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Proceedings.



June.

THE seventeenth meeting of the Society was held at Haverford College, June 6 and 7, 1888.

The Society was called to order at 3 P.M. by President Gardiner. By vote Prof. J. R. Harris was made Secretary for the meeting.

The report of the Treasurer was presented, and Dr. Goodwin and Prof. Harris appointed a committee to audit it.

Prof. Gottheil and Messrs. Nott and Rice were appointed a committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

Prof. Harris read a paper on "The Recently Published Arabic Version of the Harmony of Tatian." It was fully discussed.

The following report was made by the auditing committee:—

The auditing committee have examined the Treasurer's account, and, with the exception of the imperfect vouchers referred to in the same, find it correct, and that the balance is duly deposited in the bank in trust for the Society.

(Signed) J. R. HARRIS,
D. R. GOODWIN.

The Society then took a recess until 8 o'clock, being invited to dine with the Faculty of the College and invited guests at 7.

The Society re-assembled at 8 o'clock.

Dr. Peters made a statement with reference to the plans and prospects of the projected Babylonian Expedition.

Dr. Goodwin read a note on 1 Cor. xv. 51 f.

The following amendment to the Constitution was reported from the Council and adopted by the Society: That Art. III. be amended by adding, "and in addition to these any member who has been President of the Society shall be *ex officio* a member of the Council."

The following persons were recommended by the Council and elected members : —

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|---------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. A. D. Hail, | Osaka, Japan. |
| Prof. R. W. Rogers, | Haverford Coll., Penn. |
| Prof. A. C. Zenos, | Hartford, Conn. |
| Rev. J. W. Haley, | Lowell, Mass. |

The nominating committee reported, recommending the election of the following officers for the ensuing year : —

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|--------------------------|---|
| Prof. Frederic Gardiner, | <i>President.</i> |
| Prof. E. C. Bissell, | <i>Vice-President.</i> |
| Prof. H. G. Mitchell, | <i>Secretary.</i> |
| Prof. W. J. Beecher, | <i>Treasurer.</i> |
| Prof. G. E. Day, | } <i>Associates</i> <i>in</i> <i>Council.</i> |
| Prof. Francis Brown, | |
| Prof. I. H. Hall, | |
| Rev. W. H. Ward, | |
| Prof. E. Y. Hincks, | |

The report was adopted.

Prof. Peters read a note on Lev. i. and the animals there mentioned as suitable for sacrifice, with the bearing of this on the question of the date of the Priests' Code.

Dr. Hall gave an account of the new Syriac grammar of Nestle.

He also read a note on the publications of the Oroomiah Mission. The Society then took a recess until Thursday morning.

The Society met at 9.30 A.M.

It was voted that the thanks of the Society be tendered the President and Faculty of Haverford College for their generous entertainment of the members during the meeting.

A note by Prof. Ferguson on the use of the Hebrew verb **שפס** was read by Prof. Bissell.

Rev. Mr. Nott read a paper on Ἐγγεραὶ in 1 Cor. xv.

Dr. Hall read a paper on "A Syriac (Nestorian) Lectionary of the Pauline Epistles."

The reading of the papers of Drs. Terry and Rich was postponed until the next meeting, in the hope that the authors might then present them in person.

Prof. Beecher read a series of notes on 2 Sam. vii. 19, Ps. xlv. 7, and Ps. lxxii. 1, 9, 17.

Dr. Hall read a note on the Nestorian burial service, and called

attention to an article by Abbé Martin, in the *Journal Asiatique* for February-March, 1888, on "The Hexameron of Jacob of Edessa."

Prof. Harris made some remarks on the Athos Codex of Hermas, and a previous paper concerning Hermas in Arcadia.

Prof. Gardiner read a note on "The Later History of Barnabas," by Rev. Mr. Harriman; also a note by himself on Heb. x. 20.

The Society then adjourned.

The following members were present at one or more of the sessions: Messrs. Beecher, Bissell, Frederic Gardiner, Gustav Gottheil, R. J. H. Gottheil, Hall, Harris, Lovejoy, Nott, Peters, Rice, Rogers, and Wolf,

WILLIS J. BEECHER,
Acting Secretary.

December.

The eighteenth meeting of the Society was held at the Union Theological Seminary, in New York, December 27 and 28, 1888.

The meeting was called to order by President Gardiner at 3 P.M. on Thursday, the 27th.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary, for the Committee of Arrangements, reported a programme differing from the one usually followed in providing that a part of the notes presented be interspersed with the papers of the first and third sessions. This plan was adopted. It was also decided that there should be a recess from 6 to 8 P.M., between the first two sessions, and that the third session should begin at 10 A.M. on Friday.

The first paper was by Dr. Cramer on "The Prologue to John's Gospel." After reviewing the structure of the passage he described the arrangement proposed by Ritschl and that defended by Wagenmann, finally suggesting a third, consisting of seven strophes, the first six antiphonal, the last a chorus for the congregation. The paper was discussed by Drs. Burnham, Gardiner, Beecher, Ormiston, and Briggs.

The President next read a letter from Prof. Peters, dated Constantinople, November 12, containing interesting news of the Babylonian Expedition. Some of the members had later news from other sources, all of a favorable character.

Dr. Ward was called upon and presented a note on "The Number Seven as connected with the Sacred Tree of the Babylonians." He showed that the connection was imaginary.

The second paper on "The Historical Situation in Joel and Obadiah" was read by Prof. Beecher. Remarks were made upon it, and questions asked concerning the subject, by Drs. Ormiston, Burnham, and Gardiner.

The impossibility of discussing so large a subject on so short notice elicited the suggestion that such papers be submitted to one or more of the members in advance of the meetings.

Dr. Clarke read a note on John iii. 31-36, after which the Society took a recess.

At the opening of the second session, at 8 P.M., the Secretary reported from the Council that the next meeting would be held at New Haven, and the President and Secretary, with Profs. Day and W. R. Harper, were made a Committee of Arrangements.

The President then called attention to the necessity of devising some means of arousing a more general interest in its object among the members of the Society, and thus increasing the number and quality of papers presented. An extended discussion followed in which Messrs. Beecher, Briggs, Harper, Bissell, Gardiner, Riggs, and Mitchell took part. The result was a clear understanding of the needs of the Society, and an evident determination to meet them.

Prof. Gardiner read from a volume of papers of the Classical School at Athens several inscriptions which he thought worth study.

Dr. Hall spoke of Nestle's Syriac grammar in English.

Prof. Mitchell read a note on **מִקְרָא קִרְיָהּ**.

Prof. Gardiner referred to the frequency of quotations from the Psalms in the Epistle to the Hebrews and an explanation of this fact, based on the supposition that Barnabas, a Levite, was the author of the latter book, which was suggested by one of his pupils.

Prof. Mitchell read notes on Josh. xv. 10, Eze. xi. 21, and Eze. xxxi. 14.

The session closed with some remarks by Prof. Gardiner on the relations of the Greeks with the Hebrews, especially in Egypt.

At the third session the Council, through the Secretary, recommended the following persons to membership:—

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| Rev. B. W. Bacon, | Oswego, N.Y. |
| Rev. N. S. Folsom, | Boston, Mass. |
| Prof. A. L. Long, | Constantinople, Turkey. |
| Rev. G. S. Goodspeed, | New Haven, Conn. |
| Rev. F. K. Sanders, | New Haven, Conn. |
| Rev. G. W. Davis, | New Haven, Conn. |
| Mr. J. G. Batterson, | Hartford, Conn. |
| Prof. Nathaniel Schmidt, | Hamilton, N.Y. |

They were all elected.

The Secretary announced the death of Prof. Hagey and submitted the following minute : —

The members of the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis wish to record the feeling of profound regret with which they have received news of the death of Prof. J. C. Hagey, D.D., of the School of Theology of Grant Memorial University. Though he had been but a short time of our number, he had already shown an earnest interest in the aims of the Society, and himself contributed to their attainment by the preparation, during his last illness, of a careful paper. We can, therefore, and do, sympathize with the sorrow of the more intimate friends and the family of Prof. Hagey, and we take this means of expressing to them our sense of their bereavement.

The Secretary also announced the death of President Hitchcock, and asked for the appointment of a committee to draft an appropriate minute. Drs. Ormiston and Briggs were selected.

Prof. Mitchell next read a paper on "The Book of Amos," which was discussed by Profs. Beecher, Burnham, and Bissell.

Prof. Gardiner presented a note on "The Reasons for the Selection of Animals for Sacrifice among the Hebrews," which was discussed by Drs. Bissell, Beecher, Douglas, and Burnham.

The committee appointed to prepare a minute concerning the death of President Hitchcock, reported as follows : —

The Society has learned with sincere and profound sorrow of the removal by death, on the 16th of June, 1887, of Rev. Roswell Dwight Hitchcock D.D., LL.D., President of Union Theological Seminary, New York. Dr. Hitchcock stood high in the esteem of the members of this Society, as indeed of all who knew him. He was an erudite scholar, an able theologian, an accomplished teacher, an efficient preacher, and a staunch and eloquent supporter of all patriotic and social reforms. He has left a void which will not soon be filled. We miss and mourn him, and sympathize deeply and tenderly with his bereaved family and with the institution of which he was a distinguished ornament. Your committee suggest that this minute be engrossed in the records of the Society and a copy thereof be sent to the family.

(Signed) W. ORMISTON,
C. A. BRIGGS.

The report was adopted.

Prof. Mitchell read a brief paper on Deut. i-iv.

The remaining papers, with the exception of one already partially presented by Prof. Peters, which was read in its completed form by the Secretary, were referred to the Council.

Dr. Ward made some interesting remarks on case cylinders after Prof. Peters' note on the question, "Did the Hebrews use Clay Tablets?"

Prof. Mitchell presented some specimen pages of a concordance of the Hebrew particles which, after some discussion, were referred to the Council.

After the reading of the minutes the Society adjourned.

There were present at one or more of the sessions: Messrs. Beecher, F. Brown, C. R. Brown, Briggs, Buell, Burnham, Burton, Chambers, Clarke, Cramer, Douglas, Frederic Gardiner, Gustav Gottheil, W. R. Harper, Hartranft, Lovejoy, Mitchell, Ormiston, Paine, J. S. Riggs, Stevens, Ward, and Zenos.

H. G. MITCHELL,
Secretary.

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 “ H. G. MITCHELL, PH.D., *Secretary*.
 “ W. J. BEECHER, D.D., *Treasurer*.
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 “ G. E. DAY, D.D.,
 “ FRANCIS BROWN, D.D.,
 “ I. H. HALL, PH.D., L.H.D.,
 REV. W. H. WARD, D.D. LL.D.,
 PROF. E. Y. HINCKS, D.D.,
- } *Associates*
 } *in*
 } *Council*.
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The Members are requested to give the Secretary notice of changes in their addresses.

- | | |
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* Died September 28, 1888.

† Died June 16, 1887.

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