" The day arrived for the presentations, and they all, from the largest animal to the smallest bird, brought their gifts. As the lark is the smallest bird, she was the last to bring her present. On approaching the king she said to him, ' Please do not be angry with me when you see what I have brought you, but I cannot afford anything better, nor am I able to carry anything larger.' Then she produced her gift, which consisted of an olive leaf. The king was so pleased at her frankness that he took a feather and threw it at her. It alighted on her head, and the moment it did so there appeared a crown of feathers in its place. ' This,' said the king, ' is the best token I can give you of my regard of your humility and honesty.' "

DEAD SEA OBSERVATIONS.

(*Continued from p. 159.*)

By Dr. E. W. G. Masterman.

.Autumn Visit to 'Ain Feshkhah, 1905.

ALTHOUGH I had much looked forward to paying this visit on my return to Palestine, I was unfortunately unable to leave Jerusalem at the last moment, and Mr. Hornstein very kindly again undertook the duty on our behalf.

The visit was made on Nov. 11th, from Jericho. Weather was fine, temperature of atmosphere at 9 A.M., 80° F., wind from S.E. The ' white line ' running from N. to S. along the sea was somewhat faint.

The barometric readings were—November 10th, Jerusalem, 3 p.m., 27·6 ; November 11, '*Ain Feshkhah*, 9. A.M., 31·4.

During the summer months the level has fallen $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the ' observation rocks,' and $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the rock in the pool. The actual level is, however, at the former point, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches higher than the measurement made (October 26) in the Autumn of 1904. At the pool the measurement is, on the other hand, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lower ; but there are various factors which make the latter measurement inexact, and the measurements here are worth little when the pool is, as now, so very shallow.

No animal life of importance was noticed. The reeds, usually so flourishing at this time, were less abundant than usual, through the partial drying up of many of the springs.