

THE
PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Firman promised has not yet been signed, and early in June Captain Conder brought home his party, and the materials which he has accumulated during the fourteen months' campaign. He estimates that it will take him five months of steady work to get these materials in order for publication.

They consist of the Map of 500 square miles, the field books, note-books, rough drawings, photographs, special plans, descriptions, and observations. All these things were laid before the General Committee at their meeting on June 27th.

The Map is drawn on the same scale as the great Map of Western Palestine, namely, one inch to the mile, and the "Memoirs" are even more full and detailed than those made for the other side. It is in contemplation to proceed at once with the reduction and engraving of the work for the small Map.

Captain Conder was invited to accompany the Princes on their tour through the Holy Land. They were enabled to visit the Mosque of Hebron, of which Captain Conder drew a plan. The Princes visited the East of the Jordan, and travelled through the whole length of the country to Beyrout. Captain Conder is engaged upon a Report of this journey for the Prince of Wales.

As regards the future work, it must be understood that the exploration of Eastern Palestine is not abandoned, but only postponed. The maintenance of the party proved, as was anticipated, a very severe strain on the resources of the Society, and the Committee earnestly entreat their supporters to continue their subscriptions, in order that funds may be accumulated. In the present excited state of the East, it is as well that the party should be withdrawn.

Political significance, which it is desirable to avoid, might be attached to the presence of two English officers.

The second volume of "Memoirs" has been placed in the hands of the subscribers. The proofs of the third volume are with Captain Conder, and the illustrations are nearly ready: this volume will be ready in the autumn. It will be closely followed by Canon Tristram's work.

There are a few copies left, which the Committee are very desirous of placing in public libraries. They would be very much obliged if readers of the *Quarterly Statement* would send them names of libraries. A circular has been prepared giving full particulars of the work and its cost, which can be forwarded to any one on application.

Mr. Saunders's beautiful sections of the country, viz.: one from north to south, and four from east to west, have been laid down on two sheets, so that they can be had separately if desired. They are also laid down on his "Water-Basin" Map. The price of the sheets is 1s. 6d. each. The Jerusalem sheet of the great Map can also be had separately, at half-a-crown.

The income of the Society from all sources, from March to June, 1882, was £554 19s. 7d. The amount in the Banks on June 27th, the day of the meeting of General Committee, was £224 16s. 9d.

It is suggested to subscribers that the safest and most convenient manner of paying subscriptions is through a Bank. Many subscribers have adopted this method, which removes the danger of loss or miscarriage, and renders unnecessary the acknowledgment by official receipt and letter.

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.

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 wish it to be distinctly understood that by publishing them in the *Quarterly Statement* they neither sanction nor adopt them.
