

devout and robust Christianity, which, unlike mediæval archæology, and ultramontane antiquity, has nothing to invent and nothing to conceal. Otherwise it is, in the main, and with some distinguished exceptions, the reforming branch of the Church of God, whose archæological labors possess this hopeful significance; for while the decrepid and legend-loving section entertains its votaries with the sordid shoes of Joseph of Arimathea, the Palestine Exploration Society, speaking for the great party of progress, gives to the world discoveries, that excite genuine wonder, and, at the same time, foster, not a shallow credulity, but a deep and reverential faith. Thus widely divergent in their dogmas and investigations, the two wings of the Church go on in their work, the one party putting manuscripts, like the *Sinaitic Codex*, into the rubbish box, and the other taking them out; the one in the Convent of St. Catherine, filling the traveler's ears with idle tales, and the other, measuring rod and theodolite in hand, giving scientific surveys of the whole *Gebel-Mousa* region, thus localizing the encampments of Moses and disposing of infidel sneers; the one inventing traditions over the site of the Holy Sepulchre, the other digging around the walls of ancient Jerusalem, fixing the positions of the towers, marking the remains of ancient bulwarks, and harmonizing the statements of early historians with the declarations of the inspired Word.

All these things go to illustrate the wide difference existing between what we might call the two religions, but which are, nevertheless, only two forms of the old faith, one of which represents repression, and the other the spirit of free, enlightened inquiry. It is hardly necessary to prophesy the final effect upon the world.

But let us now turn to the more immediate subject of this Article, the MOABITE STONE, which is beyond question one of the most valuable of all recently-discovered monuments of antiquity.

First, however, let us make one observation in regard to the volume lately published by the conductors of the Palestine Exploration, a volume which shows in the most striking manner how genuine antiquarian research is conducted in the interest of our own times.

We find, that in 1864, the condition of Jerusalem had become so unhealthy as to excite great commiseration, as well as alarm,