

Archaeology in Palestine.—We are indebted to the Department of Overseas Trade for the following note:

At Beisan, Dr. Fisher has discovered traces of Egyptian occupation, lasting for 400 or 500 years, in stout walls of an extensive building, possibly military head-quarters, and two large inscribed monumental stelae of Seti I and Rameses II, 1313–1225 B.C. The inscriptions, in Egyptian hieroglyphs, describe the military dispositions of these Pharaohs in Northern Palestine and across the Jordan.

Three Arabic inscriptions have been noted at Beisan; one, of date A.H. 708, states that Salah ibn Abdullah ordered the construction of the Khan el Ahwar. Père Janssen, of the École Biblique, has published a monograph upon it.

At Tantara the British School of Archaeology has conducted soundings which indicate the origin of the ancient Dora early in the second millennium B.C. The great walls of Phœnician origin have been traced and the sea-gate with stairway has been disclosed.

Coffins and glass lately discovered at Ez-Zib and Shefa Amr are being removed to the Citadel at Acre for exhibition in the local museum.

Obituary Notice

Sir Henry Hoyle Howorth.—By the death of Sir Henry Howorth on 15th July last, a figure has been removed from archaeology which has in the past bulked largely, especially at the meetings of the Royal Archaeological Institute, at which his presence, so urbane and amiable, will be much missed. A Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries since 1875, he was to the present generation of Fellows not so well known as to those who were habitually at our meetings thirty years ago, mainly in consequence of his advanced age which made it unwise for him to be out in the night air. He does not seem ever to have taken much part in our proceedings except in the discussions at the end of the reading of papers, when he frequently enlivened matters by his gift as a *raconteur* of good stories. His interests were so wide that it is impossible to refer to them all or to condescend upon one in which he was more interested than in the rest.

The facts of his life are simple. His family was from Lancashire, though he was born in Lisbon in 1842, where his father was in business. He was educated at Rossall, where Sir John Gorst and the Rev. F. J. Eld, his lifelong friends, were masters. He did not proceed to either Oxford or Cambridge, but, turning his attention at once to the law, was called to the bar by the Inner Temple and joined the Northern Circuit. But the practice of his profession did not attract him so much as politics nor so much as history and science. He sat for Salford for some years and had always a ready pen for communications to *The Times* on political happenings. In other directions he distinguished himself by many communications to the journals of learned societies and to serious reviews, and as early as 1876, in publishing the first volume of a *History of the Mongols*, he began the long series of

important volumes issued with his name, works which he was to the last revising and bringing up to date; for though a vigorous controversialist—and he wrote on many matters which must always be subjects of controversy—he was far too broadminded to resent fair criticism of facts and opinions by other scholars.

It would be wearisome to enumerate the many honours which accompany his name in *Who's Who*, though mention may be made of the one he appreciated most, that conferred in 1899 when he became a Trustee of the British Museum. A full obituary notice was in *The Times* of 17th July 1923 and can be referred to for further details.

It is the fashion now to make the age an age of specialists, but Sir Henry Howorth did not conform to that fashion. He was rather of those who, like Bacon, take all knowledge for their province, and so he was often able to suggest analogies between one subject and another which would not occur to the specialist, and it may be that much of the usefulness of his contributions to knowledge is to be traced to this fact. The fact, too, that he had so many interests may also explain the extraordinary freshness of his mind to the end of his eighty-one years, which was a never-ceasing cause of admiration to his many friends. It is too early to judge of the ultimate place that Sir Henry Howorth will be given in the niches of fame. That must be left to posterity. It is, however, permitted to us to be thankful that so attractive a personality was spared so long to enliven subjects which are so apt to lead to dry-as-dust discussion and nothing more. This Society may well pride itself on the fact that he was one of its oldest Fellows, was often on the Council and had been a Vice-President, and that his son, also a Fellow, carries on the family connexion with the Society and with archaeology.

R. G.

Reviews

The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago: a Beginning and a Program. By Professor J. H. BREASTED. Chicago University Press. Oriental Institute Communications, No. 1. 1922. 9½ × 7; pp. 96.

This brochure is dedicated 'to our colleagues of the *Société Asiatique* on the one hundredth anniversary of its foundation in homage and gratitude', having been presented to the Paris Society by Professor Breasted on the occasion of its centenary celebrations last year. The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago was not primarily planned to carry out excavations, but 'was designed from the first to furnish its members with occasional opportunities to make rapid exploring expeditions to the Near East and to study original materials in the great museums both in the Near East and in Europe. It was planned that these expeditions should acquire by purchase new bodies of original documents for the expansion of the collections in Haskell Oriental Museum and thus make the museum a more adequate magazine of materials for research, as well as a fuller