

THE

PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Committee are glad to be able to state that the two following gentlemen have very kindly consented to be members of the General Committee: General Sir Edmund Allenby, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force in Palestine, and Colonel Ronald Storrs, C.M.G., Military Governor of Jerusalem, formerly Oriental Secretary at the Residency, Cairo, and on the staff of the late Lord Kitchener in Egypt.

In the May number of the *Burlington Magazine* Captain Martin S. Briggs gives an extremely interesting account, with illustrations, of the Mosaic pavement of Shellal, near Gaza, found during our military operations near the end of May, 1917. The site lies about thirteen miles south of Gaza and close to the Wady Gaza. The pavement contained an inscription to the following effect:—

+ This temple with spacious ———— [? foundations] was built by our most ———— [? holy] and most pious George — in the year 622, according to ———— [? the Gaza era].

This would make it of the year 561–2 A.D. The tendency to identify this George of Shellal with St. George of Cappadocia, England's patron Saint, was irresistible, although, as a matter of fact, there is no evidence for this, nor is there even any probability. The pavement itself is remarkable for its realistic and lively design, and the symbolism of the various beasts and birds represented in the panels is singularly interesting.

In *The Near East* (August 30), "E.W.G.M." resumed his valuable notes on the Palestine front. He pointed out that the recent operations centred round Sinjil—which is named after the Crusading castle of St Giles—and Seilun, the generally-accepted site of Shiloh, must now lie very near our front line. Dr. Masterman remarked that our line was advanced about two-thirds of the way from Jerusalem to Nablūs, and, on the whole, the country lying before us was better than that already taken. At the moment of going to press the news arrives of General Allenby's wonderful victory.

The Cairo correspondent of *The Near East* (August 16) gives some account of the conditions in Syria and Palestine. A refugee reported that diseases and epidemics had practically disappeared, but wheat and flour continued to be sold at famine prices. All reports agree in stating that the Turks have changed their tactics; Jemal's reign of terror has been succeeded by a pro-Arab policy. On the other hand, a refugee from Damascus gave a very gloomy report of the prevalence of disease and the number of deaths from starvation.

The Cairo correspondent of *The Times*, writing on British work in Palestine, says that experts are busy investigating the agricultural situation, the fiscal question, the educational requirements, public security, the complicated question of judicial organisation, and pious foundations. In Jerusalem the normal life of the people has been entirely renewed, and the old city is cleaner than ever it has been.

One interesting and much needed change in the internal administration of Palestine has already been made, according to *The Near East* (July 26). Civil courts of justice have been re-established, based on the Turkish *régime*, but with certain changes due to the conditions of war, and also to the aim to bring justice nearer to the people. There will be a court of appeal at Jerusalem. A court will go on circuit, a procedure which was quite unknown before the war. Great care has been taken in the selection of the personnel. British officers, with legal experience and knowledge of Arabic, have been appointed to the courts, and the rest of the

staff selected from well-known and tried men. The jurisdiction of the religious courts of the Moslem and other communities will remain unchanged.

The Near East of August 2nd states that the foundation stone of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem has been laid. The medium of instruction will be Hebrew, though at the outset all subjects will not be taught exclusively in Hebrew. The ceremony was performed in the presence of General Allenby, of officers of the French and English detachments in Palestine, of a representative gathering of Jews, and a deputation of Egyptian Jews and the heads of other communities.

The railway line has been extended from Rafa to Beersheba. It was formally opened on May 29.

An interesting activity has been inaugurated by the Zionist Organisation of America, namely, the compiling of a bibliography of literature on Palestine, consisting of a *catalogue raisonné* of books, articles, pamphlets, etc., on Palestine in all languages. Special stress is being laid on economic rather than archaeological material. For further information address, "Palestinian Survey, 500, Fifth Avenue, New York, U.S.A."

We are glad to call attention to an article by the Mr. T. R. Georgevich on Serbia and the Holy Land which appears in the *Journal of Theological Studies*, January-April, 1918. It is an interesting account of the relations between the two lands. It is not generally known that the Serbs had their own monasteries in Palestine as early as the thirteenth century, and that not only were numerous pilgrimages made thither, but the familiar title, *haji* was prefixed (in the form *Hadži*) to the names of pilgrims quite in the Mohammedan manner. But he was only the true *Hadži* who had spent the Holy Week in Jerusalem and been to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on Easter Sunday. Descriptions of journeys to and in Palestine date from 1235.

The late Col. Sir Charles Watson's book on *Fifty Years' Work in the Holy Land* is the subject of a warm complimentary notice in *The Geographical Review*, the journal of the American Geographical Society. It says:—

“This volume is an inventory of achievement which fittingly commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Palestine Exploration Fund. Glancing over the field of varied studies conducted by the members of this famous institution, one can hardly abstain from attributing, at the very outset, greater weight to its surveys than to any other branch of its work. History, geology, archaeology, anthropology, and religion all received important contributions; and yet none of the results in these branches of study can claim the all round usefulness of the cartographic achievements. The most extensive surveys of Palestine so far recorded in map form are due to the labour of a number of well-known workers who gave their time to the Palestine Exploration Fund.

“A few years after the foundation of the society in 1865 it became evident that no reliable work could be undertaken without an accurate base map. The only section of Palestine of which trustworthy maps then existed was the coast, which had been charted by the British Admiralty. The survey of Western Palestine was undertaken first. Operations lasted from 1871 to 1877. The results of this important work appeared in 1880 in the shape of a one inch to the mile map, which may be considered as one of the most important scientific productions that has come out of the Holy Land. Through this map the historical value of many Biblical passages was determined. Needless to add that the map has also served as a base for investigations of a wide range, and that it has been indispensable to travellers”

“A mass of material on the history and geography of the Holy Land has also been disseminated among students through the Fund's publication of a series entitled the ‘Palestine Pilgrims' Texts.’ The list of volumes published shows that Palestine has attracted Christian tourists since the early centuries of our era. As a contribution to the history of travel in ancient and medieval days this series takes a leading rank.”

The advertisement of the book will be found below, on the next page.

In 1876 the Society published a volume of *Photographs of Biblical Sites*, by Lieut. H. H. Kitchener, R.E., F.R.G.S., containing twelve photographs taken by Lord Kitchener during the time he was at work on the Survey of Western Palestine, together with a short description of each written by himself. Some of the views taken are no longer obtainable, as new buildings have sprung up everywhere, altering or marring old sites. The descriptions, though so short, are charmingly written, and show what a strong feeling Lord Kitchener had for the Holy Land. He took the keenest interest and pleasure in the preparation of this, his only book, as his letters show, though the actual publication of it was left in Sir Walter Besant's hands, as Lord Kitchener returned to Palestine before it was in proof. There are about forty copies of this book still unsold, and these can be had on application to the office of the Society, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., at the original price of one guinea, postage extra.

Fifty Years' Work in the Holy Land: A Record and a Summary, 1865-1915.—Under this title the late Colonel Sir C. M. Watson, K.C.M.G., etc., gave an entirely new revision of that *résumé* of the work of the Fund which has been issued from time to time in order to furnish readers, and—especially—new subscribers with a synoptical account of the more important aims and achievements. Such accounts have been published in 1870, 1872, 1886, and 1895, so that twenty years have passed since the last revision—years during which most valuable excavations have been undertaken, notably at Gezer. The year 1915 being the Jubilee of the Palestine Exploration Fund a new edition was especially appropriate, and old subscribers as well as new will find that the book by the late Chairman of the Executive Committee gives an admirable bird's-eye view of the work of the Fund. Although space allows the book to provide only the bare outlines of what has been done, the material is so arranged as to include all information necessary to explain the different expeditions and excavations. A map is also appended containing all the important names and sites. Chapters are written on the reason why the P.E.F. was established; the foundation of the Society in 1865; the preliminary reconnaissance of Palestine, 1865-6; the explorations at Jerusalem, 1867-70; the expedition to the Desert of the Exodus, 1869-70; the survey of Western

Palestine in 1871-7; the survey of Eastern Palestine in 1881-2; the geological expedition and survey of the Arabah in 1883-4; the excavations at Lachish, Jerusalem, etc. (five chapters), the survey of Southern Palestine in 1913-14; the Palestine Pilgrims' Texts, and a concluding chapter on the administration of the Society. There are two appendices: the chronology of the P.E.F., and the chronology of the publications. The book is published by the Committee of the Fund, and can be had on application to the Assistant Secretary, post free 3s. 6d.

The Committee have brought out a new edition of the ($\frac{3}{8}$ in. to the mile) Map of Western Palestine, of which the original edition has been for some time out of print. It is in two large sheets, and will be, primarily, a travellers' map. The roads and railways constructed since the original survey have been added. For the sake of clearness, only the modern names are given. The hill shading is in a lighter tint for the same reason. All the country beyond that actually surveyed is shown in outline only. In a few years it may be possible to add much of this in a further edition. In the meantime, this is the clearest map and the easiest to consult of any yet issued by the Society. The price of the complete map is 7s. 6d. If desired, the map can be mounted on linen to fold, or on rollers, 15s. Subscribers' price, 12s. 6d. Postage 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 with a list, the price of each volume, has been prepared, and can be obtained on application.

Recent additions to the Library, by purchase, include:—

Journey through Arabia Petraea to Mount Sinai and the excavated city of Petra, the Edom of the Prophecies, from the French of M. Léon de Laborde. (Murray, London. 1836.)

Hadriani Relandi Palaestina ex Monumentis veteribus Illustrata Trajecti Batavorum, ex libreria Guilielmi Broedelet. MDCCXIV.

Palaestina ex Monumentis veteribus Illustratae; Liber Primus, In quo de Palaestinae Nominibus, Situ, Terminis, Partitione, Aquis, Montibus, et Campio Agitur; Liber Secundus, In quo agitur de Intervallis Locorum Palaestinae. (The two volumes bound in one: maps and illustrations.)

Samuelis Bocharti Geographia Sacra cujus pars prior Phaleg de Dispersione Gentium & terrarum; pars posterior Chanaan de Coloniais & sermone Phoenicien. MDCLXXIV.

A Primer of Hebrew Antiquities (1895), by the Rev. O. C. Whitehouse.

The Bible and Babylon (1905), by Ed. König.

The Hittites (1910), by Prof. A. H. Sayce.

The list of books received will be found below, pp. 153-155.

The Index to the *Quarterly Statements* previously published included the years from 1869 to 1892, and the need for its continuation to a more recent date has been greatly felt. During the year 1911, the Committee decided to supplement the old Index by one which should include the completion of the work at Gezer, that is to say, from 1893 to 1910. The laborious task was undertaken by Mr. (now Prof.) Dickie, whose familiarity with the matter dealt with, and conscientious exactitude, have now enabled the Committee to publish it with confidence. Price in cloth, 5s.; unbound, 3s. 6d.

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

Plaster casts of the raised contour maps (large and small) of Jerusalem have been prepared and can now be had on application. The horizontal scale of the large map is $\frac{1}{25000}$ and the total dimensions are 5 feet by 4 feet 3 inches. The remains of the city walls and streets discovered on the Eastern and Western Hills are indicated in red lines. This map will be a most valuable help to the study of Jerusalem topography. Price £3 3s. Case and packing extra. The scale of the smaller map is $\frac{1}{10000}$ and the size 20 inches square. Price without addition of early walls and streets £1 5s.

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.

Subscribers who have not yet paid will greatly facilitate the Committee's efforts by sending in their subscriptions without further delay, and thus save the expense of sending out reminders.

Subscribers to the Fund are reminded that, whilst the receipt of every subscription and contribution is promptly acknowledged by the Assistant Secretary, they are now published annually. A complete List of Subscribers and Subscriptions for 1917 is published in the Annual Report.

Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre, the last work of the late Major-General Sir Charles Wilson, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., etc. In this work our former Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund has brought together for the first time all the evidence which the most exhaustive research enabled him to collect bearing on the subject of these Holy Sites; and probably no man living had at once so intimate a knowledge of all investigations in the modern Jerusalem and so complete an acquaintance with what has been written about the Sites from the time of Constantine onwards. The price of the work (demy 8vo) is 6s., by post 6s. 4d.

A reprint of *Names and Places in the Old and New Testaments*, by the late Mr. George Armstrong, is now on sale, price 6s. The book was out of print for some years.

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.

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.

The Museum at the office of the Fund, 2, Hinde Street, Manchester Square, W., is open to visitors every week-day from 10 o'clock till 4, 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 the Rev. Prof. Lewis B. Paton, Ph.D., Honorary General Secretary to the Fund, 50, Forest Street, Hartford, Conn.

The Committee have to acknowledge with thanks, among other journals and books, the following:—

The Near East: June 28, Strange Tenants, and Aug. 16, England and Palestine, both by Estelle Blyth; July 5, Syria and its Future.

The Expository Times.

Journal of Theological Studies, Jan.—April, 1918: Serbia and the Holy Land, by T. R. Georgevich.

Palestine: Numerous articles on Palestinian geography, economics, etc.

The Burlington Magazine, May, 1918: The Mosaic pavement of Shellal near Gaza, by Capt. Martin S. Briggs.

Bible Lands, July.

Studies.

The Athenaeum Subject Index.

The Ancient Trade Weights of the East, by W. Airy, M.Inst.C.E. (Privately printed.)

Transactions of the Royal Canadian Institute, Nov. 1917.

Art and Archaeology, June 1918.—The whole number is devoted to illustrated articles on Palestine: Archaeological Research in Palestine, by Prof. Clay; The Citadel of Jerusalem, by W. J. Moulton; The American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, by Prof. J. A. Montgomery; Painted Tombs of Palestine, by Prof. J. P. Peters; The Harvard Excavations at Samaria, by Prof. D. G. Lyon; The Coinage of Ancient Palestine, by E. T. Newell; Investigations near the Damascus Gate, by Prof. G. A. Barton, etc.

The Biblical World.

The Homiletic Review.

Journal of the American Oriental Society, XXXVIII, 1918: American Oriental Studies, by Prof. Torrey; The Tent of Meeting, by J. Morgenstein.

The American Journal of Archaeology, Jan.-March : A new Mithraic relief from St' in Syria, by A. L. Frothingham.

Hebrew Christian Alliance Quarterly, July, 1918.

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 desire to acknowledge with thanks the following contributions to the Library :—

From Lady Laura Hampton :—

Numbers of the *Quarterly Statement*.

From Charles Bailey, Esq. :—

Quarterly Statements for 1869-1902, thirty years being bound in half-calf ; 1871 to 1903, including some bound volumes.

From Mrs. Wassell :—

Quarterly Statements, belonging to the late H. A. Wassell, Esq., 1876-1881, complete, unbound.

From Joseph Offord, Esq. :—

École Pratique des Hautes Études: Section des Sciences Historiques et Philologiques, 1903: Clermont-Ganneau, "Où était l'Embouchure du Jourdain à l'Époque de Josué?" ; 1905, Joseph Halévy, "La Légende de la Reine de Saba" ; 1909-10, P. Guiéysse, "Glanures Égyptiennes."

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

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).

The Antonine Itinerary—an edition by Parthey and Pindar was published in 1847 at Berlin. An edition in Russian is also extant, but is therefore not available save to the few who know that language.

For list of authorized lecturers and their subjects, kindly write to the Secretary.

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.*