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EDITED BY
JULIUS A. BEWER
BENJAMIN WISNER BACON WILLIAM H. COBB

COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY OF
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PROCEEDINGS

DECEMBER, 1908

THE forty-fourth meeting of the Society was held in Schermerhorn Hall, Columbia University, New York City, on Wednesday and Thursday, December 30th and 31st, 1908. The first session was held at 9.50 A.M., President Porter being in the Chair. Reading of the records of the last meeting was omitted, as they had been distributed in print.

Professor Bewer reported for the Publishing Committee, and read an official announcement from Pastor Schrader of the death of his father, Professor Eberhard Schrader, an honorary member of this Society. Professor Bewer also exhibited a copy of Professor Hilprecht's book, "The So-called Peters-Hilprecht Controversy," presented to the Society by the author. Professors Lyon, F. Brown, and Gottheil were appointed a Committee to draw up a memorial on Professor Schrader in the name of the Society.

The Recording Secretary read his annual report, which was accepted and placed on file. The Chair appointed Professors Paton, W. A. Brown, and Peritz a Committee to nominate officers. Professor Gottheil reported from the Committee of Arrangements. The Chair appointed Professors Gottheil and Wood an Auditing Committee.

At 10 Professor Porter gave the President's address, on "The Bearing of Historical Studies on the Religious Use of the Bible."

Professor Prince read the Treasurer's report, and the Recording Secretary read his financial statement. These two papers were referred to the Auditing Committee.

From 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. papers were read and discussed as follows:

By Professor Ropes: "The Sociological Ideas of Paul."
By Professor Peritz: "The Meaning of the Still, Small Voice in 1 Kings 19 12." By Professor Montgomery, "Some Gleanings from Pognon's ZKR Inscription." By Professor Wood: "Folk Tales in Old Testament Narrative."

It was voted to refer to the Council a resolution protesting against the tariff on scientific and technical books, and also a resolution requesting the Carnegie Institution of Washington to enlarge the scope of its grants in aid of research.

Adjourned for lunch and social hour.

Wednesday Afternoon. The Society met at 2.45. The Council reported that they had chosen Prof. J. A. Bewer as Corresponding Secretary, and Prof. B. W. Bacon and Rev. W. H. Cobb as additional members of the Publishing Committee. They announced that the next meeting would be held in Columbia University during the Christmas holidays of 1909, the particular time and place to be reported later, and the Committee of Arrangements to consist of Professors Jackson, Prince, and W. A. Brown. On nomination by the Council, the following active members were elected:

Prof. Edward Arthur Wicher, D.D., San Anselmo, Cal.

Prof. Isaac Clark, D.D., Washington, D.C.

Prof. Alexander R. Gordon, Litt.D., Montreal, Can.

From 3 to 5.20 papers were read and discussed as follows:

By Professor Paton: "The Usage of the Name Baal."
By Dr. Guthrie: "Corinth as Destination of the Epistle to the Hebrews." By Professor Bewer: "Notes on Obadiah."
By Professor Berry: "The Limited Efficacy of Sacrifice in the Old Testament." By Dr. Ward: "The Origin of the Yahweh Worship." Adjourned.

Wednesday Evening. The Society met at 8. The Council presented the following resolutions, which were adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis joins with other learned societies in representing to the Trustees of the Carnegie Institution of Washington the importance to the civilization of this country of emphasis upon the humanities equally with the natural sciences, and in requesting the Trustees to include more fully in their grants in aid of research the fields of philology, archæology, and ancient history.

Whereas, The present duty of twenty-five per cent, *ad valorem*, on books in the English language published abroad is, so far as scientific and technical works are concerned, of the nature of a tax on scholars, without compensating advantages of protection to authors or publishers, or of appreciable increase of revenue, and is to that extent contrary to public policy, and especially to that policy of fostering learning and education which has always characterized the administration of our government, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis petition the Committee on Ways and Means of the National Congress to take steps for the repeal of the duty on books of a scientific and technical character, in the English language, published abroad, putting these books on the same footing as books published in a foreign language.

At 8.10 President Francis Brown gave the Report of the Directors of the American School at Jerusalem, following it with illustrations by the stereopticon.

At 9.15 Professor Lyon addressed the Society on "The Harvard Excavations at Samaria," giving illustrations by the stereopticon.

Adjourned at 10.

Thursday Morning, December 31. — The Society met at 9.45. On nomination by the Council the following active members were elected :

Rev. John B. Kelso, Ph.D., Grove City, Pa.

Prof. Lilla F. Morse, S.T.M., So. Hadley, Mass.

Professor Paton, from the Committee on Nominations, reported the following list of officers, who were then unanimously elected :

H. P. Smith,	<i>President.</i>
D. G. Lyon,	<i>Vice-President.</i>
W. H. Cobb,	<i>Recording Secretary.</i>
J. D. Prince,	<i>Treasurer.</i>
F. C. Porter,	} <i>Additional members of Council.</i>
I. F. Wood,	
J. A. Montgomery,	
G. A. Barton,	} <i>To represent the Society on the</i> <i>Board of the Palestine School.</i>
N. Schmidt,	
A. T. Clay,	

Professor Gottheil reported from the Auditing Committee that the accounts of the Treasurer and the Recording Secretary were correct and the vouchers satisfactory.

The thanks of the Society were returned to Columbia University and to the Committee of Arrangements for the accommodations provided for this meeting.

Professor Lyon presented the following Minute, which was then adopted by vote of the Society :

The Society records with sorrow the death of Professor Eberhard Schrader of Berlin, an Honorary Member of this body since 1891. With a broad basis in classical, theological, and Semitic studies, he turned his especial attention nearly forty years ago to the young science of Assyriology, then struggling for recognition in Germany. By the thoroughness of his method and the energy of his championship, he did more than any other man to win respect for it at a critical time among the scholars of German universities. Its historical aspects and its bearings upon biblical scholarship were of particular interest to him, and students of the Old Testament, in particular, owe him a great debt.

He was a man of large heart as well as large mind, and those who had the privilege of his friendship were constantly impressed by his geniality, his heartiness, and his unfailing pleasure in good work by whomsoever it was done. His life was crowned by an exhibition of cheerful fortitude maintained during the years of a long and trying illness. The Society desires to express its appreciation, not only of his fruitful scholarship, but also of his noble character.

From 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. papers were read and discussed as follows :

By Professor Clay : "The Chief Deity of the Amorites."

By Professor Barton : "Abraham and Archæology." By Professor Haupt : "Does the Scripture say that the Christ cometh out of the Town of Bethlehem?" By Dr. Barrows : "Psychology and Exegesis." By Professor Bacon : "The Apocalyptic Chapter in the Synoptic Gospels."

Adjourned at 1 P.M.

WILLIAM H. COBB,
Recording Secretary.