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NINTH YEAR — 1890 — PART I.

A STUDY IN THE FIRST GOSPEL.*

BY PROF. FREDERIC GARDINER.

THE original language of the first Gospel has long been more or less in question. The testimony of early antiquity, which is quite full, is unanimous in favor of a Hebrew (*i.e.* Aramaic) original; yet there are some special reasons tending to impair the value of that testimony. On the other hand, all the early quotations are from the Greek, except some made by St. Jerome for the express purpose of pointing out the differences between the Aramaic and the Greek. With the exception of St. Jerome, none of the earlier writers appear to have actually seen the Aramaic Gospel, and St. Jerome himself, while he describes the copy "used by the Nazarenes," which he had been allowed to examine and to translate, and while he frequently speaks positively of a Hebrew original, yet elsewhere says that this is uncertain.¹ It seems not impossible that both he and his predecessors,

* Read in June 1889.

¹ *De viris illustr.* 3. Matthaeus, qui et Levi, ex publicano Apostolus, primus in Judaea propter eos qui ex circumcisione crediderant, Evangelium Christi Hebraicis literis verbisque composuit, quod quis postea in Graecum transtulerit, non satis certum est. Porro ipsum Hebraicum habetur usque hodie in Caesariensi bibliotheca, quam Pamphilus martyr studiosissime confecit. Mihi quoque a Nazaraeis qui in Beroea urbe Syriae hoc volumine utuntur, describendi facultas fuit. He then goes on to describe some of the differences from the Greek, particularly that *all* its quotations were taken from the Hebrew, and not from the LXX.

PROCEEDINGS.

JUNE 1889.

THE nineteenth meeting of the Society was held at the Yale Theological School in New Haven, June 12 and 13, 1889.

The first session opened at 11 A. M. on Wednesday the 12th, with the President, Prof. F. Gardiner in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee of Arrangements reported the following programme :

Wednesday, 11 A.M. to 1 P.M., Papers and notes ;

1 P.M. to 3 P.M., Recess ;

3 P.M. to 6 P.M., Business ;

Thursday, 9 A.M. to 1 P.M., Papers and notes.

Notice was given that luncheon would be served in the room where the meeting was held, and that in the evening the members of the Society would be received by President Dwight. The report was adopted, and a vote of thanks tendered President Dwight for his invitation.

The first paper, on "Matthew's Gospel," was read by Prof. F. Gardiner, and discussed by Prof. Schaff, who was requested to put his remarks on the relation of the $\Delta\text{I}\Delta\text{A}\text{X}\text{H}$ to this Gospel into the shape of a note for the *Journal*. Further remarks were made by Drs. Harman, F. Brown, Andrews, and Bissell.

Prof. Bissell criticised a number of passages in the translation of Genesis by Kautzsch and Socin, on which he had intended to write a note. Mr. Bacon added that Prof. Kuenen had made some similar criticisms in a private letter.

Prof. Mitchell read a note on Wickes's "Prose Accents."

Prof. Zenos read one on a new harmony of the gospels, called "Gospel Difficulties," by J. J. Halcombe, which was discussed by Drs. Andrews, Schaff, Harman, and F. Gardiner.

Prof. F. Brown read a note on the Date of Isaiah xii. It was discussed by Messrs Bissell, Cobb, and Harman.

A recess of two hours was then taken.

When the Society re-assembled at 3 o'clock, the Secretary reported from the Council, the following list of names for membership: —

Rev. T. C. Pease,	Malden, Mass.
Rev. A. M. Wilson, Ph.D.,	New Haven, Conn.
Rev. G. S. Duncan, M.A.,	Mooredale, Penn.
Prof. T. G. Darling, D.D.,	Auburn, N. Y.

The persons thus nominated were elected members of the Society.

It was voted that the President appoint a committee of three persons to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Messrs. W. R. Harper, C. R. Brown, and Gould were named; but since the first two could not serve, Messrs Dickerman and Micou were put into their places.

Prof. F. Gardiner made a statement with reference to the changes in the organization of the Society which were thought desirable. An informal discussion followed, which was interrupted by the report of the Treasurer, which was referred to an auditing committee consisting of Drs. Harman and Beckwith.

The proposed amendments to the constitution were then read, but the discussion of them was cut short by a motion to refer the whole subject to a committee of five, who should report at the next session, which was carried.

Prof. F. Brown then read the second paper of the meeting, on "The Measurements of Hebrew Poetry as an Aid to Literary Analysis." At the close of this paper, the auditing committee reported as follows:

We the undersigned, a committee appointed to examine the accounts of Prof. Willis J. Beecher, Treasurer of the Society, hereby certify that we have performed the duty assigned us, and find his report to be correct.

(Signed)

H. M. HARMAN.

J. T. BECKWITH.

The report of the Treasurer was then adopted. (See below, p. vii.)

Then followed the discussion of Prof. Brown's paper, in which part was taken by Messrs. Bissell, Beecher, Harman, Andrews, Bacon, Zenos, and Harper; also by Mr. Weyler, a visitor, who asked permission to speak. At the close of the discussion, Prof. Brown replied to some of the criticisms.

Prof. Harman next read a paper on "The Character and Value of the Coptic Versions of the New Testament." Before the close of this second session, the President nominated the Committee on Changes in the Constitution, viz. Profs. F. Brown and Day, Mr. Cobb, and Prof. Beecher. On motion, the President himself was made chairman of the committee.

The third session commenced at 9 o'clock A.M.

The report of the Committee on Changes in the Constitution was read by Prof. F. Brown.

On motion, the Society approved the changes made in general, and proceeded to examine them in detail. Several amendments to the report were offered and adopted, and finally the report as a whole was likewise adopted. (See below, p. xvi.) The following resolution was also passed :

Resolved : That the Council be requested to have the amendments and the action taken thereon put into complete form, printed, and sent to all the members before the next regular meeting.

The Committee on Nominations reported the following list of officers : —

Prof. Frederic Gardiner,	<i>President.</i>	
Prof. Francis Brown,	<i>Vice President.</i>	
Prof. Charles Rufus Brown,	<i>Recording Secretary.</i>	
Prof. W. J. Beecher,	<i>Treasurer.</i>	
Prof. D. R. Goodwin, (<i>ex-off.</i>)	} Associates in Council.	
Prof. G. E. Day,		
Prof. W. H. Ward,		
Prof. E. Y. Hincks,		
Prof. D. G. Lyon,		
Rev. P. A. Nordell,		

The report was adopted, and the persons nominated were elected.

A recess of ten minutes was taken to allow the Council to decide upon a place for the next meeting.

The session was then resumed, and Dr. Andrews read a paper on "Some Intrinsic Proofs of the Divine Origin of the Mosaic Ritual." The Secretary reported for the Council that the next meeting would be held in Boston during the holidays. The discussion of Dr. Andrews's paper followed. Drs. Beecher, Bissell, and Dickerman took part in it.

A fifth paper was read by Mr. Gould, on "The Literary Character of the Fourth Gospel," and it was discussed by Drs. Zenos, F. Gardiner, and Andrews.

Prof. Mitchell then presented a paper on various "Hebrew Particles," a continuation of the concordance part of which was published in the last *Journal*.

The Society then adjourned. There were present at one or more sessions of the Society: Messrs. Andrews, Bacon, Beckwith, Beecher, Bissell, C. R. Brown, F. Brown, Cobb, Day, Dickerman, Duncan, Dwight, Ferguson, F. Gardiner, Goodspeed, Gould, Hall, Harman, Harper, Harwood, Hazen, Micou, Mitchell, Nordell, Sanders, Schaff, Trumbull, A. M. Wilson, W. B. Wright, and Zenos.

H. G. MITCHELL,
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Secretary.

DECEMBER 1889.

The twentieth meeting of the Society was held in Boston at the School of Theology of Boston University, 72 Mt. Vernon St., December 26 and 27, 1889.

The first session opened at 7.45 P.M. on Thursday the 26th. The President having been removed by death since the last meeting, and the Vice-President being absent, Dr. J. H. Thayer was appointed to act as President, and took the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Society directed that a minute in memory of Dr. Frederic Gardiner, who died July 17, 1889, be prepared and inserted in the record, and the Chairman appointed Professors Mitchell, Briggs, and Stevens a committee for this purpose. Professor Beecher afterwards came in, and was added to the committee.

The Committee of Arrangements reported the following programme, which was adopted:

Thursday, 7.30 P.M. to 9.30 P.M., Papers and notes.

Friday, 9.30 A.M. to 1 P.M., Business, papers, and notes.

Friday, 2.30 P.M. to 5 P.M., Papers and notes.

The first paper, on "Babylonian Cosmogonic Myths, compared with the Accounts of Creation in Genesis," was read by Professor Lyon, and discussed by Professors Briggs, Burnham, G. F. Moore, and Streibert.

Mr. Haley read the second paper, on "Purgation versus Purgatory," which was discussed by Professors Briggs, Stevens, Burnham, and Thayer.

The Society assembled for the second session on Friday at 9.30 A.M. The Council nominated the following gentlemen as members of the Society :

Rev. David R. Breed, D.D.,	Chicago.
Right Rev. W. C. Doane, D.D.,	Albany.
Rev. J. A. Faulkner, M.A.,	Minooka, Penn.
Rev. George W. Gilmore,	New York.
Rev. Wm. Elliot Griffis, D.D.,	Boston.
Prof. Fleming James, D.D.,	Philadelphia.

These gentlemen were elected.

The third paper of this meeting was "An Exegesis of Isaiah vii. 10-17," read by Prof. C. R. Brown, which was discussed by Professors Briggs, Beecher, Burnham, and Moore.

The fourth and fifth papers were then read by Prof. G. F. Moore, on "Tatian's Diatessaron and the Analysis of the Pentateuch," and Prof. Briggs, on "The Analysis of the Account of the Plagues of Egypt." At the close of Dr. Briggs's paper, remarks were made by Messrs. Beecher, Cobb, Haley, Griffis, and Thayer. A recess of an hour and a half was then taken.

The Society re-assembled at 2.30 P.M.

In the absence of their authors, papers were read by the Corresponding Secretary, on the following subjects :

An Important ms of the New Testament, by Prof. J. R. Harris.

The Locality of Pseudo-Barnabas, by Prof. J. R. Harris.

A note on Lightfoot's Ignatius, by Prof. J. R. Harris.

New Testament Terms descriptive of the Great Change, by Prof B. B. Warfield.

The Biblical Demonology, by Prof. C. H. Toy.

The Vocabulary of the Synoptic Gospels, by Rev. Edwin W. Rice.

Prof. Toy's paper was discussed by Messrs. Cobb, Burnham, Stevens, and Ferguson.

An abstract only was given of the following papers :

Workman's "Conspectus of the Variations" between the Hebrew and Greek Jeremiah, by Prof. H. B. Smith.

The "Ascension of Isaiah," by Prof. G. H. Schodde.

Sheol in the Old Testament, by Prof. Ira M. Price.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute in memory of Dr. Gardiner presented their report through the Chairman, Dr. Mitchell. After remarks by Drs. Briggs and Thayer, the Society voted that the report be entered upon the record, printed in the *Journal*, and that a copy of their action be sent to the family of Dr. Gardiner. The minute follows :

It is with profound sorrow that we record the death, on the 17th of July last, of our friend and President, Professor Frederic Gardiner, D.D.

Professor Gardiner was one of the original members of the Society. In fact, it was he who first suggested it, and who was chiefly instrumental in bringing together, June 4, 1880, in New York, the gentlemen who completed the organization. He was an officer of the Society seven of the nine years during which he was connected with it. He was its first Secretary, and his tireless devotion to it largely explains its growth in numbers and interest during those early years. When, in 1883, he was obliged by ill health to retire from this office, he remained one of the most influential promoters of the cause which the Society was intended to serve.

In 1885, he again became a member of the Council ; and in 1887, upon the retirement of Professor Goodwin, he was with one accord chosen to the presidency. He had just been re-elected to that office when he was so suddenly and mysteriously taken from us.

Professor Gardiner was not merely a faithful and efficient officer ; he was a constant and able contributor to the *Journal*. He read a paper at the first meeting of the Society, and so long as he lived he held himself in readiness to open the treasures of his abundant knowledge for our benefit ; and this, although he was almost constantly employed upon the larger works which have given him his reputation as a scholar. His last paper was read at the last meeting which he was permitted to attend.

Our tribute to Professor Gardiner would be incomplete, however, if, in our gratitude for his labors for the Society and our admiration for his scholarship, we forgot the rare personal qualities which endeared him to all who knew him. He was the soul of candor and courtesy, in the chair and in the midst of debate, as well as in the more intimate relations to which some of us were admitted ; one whose every act seemed seasoned by the grace of our common Saviour. While, there-

fore, as a Society, we lament his loss to biblical science, we personally and individually mourn him as a Christian friend.

After an informal discussion of topics connected with the future policy of the Society, the latter adjourned.

There were present at one or more sessions of this meeting: Messrs. Beecher, Briggs, C. R. Brown, Burnham, Burton, Chase, Cobb, Craig, Dodge, Ferguson, Griffis, Haley, Hincks, Lyon, Mitchell, E. C. Moore, G. F. Moore, Nordell, Stearns, Stevens, Streibert, J. P. Taylor, Thayer, A. A. Wright, and G. F. Wright.

CHARLES RUFUS BROWN,
Recording Secretary.

Annual Statement of the Treasurer of the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis, June 3, 1888 to June 6, 1889. Presented at the meeting in June 1889.

Receipts :

Balance on hand, per last report,		\$210 13
Entrance Fees,	\$70 00	
Annual Dues,	375 70	
Interest on Deposits,	7 24	
Received for Journals,	39 00	
	—————	\$491 94
		\$702 07

Disbursements :

Journal of Dec. 1887,		\$201 40
Salary of Secretary, 1888,	\$25 00	
Salary of Treasurer, 1888,	25 00	
	—————	\$50 00
Treasurer's Expenses for Postage, Printing, Ex- press, and Collections,		8 00
Balance in Bank,		442 67
		\$702 07