

THE  
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

The reduction of the small map makes satisfactory progress. It is expected that the outline will be completed in July, after which the hill work will be taken in hand. The memoirs are in Major Wilson's hands. No time will now be lost in printing them and preparing the illustrations.

An impression seems to have got abroad that with the completion of the field-work ceases the necessity for funds. The fact has been already pointed out in these *Notes* that it will cost as much to publish the materials in hand as to keep the expedition for two years in the field. The Survey cannot be called complete until the whole of these materials are published.

The Treasurer's Statement for the year 1878 is as follows:—

“The income of the Fund was less in 1878 than in 1877 by more than a thousand pounds. In this period of general depression every society shows a similar falling-off in support. A special cause for the decrease in our own case seems to be, however, a prevalent belief that the work is completed. The Survey of Western Palestine has, it must be remembered, to be published, and the cost of publication will probably be equivalent to the expense of maintaining an expedition in the field for two years. Again, while there is no exploring party in Palestine, no donations come in, and the Committee have to rely on the annual subscriptions. These continue pretty steady, and show little if any decrease.

“As regards the expenditure, there is an apparent increase in the management expenses, which is partly due to the fact that at the beginning of the year the sum of fifty pounds was owing to the account of the salary. The publication of *Tent Work* also caused a very large increase in the ‘parcels’ account. Printing and postage amounting to twenty per cent. of the whole is due almost entirely to the *Quarterly Statement*, and must be regarded as so much money returned to subscribers. The item of unpaid accounts, including a heavy charge on *Tent Work*, has been reduced since the beginning of the year by the sum of £532 9s. 8d. It is hoped that by the end of April the debt will be entirely wiped off.

“As regards the expenditure of the present year, we have, after payment of outstanding liabilities, most of which (March 25) are already paid, to provide for the publication of the memoirs, the large map, and the small map. In other words, the Committee have to take upon themselves the very serious responsibility of printing, engraving, and publishing the mass of materials which the work of the last seven years has placed in their hands.”

The special appeal made for the proposed Galilee Expedition was not continued because it was found that the expedition could not be sent out at the time originally proposed. The Committee have placed the sums subscribed in answer to their first call, amounting to £186 5s. 0d., on deposit account. It will be used for no other purpose.

About one hundred and eighty copies still remain of the new edition of *Tent Work in Palestine*. It is not likely that another library edition will be issued. Subscribers, therefore, who wish to possess this record of work and observation, should send in their names at once.

Work in Syria has again occupied the attention of the Royal Institute of British Architects, whose Council have presented their gold medal to the Count de Vogüé for his researches in the Hauran.

The fourth number of the Transactions of the German Palestine Exploration Association has just been issued. It completes the first volume. The contents of this number are a continuation of the Pilgrimage of Duke Frederick II. of Liegnitz and Brieg to the Holy Land; the description of the Temple by Philip de Aversa; a paper on Capernaum by Professor Schaff, of New York, which we hope to translate for the next number; a note on the Birthplace of the Prophet Nahum, and a chapter on David's Tours, by Herr Schick.

A work of research and interest on the "Life and Times of Abraham" (Samuel Bagster and Sons) has been published by the Rev. H. G. Tomkins. The author has gathered together all the information recently acquired from the tablets of Babylonia and the hieroglyphs of Egypt, and published in the Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, in the "Records of the Past," in our own *Quarterly Statements*, by M. Lenormant, Dr. Birch, Rev. Prof. Sayce, M. Chabas, and others. The aim of the writer has been to present faithfully the surroundings of Abraham, the people among whom he lived, their manners, customs, religion, and laws.

We may also call attention to a popular account of the Moabite Stone, called "Moab's Patriarchal Stone," which has been published by the Rev. James King, of Darlington, one of the authorised lecturers of the Society. The book, without pretending to the scholarship which distinguished Dr. Ginsburg's work on the same subject, gives all the information on the stone that can be desired in a popular volume. The history of the original discovery, the destruction, and restoration of the fragments, is a well-known and often-told story, which is here related with great clearness and in sufficient detail. A short treatise will be found in the work on the origin and development of alphabets.

We have received a second paper from Mrs. Finn on the Fellahheen of Palestine, which is published in the present number of the *Quarterly Statement*. Although Mrs. Finn has for the present ceased to hold meetings for the Society, her interest in the work still continues. These chapters on the habits and customs of the people are destined to form part of a forthcoming work on the same subject.

A model of Herod's Temple, executed by Mr. J. M. Tenz, has been presented by him to the Society. The modeller has adopted the traditional view of the position of the Temple, and has attempted to present a restoration of all the

chambers, vaults, gates, and corridors described by Josephus and Ezekiel. The model may be seen in the Society's room at the South Kensington Museum.

It is again suggested to subscribers that the safest and the most convenient manner of paying a subscription is by means of a bank. Many subscribers have adopted, this method recommended in the *Quarterly Statement* of January last. Among other advantages, this method removes the danger of loss or miscarriage, and saves the Society's office the labour and expense of acknowledgment by official receipt and letter.

We repeat what we said in the *Notes* of the *Quarterly Statement* for January, 1879, that the payment of subscriptions *early in the year* greatly strenghtens the hands of the Committee.

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

The income of the Fund from all sources, from December 31st, 1878, to March 11th, 1879, was £783 4s. 3d. The expenditure was as follows:—Reduction of debt and liabilities on *Tent Work*, £783 6s. 2d ; small amounts paid on exploration account, £19 15s. 2d. ; rent, lecture account, parcels, postage, salaries, and offices, £202 11s. 3d.

It has been asked whether, since the Survey is finished, the *Quarterly Statement* will be discontinued. The Survey, as stated above, will be actually completed when it is entirely published, and not before. But its completion does not mean the completion of the work of the Society, as reference to the original prospectus will show. And there is, more than ever, need of a periodical devoted to the special line of research which is the *raison d'être* of this *Quarterly Statement*. It will therefore be continued as long as the Society exists and there is work of the kind which it represents to be done and reported.

Several cases have been at various times discovered of postage stamps being lost on their way to the office. The only way to avoid such loss, unless subscriptions are paid through the bank, is to send money by P.O.O. or by cheque, *in every case payable to the order of Walter Besant, Esq., and crossed to Coutts and Co., or the Union Bank, Charing Cross Branch.*

The ninth thousand of "Our Work in Palestine" is now ready (price 3s. 6d.), and may be ordered of booksellers. This book carries the work down to the commencement of the Survey, but does not embrace M. Ganneau's discoveries nor the results of the Survey itself.

The following are at present Representatives and Lecturers of the Society, in addition to the local Hon. Secs. :—

Archdeaconry of Hereford: Rev. J. S. Stooke-Vaughan, Wellington Heath Vicarage, Ledbury.

City and neighbourhood of Manchester : Rev. W. F. Birch, St. Saviour's Rectory.

Lancashire : Rev. John Bone, St. Thomas's Vicarage, Lancaster.

London : Rev. Henry Geary, 16, Somerset Street, Portman Square ; and Mr. C. Stuart Lockhart (address at the office).

Norwich : Rev. W. F. Greeny.

Suffolk : Rev. F. C. Long, Stow-upland, Stowmarket.

Peterborough : Rev. A. J. Foster, Farnish Rectory, Wellingborough.

Worcester : Rev. F. W. Holland, Evesham (Member of General and Executive Committee, and one of the Hon. Secretaries to the Fund).

Diocese of Ripon : Rev. T. C. Henley, Kirkby Malham Vicarage.

North Wales : Rev. John Jones, Treborth, Bangor.

Yorkshire, Durham, and the North : Rev. James King, 13, Paradise Terrace, Darlington. Mr. King has recently returned from the Holy Land ; communications for lectures, &c., can be sent to the Office at Charing Cross.

SCOTLAND.—Rev. R. J. Craig, Dalgetty, Burntisland.

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While desiring to give every publicity to proposed identifications and other theories advanced by officers of the Fund and contributors to the pages of the *Quarterly Statement*, the Committee beg it to be distinctly understood that they leave such proposals to be discussed on their own merits, and that by publishing them in the *Quarterly Statement* the Committee do not sanction or adopt them.

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Annual subscribers are earnestly requested to forward their subscriptions for the current year when due, at their *earliest convenience*, and without waiting for application.

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The Committee are always glad to receive old numbers of the *Quarterly Statement*, especially those which have been advertised as out of print.

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Attention is called to the statement already advertised, that subscribers to the Fund are privileged by the publishers to receive both the "Literary Remains of the late Mr. C. F. Tyrwhitt Drake," and the "Underground Jerusalem" of Captain Warren, at reduced rates. The former book will be sent for ten shillings, the latter for sixteen shillings, postage paid. But letter asking for them must be sent to the office at 11 and 12, Charing Cross only.

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Cases for binding the *Quarterly Statement* are now ready, and can be had on application to Messrs. R. Bentley and Son, 8, New Burlington Street. They are in green or brown cloth, with the stamp of the Society, uniform in appearance with "Our Work in Palestine," and are sold at the price of eighteenpence.

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Lieut. Kitchener's Guinea Book of Biblical Photographs can be bought at Mr. Stanford's establishment, 55, Charing Cross. It contains twelve views, with a short account of each. They are mounted on tinted boards, and handsomely bound.