

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

NOTES AND NEWS.

DURING the winter months, when excavation becomes difficult or impossible at Jerusalem, Dr. Bliss received the sanction of the committee to undertake a journey to the land of Moab, including the examination of Medeba, Kerak, and other places of historical interest beyond the Dead Sea. Dr. Bliss had the special advantage of a letter of recommendation from his Excellency Hamdy Bey, the well-known Director of the Museum of Constantinople. He was received most cordially by the Governor of Kerak, and was afforded the fullest permission to measure and make plans of buildings, to copy inscriptions, &c. After a journey of very great interest he got back to Jerusalem on April 2nd, and resumed the work of excavation. The report of his journey, with illustrations, is published in the present number.

Among other discoveries made by Dr. Bliss in this region is that of a previously unknown Roman fort and a walled town with towers and gates, like the interesting town of Mashetta.

To the great regret of the Committee, Dr. Bliss was seized with illness soon after his return to Jerusalem, and has had to be removed to Beyrout for change. The latest account received from Dr. Post, under date June 13th, is that he was then still feeble and required "entire rest for a month or so." In consequence of this, the report of the excavations has been written by Mr. Dickie, who also will carry on the work until Dr. Bliss's return.

The discovery of an ancient gateway at the south-eastern corner of the wall which Dr. Bliss has been tracing is of very great interest, suggesting, as it does, important questions with reference to the extent of the city in this direction at different periods of its history.

Major-General Sir Charles Wilson has favoured us with the following valuable note on this subject :—

"It is too early to write with any degree of certainty on the age of the interesting wall and gateway which have been discovered by Dr. Bliss. That

wall certainly enclosed Siloam, and the following statements seem to throw light on the subject. Josephus distinctly says ('Wars,' V, 9, § 4) that Siloam was outside the walls. Antoninus (570 A.D.) writes: 'The fountain of Siloam is at the present day within the walls of the city, because the Empress Eudocia herself added these walls to the city.' We have thus two definite statements—one, by a contemporary writer, that Siloam was outside the walls at the time of the great siege; the other, by a Western pilgrim, that the fountain was brought within the walls by Eudocia, who was at Jerusalem between 438–454. Eudocia's object was probably to protect the Church of Siloam, which, if not built by the Empress, could only have been recently erected. Theodosius (530 A.D.) mentions that the pool of Siloam was within the walls in his day; and the restoration of the walls by Eudocia is alluded to by Evagrius in his 'Ecclesiastical History' (i, 22).

"The wall and gateway discovered by Dr. Bliss are exactly in the position in which we should expect to find the wall and gateway of Eudocia, and the character of the masonry seems to indicate that both have been largely built with stones from older buildings. Other details equally point to a date not earlier than the fifth century. The spade has, however, so often proved historical notices to be wrong, that we must wait for the result of the further excavations which Dr. Bliss has been instructed to make before theorising. Those excavations will, it is believed, settle the question whether the wall described by Josephus followed the line of that discovered by Dr. Bliss, or, as I think, kept to a higher level and crossed the Tyropœon Valley above the Pool of Siloam. In any case, the discoveries are of deep interest, and we must all hope that Dr. Bliss will soon be restored to health and be able to continue the great work upon which he is engaged."

Herr von Schick has sent an account of the little-known but very interesting Armenian Convent of the Olive Tree at Jerusalem, together with plan of its church, which are published in the present number.

He is still following closely the work going on in the Muristan, and has supplied some further notes respecting it. The southern wall of the great cistern under the new Greek building north of the Muristan turns out, not to be of rock, as had been supposed, but of masonry, which could hardly, in Herr von Schick's opinion, have supported the old wall of the city.

The Rev. Theodore E. Dowling reports that tourists at Jerusalem hotels are beset with sellers of Palestinian coins. Within the last few years Jews at Jaffa, Hebron, Nâblus, and Cairo, have reproduced the following coins, specimens of which are in my possession:—

1. Shekel (silver) of Simon Maccabæus, "Year 3." In 1883 I was shown by different persons in Jerusalem two false half-shekels, but I am unable to remember whether they were of "Year 1," or "2," or "3," or "4."
2. Helmeted with cheek-pieces (obv.) of Herod I (copper; Greek inscription).

This coin is re-issued, both thick and thin.

3. Several small silver coins of the Second Revolt under Simon Bar-cochab. Sold unblushingly in the Jewish Bazaars at Jerusalem as genuine.
4. Large copper coins (Palm-tree and Vine-leaf) of Simon Bar-cochab. Obverse and reverse of different coins are sometimes attached in these clumsily-designed forgeries. The original lettering is carelessly re-produced.
5. A plate full of the usual specimens of small Jewish copper coins was offered to me as a present at Nâblus, in July, 1893. One and all were false. They were brought from Cairo.

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer (of Jaffa) has suggested that a paragraph be added to put travellers in Palestine on their guard against other forged "Antiques," such as earthenware lamps, which are made wholesale at Nâblus, from ancient moulds, and modern imitations of them.

Caution is also needed in the purchase of large stone seals (generally black) bearing in Samaritan or Phœnician letters the inscription: "David, King, servant of Jehovah." Of these several exist. One of them was purchased by a late United States Consul in Jerusalem, and thought by him to be genuine.

Metal plates, with Phœnician, Hebrew, or Arabic inscriptions in ancient characters; little idols, cut out of hard limestone, are also offered for sale, but are generally false. It may happen that counterfeit "tear-bottles" are not as yet manufactured, but suspicions have been roused on inspecting many larger pieces of glass. In the Nazareth district Jews have been lately realising fancy prices for ancient glass sold in the United States of America.

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. Hours: 8 to 12, and 2 to 6. Maps of Palestine and Palestine Exploration Fund publications are kept for sale. Necessary information will be gladly given by the Rev. Theodore E. Dowling, *Hon. Sec.*

Owing to a variety of causes the Annual Jerusalem Association Lecture Course, as announced in the January number of the *Quarterly Statement*, was slightly altered. Nine Lectures were delivered. On April 9th Dr. Bliss (having just returned from Kerak) lectured on "Moab in March, 1895."

A few residents in Jerusalem have kindly interested themselves in the Loan Collection of "Antiques," in the room rented by the Jerusalem Association, opposite the Tower of David. Before the next tourist season it is hoped that this collection will be considerably enlarged.

Mons. Arséniew has presented to the Association specimens of Phœnician pottery.

Dr. Bliss loaned some stones from Herod's Palace, Jericho.

Mr. Herbert Clark's two glass cases contain seals (Phœnician, Greek, Roman, and one Hebrew seal from Silwân); Assyrian and Babylonian cylinders; Greek, Roman, and Hebrew coins; bronze spear arrow heads; stone chisels; tear bottles, and a mirror.

The Rev. Theodore E. Dowling's selection of Jewish and Palestinian coins fills a large glass case.

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer's flying fox is conspicuous.

Mr. C. A. Hornstein exhibits birds and ancient lamps.

Mr. David Jamal loans a black stone head, brought by him from one of the numerous tombs scattered round about Gadara.

Mr. G. R. Lees' photographs adorn the walls, and Dr. Wheeler's Torah was made use of in his Lectures on "The Jews of Jerusalem," and "Jewish Life in Palestine."

The Rev. J. E. Hanauer writes that he had been told by Jewish colonists at Kustineh that the Synagogue of R. Gam'liel the younger (a grandson of St. Paul's celebrated teacher) had recently been discovered at Yebna, and that, when itinerating in Philistia, he visited the place, which is an old underground vault on the southern slope of the *tell*, now used as a stable. It is being visited by many Jews.

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

"Études d'Archéologie Orientale," par Ch. Clermont-Ganneau. Tome premier—deuxième partie. From the Author.

"Dictionary of the Bible," 2nd ed., Vol. I, Parts 1 and 2. John Murray. From the Publisher.

With reference to Mr. Murray's generous gift of the second edition of "Smith's Dictionary of the Bible," in two volumes, containing letters A to J, the Rev. Canon Dalton, C.M.G., writes :—

In these valuable volumes a large proportion of the articles have been entirely re-written, by writers recognised as specialists in their respective departments, and on a much more extensive scale than before, inasmuch as they deal with subjects on which recent research and criticism have thrown the strongest light, and concerning which the opinions of the best Biblical scholars have undergone the most noted change since the Dictionary was first published 32 years ago. For instance, the articles on Assyria and Babylonia have been re-written by Mr. Pinches, of the Department of Assyrian Antiquities in the British Museum; those on Egypt by the eminent Egyptologist, M. Naville; and those on Natural History by Canon Tristram. The Geographical articles by Sir George Grove, which were written several years before the Palestine Exploration Fund began its work in the Holy Land, and justly considered one of the most valuable portions of the original edition, have been revised, at his request, by Sir Charles Wilson and by Major Conder. Sir Charles Wilson has also re-written the article on the topography of Jerusalem, which now occupies no less than 79 double-columned pages, in lieu of the former article by the late Professor Fergusson. He has also added separate maps of the Tribes, and of other countries, with fresh illustrations of the sites of places, constructed in large measure from the surveys and drawings of the Palestine Exploration Fund. Indeed few articles of any importance have been reprinted in these two volumes without material alterations. For example, the article on the

"Acts of the Apostles," re-written by the lamented Bishop Lightfoot, occupies 18 pages, compared with a page and a half in the former edition; that on the "Gospel of St. John," re-written by Archdeacon Watkins, of Durham, fills 25 pages, compared with three in the former edition; that on the "Epistle to the Galatians," re-written by Dr. Salmon, Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, comprises 14 pages, compared with a page and a half in the former edition; the "Epistle to the Hebrews," re-written by Dr. Westcott, the present Bishop of Durham, fills 14 pages, compared with five in the former edition; the article on "Deuteronomy," re-written by Professor Driver, occupies 22 pages, compared with five in the former edition; the article on the "Apocrypha," re-written by Professor Ryle, of Cambridge, fills 37 pages, compared with four in the former edition; to the article on the "Gospels," by the late Archbishop Thomson, a supplement by Professor Sanday, containing 26 pages, has been added. These instances, to which many others might be added, will serve to show the pains and labour bestowed on the re-issue of a work absolutely indispensable to all Biblical students. The new first volume exceeds the old by more than 550 pages.

The following have kindly consented to act as Honorary Local Secretaries:—

James Yates, Esq., Chief Librarian, Leeds.

The Rev. Charles Druitt, The Vicarage, Whitechurch, Charmouth, Dorset.

The Rev. C. C. Waller, B.A., Diocesan Theological College, Montreal;
and Douglas MacFarlane, Esq., 85, Churchill Ave, Westmount, Montreal;
in place of the Rev. Commander Roberts, who has returned to England.

Sir Walter Besant's summary of the work of the Fund from its commencement has been brought up to date by the author and published under the title, "Thirty Years' Work in the Holy Land." Applications for copies may be sent in to Mr. Armstrong.

Mr. George Armstrong's Raised Map of Palestine is on view at the office of the Fund. A circular giving full particulars about it will be sent on application to the Secretary.

Supporters of the Fund will be gratified to learn that this valuable work has met with great appreciation in nearly every quarter of the globe, and from many learned societies. Copies have been ordered and supplied for the Royal Geographical Society; the Science and Art Museum and Trinity College, Dublin; the Free Kirk College, Glasgow; Queen's College, Cambridge; Mansfield College, Oxford; and for subscribers in Russia, the Netherlands, the United States of America, Australia, Japan, and China, besides Manchester, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and other cities of our own country.

The following are some of the opinions which have been expressed by competent authorities respecting the value of this Map:—

"A Raised Map of Palestine must prove of the greatest interest to all who have visited or intend to visit the country, affording, as it does a picture *au vol*

d'oiseau of all the physical features. Mr. Armstrong's interesting work will faithfully present to those who have had the advantage of touring in Palestine the old familiar routes they have traversed, and will give to those who have yet to enjoy such a journey a clear idea of the sort of country they may expect to see. . . . The educational use to which the map will be put will be very considerable."—*The Times*.

"There are the seas, the lakes, the mountains, and valleys, all so perfect and distinct that one can travel over the ground and visit the cities and towns. With the Bible in hand the holy sites can be inspected, the historical events of the narration can be followed, the movements of the various tribes can be traced, the operations of war can be grasped and easily understood. With this Raised Map before him a Moltke could sit and plan a campaign as if it were a chess problem."—*Daily News*.

"By the aid of such a Raised Map the untravelled student may picture the scenery of Palestine, under the allusions to its topography, and see where the roads of the country must run; he can follow the tracks of rival armies upon its battle-fields and understand better the conditions attaching to rival sites."—*Manchester Guardian*.

"It is certainly a most interesting and valuable Map, and in no other way, short of a personal visit, could one obtain so correct an idea of the contour of the Holy Land."—*Cambridge Tribune*, U.S.A.

"The Relief Map of Palestine is the most accurate that has yet been published of that country. It is based on the surveys made by Major Conder and Colonel Sir H. Kitchener for the Palestine Exploration Fund, and has been most carefully constructed by Mr. George Armstrong, who was himself employed on the survey. The relief enables the student to grasp at once the peculiar geographical and topographical features of the Holy Land and to understand the influence of those features on the history of the country and on the various campaigns from the conquest by Joshua to the expedition of Napoleon."—Sir C. W. WILSON, Major-General, R.E.

"Mr. Armstrong's Raised Map of Palestine is the only correct representation of the natural features of the country that has been published. It is scientifically accurate, and gives a better idea of the country than any flat map. It will be of great value to schools and to all scholars."—C. R. CONDER, Major, R.E.

"I wish another copy of your Raised Map. I am greatly pleased with it, I do not think I would like to teach the Old Testament without it."—Professor GEORGE ADAM SMITH, Free Church College, Glasgow.

"It came through in excellent order and has been pronounced the best thing of the kind that we have ever seen."—The Very Rev. Dean HOFFMAN, The General Theological Seminary, New York.

"All the professors and students expressed the most complete satisfaction and admired the correctness and fine execution which more than answered their expectation. They anticipate great practical and scientific usefulness."—HAY. M. LE BACHELET, Biblioth. St. Heliers, Jersey.

"I need not say that I am well pleased with the Map, and I must congratulate you upon the patience and skill which you have displayed in constructing it."—CHARLES BAILEY, Congregational Church School, Manchester.

"The Map arrived safely. I am very much pleased with the Raised Map and its colouring; you seem to have taken great pains with it. I hope Bible

Students and Sunday School Teachers will come and study it."—W. H. RINDER, Philosophical Society, Leeds.

"I had the case opened and found the Map quite safe; it is a splendid piece of work and has given great satisfaction to the Committee."—C. GOODYEAR, Secretary and Librarian, Lancashire College.

"You have conferred an invaluable boon on all Scripture Students by your issue of the Raised Map. I shall not rest till I have one for my School."—The Very Rev. S. W. ALLEN, Shrewsbury.

"The Map is a beautiful piece of work and equally valuable to the historian, the geographer, and the geologist."—Captain F. W. HUTTON, Curator, Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand.

"The Map arrived all safe . . . and has given great satisfaction to everyone who has seen it."—The Rev. DOUGLAS FERRIER, Free Church Manse, Bothwell, N.B.

"The Map has come quite perfect and is much admired. You have erected a monument for yourself that will long endure."—Rev. THOMAS M. B. PATTERSON, Hamilton, N.B.

Subscribers to the PALESTINE PILGRIMS' TEXT SOCIETY who have not sent in their application for cases for binding the translations issued by the Society, are reminded that these are now ready, and that the whole issues—Nos. 1 to 26 (up to date)—have been arranged in chronological order, so as to make 10 volumes of equal size.

Index to the *Quarterly Statement*.—A new edition of the Index to the *Quarterly Statements* has been compiled. It embraces the years 1869 (the first issue of the journal) to the end of 1892. Contents:—Names of the Authors and of the Papers contributed by them; List of the Illustrations; and General Index. This Index will be found extremely useful. Price to subscribers to the Fund, in paper cover, 1s. 6d., in cloth, 2s. 6d., post free; non-subscribers, 2s. and 3s.

The museum of the Fund, at 24, Hanover Square, is now open to subscribers between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., every week-day except Saturdays, when it closes at 2 p.m.

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. See list of Books, July *Quarterly Statement*, 1893.

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 offices of the Fund, where they may be seen by subscribers.

The first volume of the "Survey of Eastern Palestine," by Major Conder, is accompanied by a map of the portion of country surveyed, special plans, and upwards of 350 drawings of ruins, tombs, dolmens, stone circles, inscrip-

tions, &c. Subscribers to the "Survey of Western Palestine" are privileged to have the volumes for seven guineas. The price will be raised, after 250 names are received, to twelve guineas. The Committee are pledged never to let any copies be subscribed for under the sum of seven guineas. A. P. Watt and Son, Hastings House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., are the Sole Agents. The attention of intending subscribers is directed to the announcement in the last page of this number.

Mr. H. Chichester Hart's "Fauna and Flora of Sinai, Petra, and the Wâdy Arabah," which forms the second volume, can be had separately.

M. Clermont-Ganneau's work, "Archæological Researches in Palestine," will form the third volume. The first portion of it is already translated and in the press.

The maps and books now contained in the Society's publications comprise an amount of information on Palestine, and on the researches conducted in the country, which can be found in no other publications. It must never be forgotten that no single traveller, however well equipped by previous knowledge, can compete with a scientific body of explorers, instructed in the periods required, and provided with all the instruments necessary for carrying out their work. See list of Publications.

In the year 1880 M. Clermont-Ganneau published, in 19 parts, the first portion of a volume of "Oriental Archæological Studies," and is now about to complete the volume by the issue of the remaining parts. The prospectus of this valuable work will be found in our advertisement pages.

Branch Associations of the Bible Society, all Sunday School Unions 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 income of the Society, from March 25th to June 21st, 1895, was—from annual subscriptions and donations, including Local Societies, £224 14s. 6d.; from all sources—£419 14s. 2d. The expenditure during the same period was £517. On June 21st the balance in the Bank was £356 4s. 2d.

Subscribers are requested to note that the following cases for binding, casts, and slides can be had by application to the Assistant Secretary at the Office of the Fund:—

Cases for binding Herr Schumacher's "Jaulân," 1s. each.

Cases for binding the *Quarterly Statement*, in green or chocolate, 1s. each.

Cases for binding "Abila," "Pella," and "Ajlûn" in one volume, 1s. each.

Casts of the Tablet, with Cuneiform Inscription, found at Tell el Hesry, at a depth of 35 feet, in May, 1892, by Dr. Bliss, Explorer to the Fund.

It belongs to the general diplomatic correspondence carried on between Amenhotep III and IV and their agents in various Palestinian towns. Price 2s. 6d. each.

Casts of the Ancient Hebrew Weight brought by Dr. Chaplin from Samaria, price 2s. 6d. each.

Casts of an Inscribed Weight or Bead from Palestine, forwarded by Professor Wright, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., price 1s. each.

Lantern slides of the Raised Map, the Sidon Sarcophagi, and of the Bible places mentioned in the catalogue of photos and special list of slides.

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

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.

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

The authorised lecturers for the Society are—

The Rev. Thomas Harrison, F.R.G.S., Hillside, Benenden, Staplehurst, 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) *Archaeological Illustrations of the Bible.* (Specially adapted for Sunday School Teachers).

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

The Rev. J. R. Macpherson, B.D., Kinnaird Manse, Inchtute, N.B. His subjects are as follows:—

- (1) *Excavations in Jerusalem, 1868-70, 1894-5.*
- (2) *Lachish, a Mound of Buried Cities; with Comparative Illustrations from some Egyptian Tells.*
- (3) *Recent Discoveries in Palestine—Lachish and Jerusalem.*
- (4) *Exploration in Judea.*
- (5) *Galilee and Samaria.*

- (6) *Palestine in the Footsteps of our Lord.*
- (7) *Mount Sinai and the Desert of the Wanderings.*
- (8) *Palestine—its People, its Customs, and its Ruins.* (Lecture for Children.)

All illustrated with specially prepared lime-light lantern views.

The Rev. James Smith, B.D., St. George's-in-the-West Parish, Aberdeen.

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. 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.*

The Rev. Charles Harris, M.A., F.R.G.S., St. Lawrence, Ramsgate. (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 1894.*
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.*

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 Building of Jerusalem.*
- (2) *The Overthrow of Jerusalem.*
- (3) *The Progress of the Palestine Exploration.*

Application for Lectures may be either addressed to the Secretary, 24, Hanover Square, W., or sent to the address of the Lecturers.