

MEETING IN MANCHESTER.

ON the evening of June 17th, 1881, a meeting was held in the large room of the Association Hall, Peter Street, in this city, in aid of the Palestine Exploration Fund. The chair was occupied by Mr. Oliver Heywood, and amongst those present on the platform were Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, the Venerable Archdeacon Anson, the Venerable Archdeacon Birch, the Rev. Canon Stowell, Mr. H. B. Jackson, and the Rev. W. F. Birch (the Hon. Secretary). A letter of apology having been read from Professor Greenwood (Principal of Owens College), the Rev. W. F. Birch read a statement of the amount subscribed to the fund in Manchester. In 1875 it was resolved to make an effort to raise £500 in Manchester for the fund, and that sum was raised within a year. In the following year £100 1s. 7d. was subscribed; in 1877, £101; in 1878, £101 3s. 6d.; in 1879 the amount fell to £76 6s. 6d.; in 1880 to £66 12s. 6d. That money had been subscribed by not more than 200 people in Manchester. There were other gentlemen who sent their subscriptions directly to London, but it was felt that in a great place like Manchester, a much larger sum than £66 ought to be returned for the important object with which the fund was started.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the Society had a right to hope and expect that larger contributions will come from this district than heretofore. It was with a sense of disappointment that he listened to the statement of the Hon. Secretary that during five successive years, the subscriptions, not large to begin with, had been steadily diminishing, while the work which was being done had been steadily progressing. It was impossible to carry out great undertakings without considerable funds, and those who were invited to give considerable contributions not unnaturally liked to know what was being done and had been done. Until the Society was established in 1865, there had been no really systematic investigation and research of Jerusalem and the Holy Land; but since then, under great difficulties, and with great zeal and perseverance, systematic investigation had been going on. We knew infinitely more of Palestine now than we did 15 years ago, both of the topography and the geography of Jerusalem buried 60 feet below its rubbish, and of the character of the country and of its natural history. It was under those circumstances that the Society asked for help. It was between 15 and 16 years since Sir Charles Wilson first began his survey, which was followed within two or three years afterwards by the interesting investigations which Lieutenant-Colonel Warren himself began and perseveringly carried on for upwards of three years, in and under Jerusalem; and since that time Lieutenant Conder, Lieutenant Kitchener, Mr. C. F. Tyrwhitt Drake, and others had been pursuing the work in different directions.

Lieutenant-Colonel WARREN then gave an interesting sketch of the results of the work carried on under the auspices of the Palestine

Exploration Fund, in which he was assisted by several maps and diagrams. It was at first proposed that the Survey of Eastern Palestine should be undertaken by our American cousins, but after a reconnaissance of the eastern side had been made that plan fell through, and the work now devolved upon the Exploration Fund, aided by a number of Americans.

On the motion of the Venerable the Archdeacon of Manchester, seconded by Mr. H. B. Jackson, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Lieutenant-Colonel Warren for his address, and it was resolved to raise £100 a year for five years, in Manchester, towards the fund for the Survey of the Eastern portion of Palestine.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding brought the meeting to a close.

MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

A CROWDED meeting was held on the evening of June 18th, 1881. The Lord Bishop was in the chair. Lieutenant-Colonel Warren addressed the meeting in support of an explanation of the work of the Society. It was resolved to establish a local branch in Liverpool, and to raise £100 a year for the support of the Society. The Venerable Archdeacon Bardsley accepted the post of Honorary Secretary.

Meetings have also been held at Romsey, March 28th, and Southampton, March 29th, addressed by the Rev. Henry Geary and Colonel Warren at Abergavenny, May 3rd ; Cardiff, May 4th ; Newport, May 5th, and Ledbury, May 6th, addressed by the Rev. James King.
