the Fund. Price to subscribers to the work of the Fund, 8s. 6d., post free.

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 Rev. Professor Theo. F. Wright, Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, 42, Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, at 38, Conduit Street (a few doors from Bond Street), is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 5, except Saturdays, when it is closed at 2 p.m.

The income of the Society, from December 23rd, 1898, to March 23rd, 1899, was—from Annual Subscriptions and Donations, including Local Societies, £701 17s. 2d.; from Lectures, £4 7s. 6d.; from sales of publications, &c., £266 6s. 7d.; total, £972 11s. 3d. The expenditure during the same period was £910 14s. 4d. On March 23rd the balance in the Bank was £745 1s. 3d.

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, 38, Conduit Street.

It may be well to mention that plans and photographs alluded to in the reports from Jerusalem and elsewhere cannot all be published, but all are preserved in the office of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

Branch Associations of the Bible Society, all Sunday Schools within the Sunday School Institute, the Sunday School Union, and the Wesleyan Sunday School Institute, will please observe that by a special Resolution of the Committee they will henceforth be treated as subscribers and be allowed to purchase the books and maps (by application only to the Secretary) at reduced price.

The Committee acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Library of the Fund:—

- “Monuments Égyptiens, Notice Sommaire,” and “Bronzes et Bijoux, Catalogue Sommaire.” Constantinople, 1898. From Hamdy Bey, Director-General of the Musée Impérial Ottoman, Constantinople.
- “Babylonian Expedition of the University of Pennsylvania.” Vol. IX. Edited by H. V. Hilprecht. Pennsylvania, 1898.
- “Rente et Dette chez les Hébreux,” “Du Bimétallisme chez les Hébreux,” “Les Quinze divisions des Saints Évangiles,” and “La Table des Psaumes.” From the Author, Vicomte François de Salignac Fénelon.

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. A catalogue of Books in the Library will be found in the July *Quarterly Statement*, 1893.

While 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 neither sanction nor adopt them.

In order to make up complete sets of the "Quarterly Statement" the Committee will be very glad to receive any of the back numbers.

Subscribers who do not receive the *Quarterly Statement* regularly are asked to send a note to the Acting Secretary. Great care is taken to forward each number to those who are entitled to receive it, but changes of address and other causes occasionally give rise to omissions.

The Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund desire to make clear that they have no book on their List of Publications called "Picturesque Palestine," nor is any person authorised to represent this book as published by the Society; nor has the Society any book-hawkers in its employment.

TOURISTS are cordially invited to visit the Loan Collection of "Antiques" in the JERUSALEM ASSOCIATION ROOM of the Palestine Exploration Fund, opposite the Tower of David, Jerusalem. Hours: 8 to 12, and 2 to 6. Maps of Palestine and Palestine Exploration Fund publications are kept for sale.

Photographs of Dr. Schick's models (1) of the Temple of Solomon, (2) of the Herodian Temple, (3) of the Haram Area during the Christian occupation of Jerusalem, and (4) of the Haram Area as it is at present, have been received at the office of the Fund. Sets of these photographs, with an explanation by Dr. Schick, can be purchased by applying to the Secretary, 38, Conduit Street, W.

The authorised lecturers for the Society are—

AMERICA.

Professor Theodore F. Wright, Ph.D., 42, Quincy Street, Cambridge, Mass., Honorary General Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund for the United States. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *The Buried City of Jerusalem.*
- (2) *Discoveries in Palestine.*

ENGLAND.

The Rev. Thomas Harrison, F.R.G.S., The Vicarage, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *Research and Discovery in the Holy Land.*
- (2) *Bible Scenes in the Light of Modern Science.*
- (3) *The Survey of Eastern Palestine.*
- (4) *In the Track of the Israelites from Egypt to Canaan.*
- (5) *The Jordan Valley, the Dead Sea, and the Cities of the Plain.*
- (6) *The Recovery of Jerusalem—(Excavations in 1894).*
- (7) *The Recovery of Lachish and the Hebrew Conquest of Palestine.*
- (8) *Archæological Illustrations of the Bible.* (Specially adapted for Sunday School Teachers.)

N.B.—All these Lectures are illustrated by specially prepared lantern slides.

The Rev. Charles Harris, M.A., F.R.G.S., Appledore, Ashford, Kent. (All Lectures illustrated by lantern slides.) His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *Modern Discoveries in Palestine.*
- (2) *Stories in Stone; or, New Light on the Old Testament.*
- (3) *Underground Jerusalem; or, With the Explorer in 1895.*
Bible Stories from the Monuments, or Old Testament History in the Light of Modern Research:—
- (4) A. *The Story of Joseph; or, Life in Ancient Egypt.*
- (5) B. *The Story of Moses; or, Through the Desert to the Promised Land.*
- (6) C. *The Story of Joshua; or, The Buried City of Lachish.*
- (7) D. *The Story of Sennacherib; or, Scenes of Assyrian Warfare.*
- (8) E. *The Story of the Hittites; or, A Lost Nation Found.*

SCOTLAND.

The Rev. James Smith, B.D., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., St. George's-in-the-West Parish, Aberdeen. (All Lectures are illustrated with lantern slides, many of which are coloured.) His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *The Palestine Exploration Fund.*
- (2) *A Pilgrimage to Palestine.*
- (3) *Jerusalem—Ancient and Modern.*
- (4) *The Temple Area, as it now is.*
- (5) *The Church of the Holy Sepulchre.*
- (6) *A Visit to Bethlehem and Hebron.*
- (7) *Jericho, Jordan, and the Dead Sea.*

The Rev. W. Burnet Thomson, M.A., B.D., Galashiels, N.B. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *The City of the Great King; or, Jerusalem and the Explorer.*
- (2) *The Temple, the Sepulchre, and Calvary.*
- (3) *Southern Palestine.*
- (4) *Jerusalem to Damascus.*
- (5) *Palestine and Jesus Christ (for children).*
- (6) *The Bible and the Monuments. Discoveries in Ancient Land.*

All illustrated with lantern slides.

WALES.

The Rev. J. Llewelyn Thomas, M.A., Aberpergwm, Glynneath, South Wales. His subjects are as follows :—

- (1) *Explorations in Judea.*
 - (2) *Research and Discovery in Samaria and Galilee.*
 - (3) *In Bible Lands; a Narrative of Personal Experiences.*
 - (4) *The Reconstruction of Jerusalem.*
 - (5) *Problems of Palestine.*
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TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

The income of the Fund for 1898 amounted to £2,600 5s. 10d., made up as follows :—

From Legacy left by the late Mr. Henry Smiles, £100; from Donations and Subscriptions, £1,871 2s. 6d.; from sales of publications, £582 9s. 3d.; from Lectures, mainly delivered by Dr. Bliss in America while waiting for the Firman, £46 14s. 1d.

At the end of 1897 there was a balance in the bank of £645 5s. 2d., making the total amount available for the year, £3,245 11s. 0d.

The expenditure was :—

On exploration, £695 5s. 4d. Owing to the delay in getting the Firman the excavation work was not begun until late in the year.

On printing, binding, including the *Quarterly Statement*, the new work "Excavations at Jerusalem," new edition of "Mound of Many Cities," "Judas Maccabæus," &c., £652 9s. 11d.

On maps, lithographs, illustrations, photographs, &c., £145 11s. 11d. Against these two sums the Fund received from the sale of all publications, £582 9s. 3d.

On advertising, insurance, stationery, &c., £83 2s. 7½d.

On postage of books, maps, &c., including the *Quarterly Statement*, £121 1s. 10½d.

The management, including rent of office, cost of removing from 24, Hanover Square, dilapidations, new furniture, repairs, &c., £873 10s. 3d.

At the end of the year the balance in the Bank was £674 9s. 1d.

Special expenses were incurred during the year in consequence of the office being removed to 38, Conduit Street, W. During the quarter in which this took place rent had to be paid for both the old and present offices.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance in Bank, December 31st, 1898.. ..	674 9 1	Printer's Bill	105 15 1
Stock of Publications in hand, Surveying Instruments, Show Cases, Furniture, &c.		Current Expenses.	
In addition there is the valuable library and the unique collection of antiques, models, &c.			

WALTER MORRISON, *Treasurer.*