

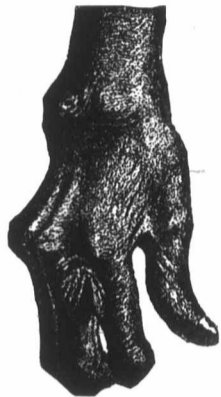
In the Harvard Theological Review for January, Prof. D. G. Lyon gives the first account of the excavations carried on by Harvard University at Samaria, in the summer of 1909. The work has been in charge of Prof. G. A. Reisner, and, as in the excavations of the previous year, the chief interest has centred about the summit of the hill. On the southeast, south, and southwest of the platform a considerable tract has been cleared down to the rock. The plan of a temple, ascribed to Herod the Great, has been laid bare, and also the plan of a reconstruction of this temple, ascribed to Alexander Severus. Beneath the floor-level of these temples are remains of Greek buildings. Of particular interest are the massive outlines and a portion of the wall of a still older structure, which Dr. Reisner thinks is the palace of Omri and Ahab. The identification of these ruins as a Hebrew palace is accepted by Prof. Hugues Vincent, of Jerusalem, a leading authority on Palestinian archaeology, who has declared this to be the most instructive discovery yet made for the correct understanding of Israelitish architecture.

As an instance of the very heavy work entailed on the parochial clergy at such seasons as Passion-tide and Easter nowadays, the following particulars of the Easter Day services at St. Mark's, Kensington, in the southeast of London, will be of interest. This church is the Mother Church of the parish of Kensington, and it is also the headquarters of the St. Mark's Tramway Brotherhood. After Holy Week there were on Easter Day no fewer than five celebrations of the Holy Communion, with over 640 communicants, about 300 being at the 7.45 a.m. celebration, amongst whom were 23 members of the St. Mark's Tramway Brotherhood, in uniform, others being present in plain clothes. A somewhat unique fact in connection with the Easter Day services was that owing to his colleague being called away by illness, the vicar, Dr. Darlington, was single-handed throughout the entire day, spending twelve hours in the church with the various services, baptisms and weddings, all effort to obtain extra help having failed. He was in the church from 6.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. without so much as taking off his surplice, and preaching three times in the course of the day. This may be a very exceptional case, but there can be no doubt that the strain of Holy Week and Easter on many of the clergy is very great indeed.

The interior of Christ Church, Ansonia, Conn., has been beautified recently by the carving of the capitals of the eight pillars. Instead of the usual floral designs, symbolic figures have been used. The one near the pulpit represents Deific law. The central figure is a closed right hand of heroic size, emerging from a closed effect with the index figure erect. On either side of it are angelic figures in attitudes expressive of awe and reverence. Following down the length of the church the second capital contains figures of the Archangels Gabriel, Michael, Raphael and Uriel. Separating the figures are fine shields bearing the respective symbols of the Archangels. The third capital represents

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resents Praise. One of the figures, without trenched arms, is in the attitude of beating the cymbals. Another is playing the violin. The other two, which complete the group, are singers. The subject of the fourth capital is Thank-giving. Of the four figures, two are holding censers and the other two bear in their arms lighted candles. Of the four capitals on the opposite side of the church the one nearest to the organ is a representative of music. Corresponding with the four Archangels on the opposite side the next capital contains the symbols of the four evangelists, a man, a lion, an ox and an eagle, separated from one another by shields which contain, respectively,

the individual symbols of St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John. On the next capital are four figures in the attitude of prayer, the subject intended to be represented. The subject of the last capital is Worship. The carvings were given as memorials of former parishioners, and bear the inscription of their names. To complete the furnishings

of the church, the contract has already been let for the erection of a stone altar and an imposing reredos. They are to be a gift to the church from one of the parishioners in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the rectorship of the Rev. E. B. Schmitt, which will occur on August 1st next, at which time it is expected that the gift will be completed and installed.

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