

THE AMERICAN EXPLORATIONS AT ASSOS.

THE excavations in the ruined Greek city of Assos, in the southern part of the Troad in Asia Minor, have been completed; and the members of the expedition have returned to this country. This gave occasion recently to call in Boston a special meeting of the Archaeological institute of America, under whose auspices the work had been carried on, at which Mr. J. T. Clarke, the leader of the expedition, was to give an account of his investigations. Unfortunately, Mr. Clarke was prevented by illness from attending; but this was less to be regretted, because it gave the president of the institute, Prof. C. E. Norton, an opportunity to express, more fully than he could otherwise have done, his sense of the extremely satisfactory manner in which Messrs. Clarke and Bacon had conducted the investigations at Assos.

Too strong terms could not be used to describe the devotion and self-sacrifice, as well as energy, which they had brought to the work, almost to the point of denying themselves the necessities of life, that the resources of the institute might be diverted as little as possible from the work in hand. They had also labored in a spirit of enthusiasm and intelligence, bringing to bear the methods of modern scientific research, which gave to the results obtained an accuracy and value far beyond that of most of the archeological work of the past. No better archeological work had been done anywhere. He felt sure, that, when the final report upon the explorations at Assos should be published, it would be not merely up to the level of such publications, but would mark an advance in the science, and would take high rank among standard archeological works. This final report would require deliberate preparation: it was desirable that it should be exhaustive, and be published in a fitting style, as a monumental work.

The investigations had been carried out in the most thorough manner; nothing had been left undone which it was desirable to do; and, even had unlimited funds been at the disposal of the expedition, the excavations would not have been carried farther than they had been. The results were mainly architectural. A far more thorough knowledge of the civic buildings of a Greek city than was before possessed had now been obtained. Few marbles had been found (most of them having been previously destroyed), but a large number of terra-cottas were secured. The accession to the body of Greek inscriptions was real, though its importance was not to be exaggerated. In numismatics the expedition had been very successful; a very large number of coins having been found, and the number of types of Assian coins known, largely increased. In all, forty or fifty cases of antiquities would be brought home as the share of the institute. These included the best of the temple sculptures; the Hercules block and the best sphinx; all of the inscriptions, with the exception of the bronze tablet; a large number of terra-cottas; most of the coins, and a considerable number of minor objects, found in the tombs. Among the many architectural

fragments, there would be enough to erect a complete order of the temple at the Museum of fine arts. The two thousand dollars which that institution had voted to appropriate for the purchase of a portion of the antiquities belonging to the Turks would fortunately not be called for, as the latter absolutely refused to sell any thing. Hope is, however, entertained, that a gift of these articles may be made by the sultan. It was pleasant to be able to announce that the whole work had been carried on with absolute honesty, and that the Turks had been dealt with in every way as strictly as if they had been Americans.

The final report would embody the results of all this work, published in an authoritative and reliable form. In the mean time a preparatory report would be issued, giving an account of the work done subsequently to the publication of the first volume on Assos. To prepare this report, it would be necessary for Mr. Clarke to go to London in order that he might have access to the British museum, the only place where the necessary materials could be obtained. It was desirable that the institute should retain both Mr. Clarke and Mr. Bacon in its employ until the Assos material had been entirely worked up.

The treasury of the institute was very nearly empty; and it was proposed to hold a general public meeting, at which Mr. Clarke, and other gentlemen interested in the subject, should speak, with a view to awakening such an interest in the community as should enable the institute to raise the sum of money required.

At this meeting, held Oct. 31, Prof. W. W. Goodwin read a report of the first year's work of the American school for classical studies at Athens, founded a year since by the Archaeological institute in connection with several of our colleges, and of which Professor Goodwin was last year the director. As this report affects rather the philological than the archeological student, and will be printed elsewhere, we proceed at once to the main feature of the evening, the address of Mr. J. T. CLARKE, who spoke substantially as follows:—

Assos was a small town, — small even for antiquity, when cities were very far from the enormous dimensions of modern capitals. The number of its inhabitants can never have greatly exceeded twelve or fifteen thousand; but its interest and importance can by no means be judged by that of modern towns of equal size. Athens itself, at the time of its greatest extent and power, is known to have had only ten thousand houses, and twenty-one thousand free citizens; and this figure included the entirely separate harbor-cities of Munychia and the Piræus. To take a more recent example: the imperial city of Augsburg, at the epoch of its chief historical fame, under Maximilian, had only sixteen thousand inhabitants, — was only about the same size as Assos.

Our work gives as perfect a picture of the life of a quiet provincial Greek capital as the recent brilliant excavations at Olympia display the character of a great place of public festal assemblage. The investigations differ in scope; but I trust that ours has been not inferior as regards thoroughness, and, in some important respects, not as regards the nature of its results.

The first report, which is in your hands, represents three months' excavation. We have now the results of two years of hard work to add to it; and these results have been fully proportionate. The first report was restricted, in the description of buildings examined, to the temple and the Greek bridge. To our knowledge of these structures so many additions have now been made, that our restorations may be said to be as nearly perfect as it will ever be possible to attain. The temple, already better known than any building discovered in a similarly ruinous condition, appears as perfect an example for the history of Doric architecture as many which are standing to the top

documental history. The so-called Sallier papyrus, now in the British museum, records, that among the confederates who came to the aid of the Hittites, — those famous men whose empire is the pride of Professor Sayce, — were the 'people of Pedasa.' The inhabitants, then, of our city (Pedasos, Assos), were, in the fourteenth or thirteenth century B.C., of sufficient importance to be enumerated, with the Dardeni of Iluna (i.e., the Dardanians of Ilion or Troy), among those forces which appeared at Cadesh, on the banks of the Orontes, to fight against Ramses III. — the Rhampsinitos of Greek story — in the fifth year of his reign. The importance of this curious

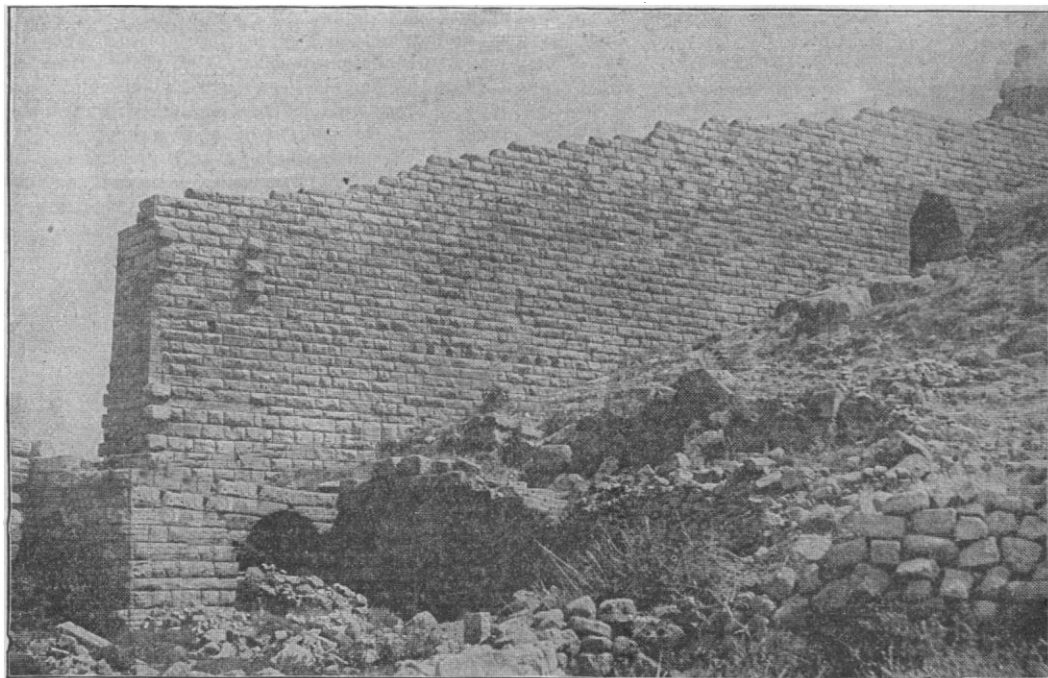


FIG. 1. — City walls of Assos, dating from the fourth century B.C.

of the entablature. Other fragments of the reliefs carved upon its epistyle, the importance of which to the history of Greek sculpture is now recognized by all scholars, have been found since the publication of the report, and the entire stone ceiling of the building has been recovered. To this have been added many details, including most interesting and curiously suggestive observations concerning antique stone cutting and laying.

Our knowledge of the geography of the land has been further enriched by maps, geological as well as topographical. To the story of its archeological recovery many details have been added, while its political history has received most important additions. One of these latter points I may be permitted to mention, because of its striking character. Assos is the first city of Greek civilization mentioned in

notice, in an historical point of view, is hardly to be overrated.

The digging of the second and the third years has been almost restricted to the lower town. Much work was done upon the fortifications of Assos, the finest known works of Greek engineering. The oldest inhabitants settled close around the acropolis, building rough walls of enormous blocks, not cut by any metallic tools, upon the levels just at the foot of the volcanic crater, and there did a great deal of terracing, which was cleverly used by the later Greeks. The first outer circuit-wall remaining (I. in fig. 2) was certainly old at the time of the Lydian invasion. Under the favoring influences of the Aeolic colonization, the city greatly increased, and a new wall was necessary. This second masonry (II., fig. 2) may have somewhat antedated the Persian wars. By reason

of the troubles brought by the Persian occupation of the land, the city declined; and when, under Lysimachos, its walls were rebuilt, the entire enclosure north of the acropolis was relinquished. The walls partially overthrown by sieges were not considered of sufficient value to be worth repairing, and a connecting-wall was built to the acropolis. This noble mass of masonry of the fourth century B.C. (fig. 1), rising in many places to some sixty feet in height, was joined so accurately that the blade of a pen-knife cannot be introduced between the stones. It was this portion of the wall that gave Col. Leake his well-known opinion that Assos was the finest representative of a Greek city in existence. Under the favorable dominion of the Romans, the commercial city greatly increased, and finally re-occupied the space north of the acropolis; new escarps (III., fig. 2) being built in front of the old walls, and enclosing them entirely. But to enter in any degree into details would lead us too far afield, ranging, as the fortifications do, through a thousand years, down to the time of Constantine; for the masonry in some parts, es-

of note, that most of the inscriptions were found in the slides of earth beneath this part of the agora, evidently having been thrown down during the troubles of the city. The building is exactly parallel in character to the only other bouleuterion known, — that in the Altis at Olympia; or, rather, it is like the inner portion of that structure, there being at Olympia halls on either side of a central structure like the bouleuterion of Assos.

The building which borders the agora on the south is absolutely unique. It is the only instance of a Greek bath known, and the only four-story ancient building ever recovered. Fortunately, we have been able perfectly to restore it. Its arrangement is extremely curious and interesting. It consisted of an enormous hall going through two stories, with twenty-six chambers upon its side. Above this entire structure was a colonnade, the floor of which was upon the level of the agora. In front of the stoa was an enormous basin for the reception of water, covered by stone lintels, and paved, so that it was not visible to the persons on the market-place. From it ran a sub-

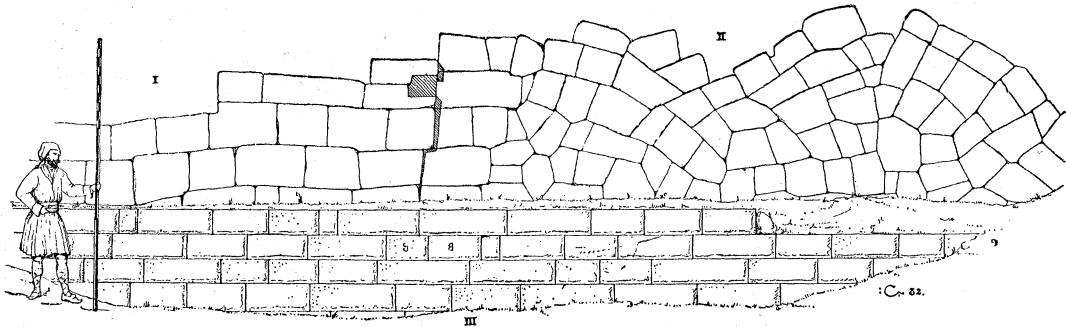


FIG. 2. — Corner of oldest polygonal city wall (I.), with extension in irregular masonry antedating the Persian wars (II.); both reveted, after the age of Lysimachos, with an escarp of squared blocks (III.).

pecially towards the eastern side of the city, closely resembles the ramparts of Constantinople.

The buildings of the agora, or market-place, of Assos, are so interesting and well connected that they are superior to those of all other Greek cities; and, notwithstanding the elaborate works of the many writers who have investigated and described the market-place of Pompeii, we may unhesitatingly assert the agora of Assos to be not only more interesting, but more completely known, than the forum of that city. The enormous stoa, or colonnade, a hundred and ten metres in length, was built, it may be with reason assumed, by the architect of that surrounding the temple of Athena Polias at Pergamon, which has so recently been excavated. It is constructed of the stone of the acropolis, an andesite much resembling granite; and a comparison between the forms given to this material and to the marble mouldings of Pergamon is most instructive. Being ceiled with wood, it needed only one support behind every second column of the front. Next to it, and apparently of the same date, is the bouleuterion, or building in which the archives of the city were kept. It is worthy

terranean conduit to the lower story of the bath-room, and there were arrangements for the water to flow into the thirteen lower cells. The refuse-water was then led into a larger basin beneath the bath-building. There was another reservoir to receive the water from its roof. This connected with the street, and so formed an enormous fountain, giving pure water for the consumption of the people; while the water of the refuse-basin adjoining it was used for the cooling of the theatre.

Next to the bath was built, in later times, a small heroön, in which the bodies of the benefactors of the city were deposited, their names being inscribed on the entablature. We opened three sarcophagi, which contained only strigils, small vases, and the bones of the dead.

The changes of plan observable in the agora are peculiarly interesting. In early times there was an inclined plane ascending from a lower street to its level; but, when the heroön was intruded, the passage became so narrow that it had to be turned, and transformed into a stairway. Two fine mosaics of comparatively early date were found just below the

retaining-wall. The larger represented Victories carrying votive offerings towards tripods, with a seller of love-gods as centre-piece; the other was bordered with geometrical figures, enclosing couching griffins, — the coat of arms of Assos. At the east of the agora was the bema, the stand-point of the orator in addressing a crowd; the level of the place being there raised above the market, and flagged, while the remainder, like all Greek streets before the Christian era, was unpaved.

Of the other buildings of the lower town, I may say that the theatre is now as well recovered as any theatre in Asia Minor. Because of certain peculiarities of the stage, its recovery is peculiarly valuable to the history of the Greek theatre. The gymnasium, at the west of the town, is equal in preservation and interest to the building of that character at Olympia, — the only one hitherto known. Noticeable, also, is a great atrium, of late date, but showing the preservation of Greek forms far into the Roman period, the arch appearing with purely Hellenic details. In the lower town of Assos there were no less than seven Christian churches. The street of tombs is perhaps the most interesting burial-ground of the ancients as yet thoroughly investigated. It presents monuments of every period. One, notably, cannot be later than the seventh century B.C., and many are as recent as the eleventh or twelfth Christian centuries. In this necropolis is a mausoleum which presents a perfect parallel to the tombs of the kings at Jerusalem. We opened a hundred and twenty-four sarcophagi for the first time, and found many burial-urns. There seems to have been a mixed system of inhumation and cremation, according to the temporary fashion. We also found great numbers of figurini, small vases and glasses, among them some beautiful specimens of thin transparent glass, and several thousand coins. Many other smaller articles of more or less value were found in the tombs; but the inhabitants of Assos, though they must have been wealthy, did not commonly place their best ornaments with the bodies of their dead.

It is my duty, as well as pleasure, to speak of the most creditable part taken by the members of the expedition not present here this evening. Of Mr. Bacon's really extraordinary ability as a draughtsman I have no need to speak. His unremitting labors secured the success of the expedition. The highest praise is due also to Mr. Koldewey, an architect from Hamburg, who worked with us for a year and a half from pure love of science, and was of the greatest possible assistance. My learned friend, Dr. Sterrett, has edited seventy-five or eighty inscriptions found by us, studying them upon the spot. Thanks, too, are due to our photographer, Mr. Haynes, and to Mr. Diller the geologist, who has already made known his work in valuable publications. Other members of the expedition, who were with us on comparatively short visits, worked as well and conscientiously, with results commensurate to the time they spent at Behram.

Archeology, up to within a recent date, hardly deserved the name of science, having been a merely empirical recital of facts, without connection or true

historic method. To-day it has conquered a foremost place among the exact sciences of determination; and we trust that the study of the best methods of all previous investigations has enabled the expedition to Assos to be in every respect creditable to the American name. An instance of this special perception and direct search for materials bearing upon our knowledge of the development of various phases of ancient art may perhaps be seen in the fact, that two of the most interesting links that could be desired for Greek architectural history have been found, — a proto-Ionic capital, which stands between the ornamental spirals of Mesopotamia and the perfected Ionic capitals of the erechtheion; and a proto-Doric shaft with a base, which proves with equal certainty the derivation of that column from the tombs of Beni-hassan.

The work of the institute at Assos labors under one signal disadvantage: its results must be long awaited by those high-minded furtherers of science to whose munificence its execution is due. This disadvantage is indeed inseparable from all such undertakings of great extent; but on the other side of the Atlantic, where archeological investigations are carried on in greater part by the various governments, it is much less felt than here, where a large body of private individuals has maintained the work. There, the verdict of a commission of experts is entirely sufficient to the minister of public instruction, who has supplied the funds, and placed the diplomatic influence of the nation at the disposal of the work; and after this is given, a delay of ten or fifteen years in the publication of the results is not looked upon as a drawback. Here, however, the circumstances are different in every respect; and as it has naturally been impossible to give in half an hour any adequate account of the hard work of two long years, it only remains for me to beg for a further extension of credit. The debt shall be paid as soon as it is possible to write the proposed reports; and it will not have escaped your observation, that one object of the present meeting is to so interest you in the work of the institute, and convince you of its value, that the trifling sum required for these publications may be forthcoming.

At the conclusion of Mr. Clarke's address, Prof. W. R. WARE of New York was called upon, as one who had visited Assos for the express purpose of seeing what had been accomplished by the expedition. Professor Ware spoke as follows: —

It was, as you may believe, with special pleasure, that I found myself, in May of this year, passing through the Pillars of Hercules, my face towards the east, with the Troad as my objective point. But it was not until the third week in July, that, like St. Paul leaving Alexandria Troas, we came to Assos, though we were not, like St. Paul, 'minded to go afoot.' Perhaps it would have been better if we had been; for the modern Trojan horse is a small, ill-tempered, not always sure-footed, beast, who requires, indeed, often as much urging and pushing as did his Homeric namesake.

St. Paul probably passed through the valley of the Satnioeis, which flows into the Aegean on the west side of the Troad, a few miles south of Alexandria. But if he had known what was good for himself, in this world, he would have done as we did, and, leaving the plain, have ascended the steep sides of the little mountainous hill which separates the valley from the southern shore. There we found, upon the top, a tolerably level tableland commanding views of most surpassing beauty; to the north and west, Samothrace and Imbros and Lemnos, with Mount Athos just discerned in the western horizon on the other side of the sea; then, to the south, Lesbos, across the strait; and finally, in the gleaming morning sea, the little black hill which marked the volcanic mountain which was the goal of our endeavor.

The mountain of Assos is so steep as it rises out of the sea, that within a distance of half a mile it reaches a height of nearly one thousand feet. The steepest parts of the bridle-paths upon Mount Kearsarge and Mount Washington are not steeper than the road from the sea to the temple on the summit; and the agora, the market-place, which has been described to you, the centre of the city, is five hundred feet above the water.

One finds himself there, as you may now imagine, as on the stage of some classical theatre with all its scenes still standing, — here, the bouleuterion; there, the gymnasium, Mr. Koldewey's stoa, Mr. Clarke's temple and city walls, and, lastly, Mr. Bacon's street of tombs, leading half a mile away, towards his bridge at the river.

But interesting and exciting as is the presence of these monuments of antiquity, one can hardly keep his mind upon these things, for the attractions of the scene before him. To the east, where the long slopes of Mount Ida descend to the sea, the line is taken up by the blue and rose-colored mountains of Asia Minor, stretching along toward Smyrna; toward the south, filling the southern horizon, the island of Mitylene, — the mountain-tops brown in the sunlight, with purple shadows lying in all the valleys, and everywhere encompassing and infolding it all, the wonderful blues and greens of the Mediterranean Sea. Splendid as is the view from the acropolis of Athens, — the most famous in the world, — it seems to me that the view from the heights of Assos surpasses it in loveliness and splendor; and these buildings seem to have been so set, that this unparalleled prospect could be enjoyed to the utmost.

The buildings themselves are constructed of a stone which in its general aspect resembles a fine-grained granite, but in color and hue is more like the darkest and most purple of the Connecticut freestones. Yet the grain is so smooth that the most delicate mouldings can be cut upon it; and one is surprised to find, in passing the hand over the surface, how sharp, clean, and refined are the profiles of the mouldings.

The architectural interest attaching to these remains is unique. And here I cannot do better than to read an extract from a half-finished letter which I

found in Mr. Bacon's portfolio, and snatched from oblivion, — a letter dated in December last, and never finished: —

"As the end approaches, my work has assumed a more definite form; and I know pretty well what the results will be. Hitherto I have been working rather blindly, and with but hazy ideas of final results. The street of tombs is such a collection of small, isolated ruins, that any thing like a complete idea of the original disposition was impossible at first. Sobered by the experience of last year, I this year attacked the monuments separately, with a resolute disregard of their relation to each other; excavated the most worthy, and drew them out in plan, elevation, and detail; then located each in a general survey, strung these plans along on a large map; and, lo, order is come out of chaos! Where before seemed nothing but confusion, now appears the hand of man; and the tombs are placed with such a picturesque regard for their purpose and for each other that the appreciative soul is filled with delight. The existing plan is more complete than the Applan Way at Rome, nearly as well preserved as that at Pompeii, and, to my mind, far more interesting than either, for it is pure Greek in every line and detail. Indeed, that may be said of all the work at Assos. There does not seem to be the slightest Roman influence. Of course, it is not always faultless. Work there is of all kinds, good, bad, indifferent, but, good, bad, or indifferent, Greek, not Roman. This absence of Roman feeling in the later work is a very peculiar thing. In Pergamon, Smyrna, and all the cities of Asia Minor, there exists a great deal of Roman work, and most of it pretty bad too. But here the bulk of the people probably never understood a word of Latin. The number of Latin letters upon the inscriptions we have found could almost be counted on your fingers. Whenever the Roman governors had any thing to say, they had to say it in Greek, to be understood. Even on the tomb of the Publius Varius family the dedicatory inscription over the doorway was in Greek.

"This absence of Roman work shows pretty well what a provincial town this must always have remained. Their stonemasons, builders, and architects were born and bred here; and they were a conservative set, with old-time notions about clamps and dowels, and about running down to the ledge for foundations. All this can be read like a book in the buildings we have laid bare. When any thing extra was to be 'run up,' they didn't import a foreigner from Miletus or Ephesus with his new-fangled ideas; not at all: they built it themselves. And this was not owing to lack of money, for the remains show that Assos must have been a wealthy city."

Another point of great interest is this, — almost all the principal publications of Greek work that have been made relate to monumental buildings. We have the temples, volume after volume, exhibiting a complete system of Greek architectural construction and design; but they have left unanswered the questions, how far Greek architecture was confined to sacred buildings, and to what extent the principles and methods which are exemplified in so magnificent a manner in the temples and sacred monuments were carried out in other structures. The long series of secular buildings which have been discovered at Assos offer the best answer that has yet been given to these questions; and the publication of the work, when it comes to be made, will mark an era in the study of the municipal and military architecture of the Greeks. It is a question, moreover, not without practical interest to the working architects of to-day, who are striving to solve for themselves the problem of fitly applying to secular and domestic buildings the same architectural forms, and the same principles of design, which they apply to sacred and monumental structures. This is an

ever-recurring problem; and it cannot but be of service to learn how the Greeks, masters of the art, solved it in their own case.

Besides the walls, the buildings, and the tombs, there have been found, as Mr. Clarke has explained, a considerable amount of smaller objects, — vases, glass, pottery, urns, etc.; and of these a considerable portion has been secured as property of the institute. The *firman* by which the excavations were authorized gives us one-third of the objects found, — the most interesting third, perhaps; but it is difficult to speak justly in regard to it. If anybody should maintain that the objects which are to come here are of surpassing interest, and that they will immediately lift our museum to the front rank of such institutions, a decided negative would have to be given to such aspirations. If anybody should assert that the things were not worth the cost of transportation; that they have no general or popular interest; that they belong to a poor period; that they are hardly fit to be seen beside the more beautiful works, which, in the original and in copies, are in our possession, — that, again, could not be for a moment admitted; for the fact remains that the small portion which is secured to us is of surpassing interest to those who take an intelligent interest in such things at all.

The lower drum of a column, the capital, a complete section of the entablature, including the unique sculptured architrave, the frieze, and the cornice, all have been secured, and may soon be placed in position. In addition to that, the best of the sculptures which were discovered are to be brought over; almost all the coins; among the glasses and vases those which, on the whole, were best worth preserving; and most of the inscriptions. But even if the objects secured to us from the discovery were less than they are, it would make little difference in our estimate of the success of the expedition. The real result was intellectual. And the new points which have been proved, the new discoveries which have been made, are such, that, if not a single object were brought here from Asia Minor, we should still have abundant reason to be satisfied with the results achieved. It is impossible that we should obtain any adequate idea of these from the few drawings that have been publicly shown. They are but a fragment of the whole.

How it was possible for these two or three young men, while occupied with the practical direction of from twenty to forty men, to make the surveys and supervise the excavations, and also to prepare the immense mass of drawings which have been executed, it is difficult to understand; and it furnishes abundant proof of the ability and devotion with which the work has been prosecuted. The nature of the results will be seen when the next annual report comes from the printer; but their whole value and importance cannot be estimated until the appearance of that final and monumental work which will, we may hope at no distant day, take rank among the authoritative publications of its kind.

I may add, that the increasing interest in archeo-

logical work, and the scientific and precise manner in which it is now conducted, give new encouragement to the prosecution of literary classical study. The competition between the literary and scientific method seems about to end in a reconciliation, in the prosecution of literature on scientific principles, and in allying archeological science as closely as possible with the literature of classical antiquity. Archeology is a common ground on which science, literature, and art meet and join hands, each helping the other. Such a school as that now established at Athens, which you are asked to favor with your approval, is their common home.

On motion of the Rev. Phillips Brooks, the meeting declared, by an enthusiastic vote, that the work of the institute should be generously supported.

THE AMERICAN ORIENTAL SOCIETY.

THE autumn meeting of this society was held in New Haven, Oct. 24 and 25. Letters were read from various members abroad, reporting progress in their work; among others, from Mr. Mills of Hannover, respecting his edition of the Old Persian Gathas (ancient Zoroastrian songs or odes), of which the first volume is printed, though not published.

A paper on the temple to Zeus Labranios in Cyprus was read by Mr. Isaac H. Hall of Philadelphia, one of the pioneers in Cypriote studies, and the chief authority on the Cypriote language in this country. A temple to this deity exists at Mylasa in Caria (described in Fellowes's 'Lycia'). He was, under the name of Zeus Stratios, a local deity of the Mylasians, certainly from the time of Darius to that of Lactantius. The only other temple to him is this one in Cyprus, at Fasuli (or Fasula), near Amathus. The notoriously Lycian-looking architectural and other art remains found in the neighborhood show that this part of Cyprus was settled by Carians from Mylasa or its vicinity. Mr. Hall derived the epithet 'labranios' from a Lydian, Carian, or Lycian word, 'labru' (preserved by Plutarch in the form 'labrus'), meaning 'axe,' the axe being the peculiar symbol of Zeus Stratios of the Mylasians. From this word came the Mylasian name 'Labranda' ('place of the axe'); but the Carian settlers in Cyprus dropped the *d* (which is a sort of locative termination), and called their deity Zeus Labranios; that is, the Zeus Stratios of the Mylasians, and not Zeus Labrandios, which would be the Zeus of the village Labranda. Lycian influence in Cyprus seems confined to this little part of the island.

Mr. Hall also read (supplementing it from his own knowledge of the facts) a short history, from Dr. Van Dyck of Beirut, of his Arabic translation of the Bible, — a version admirable in literary style and in typographical execution (printed at the American press in Beirut). The difficulties in the way of the production of this translation were very great, and the result is highly creditable to American scholarship and energy.

Professor Avery of Bowdoin college gave an analysis of the Khasi language, spoken by a people dwelling in the Nepaul Hills, a representative of the non-