

June 14, 1933.

Professor James A. Montgomery  
President, American Schools of Oriental Research  
6806 Greene St.  
Germantown, Philadelphia.

Dear Professor Montgomery:

I was glad to receive your good letter of May 25. The work at Jerash has been proceeding according to plan. By the end of the season, we shall have accomplished everything outlined in my last letter with the exception of the Birke-tain theatre. Mr. Mueller has been busy for two months on the hippodrome, and has done a very good piece of work. He has to leave for home unfortunately now, and is taking his plans with him, which he promised to complete as soon as possible, and return to me. You may see him before this letter arrives, in which case he can give you a detailed report of our doings in Jerash. The main corners and lines of the hippodrome have been studied, and whenever necessary excavated, in order to enable a satisfactory understanding of the main features of the structure. Much still remains to be done on it. The most important find was that of the main entrance to the hippodrome, at its northern end, facing the forum. It has been completely cleared, and the room leading into to the left as one enters has also been excavated. At a later period it was converted into a bath room. The entire superstructure of the entrance corridor has been lost, with the exception of a few pillars which have been recovered. Excavations in the field to the north of the hippodrome would probably bring to light some of the stones belonging to this superstructure. The right wing of the south gate, as one enters the city, and which Fisher did not do, has been excavated, and sufficient material recovered to enable Mr. Detweiler to reconstruct it in his plans. Terraces and walls have been built around all the structures we have examined this year, which have made them more presentable than hitherto, have solved the problem of disposal of debris, and through improving the land have compensated the owners for sections we appropriated for digging or dumping. We have not been compelled to pay for any of the land we have used this year. Our relationships with the Jerash community have been most amicable.

The surface stones in the Odeum area have also been partly examined. Dr. Stinespring was in charge of this particular bit of work. He succeeded in refinding several inscribed stones, which had been seen and recorded years ago. We have had a very good offer to purchase the land in the Odeum area for six pounds. After consultation with Mr. Horsfield, I have decided to accept the offer because it is an unusually good investment for future campaigns.

On May 26, Mr. Wm. Dickey Merrill, a Harvard graduate in architecture, came to the School, in order to spend some time studying architectural remains in Palestine. I offered him a volunteer job in Jerash. He has been working on the South Tetrastyle, and has been doing very well. Otherwise we would have been unable to get that piece of work done this season. Detweiler is helping him. Mr. Merrill is getting valuable experience, and we are getting valuable service. Jerash could use several such apprentice architects every season. It would be well, I think, to give some young man a special scholarship to study Christian archaeology, which, as you say, has been neglected, as have other fields

of young graduate students attached in one way or another with our School, who could interest themselves in special problems and phases of Palestinian archaeology. One for early Christian, another for the Crusade period, and so on, in addition to the earlier fields, which up to now have been mostly emphasized.

We have had a number of visitors recently both at the School and Jerash. Among them may be mentioned Prof. and Mrs. Otto Bissfeldt, of Halle, Germany, Miss Dixon and Mr. and Mrs. Iliffe, and Mr. Stephan of the Department of Antiquities of Palestine, Prof. and Mrs. G. S. Duncan, Prof. and Mrs. H. J. Cadbury, and Mr. Alan Rowe.

Prof. and Mrs. Cadbury <sup>and their children</sup> are living now at the School, and are a very pleasant addition to our group here. My wife and I are ~~xxxxxxx~~ giving a tea for them tomorrow afternoon to enable them to meet <sup>some</sup> the Jerusalem community.

I have during the last <sup>two</sup> months spent a considerable amount of time on the survey of archaeological sites in Transjordan, whenever my duties at the School ~~xxx~~ and at Jerash allowed me to get away. I have also been on one long ten day trip this month, and am planning two more long trips in July. I wish I could stay on after that, but I shall have to be starting home in August. The Department of Antiquities in Transjordan has been exceedingly helpful. Either Mr. Horsfield or his assistant Mr. R. G. Head has accompanied me, and have also sent a soldier along, whose presence eases one over many difficulties in remote places. We have thus far examined eighty eight sites, ~~xxx~~ <sup>many</sup> of which ~~xxxx~~ have never been studied at all, and most of which have never been studied archaeologically. I have brought back bags and bags of most interesting pottery, extending from the Early Bronze Age through the Nabataean period primarily. We have found one new Nabataean site after another, and have planned about twenty Nabataean buildings. I have worked primarily in the uncultivated area from east of the railway as far west as the cultivated strip which runs north and south in western Transjordan. We have secured large quantities of material, which will throw considerable light upon the Transjordan of Bronze Age and Iron Age times, and which will enable a more scientific study than hitherto possible of the route of the exodus. Among the most important Bronze- and Iron Age sites which we have been able to determine as such from clear pottery remains, I may mention Medeibiyeh, north of the W. Hesa, where we found an ornamented Moabite stone, of the proto-Ionic type similar to that found of the columns at Samaria, and of the ornament on the incense burner at Tell Beit Mirsim; El-Lehun overlooking the Mojib, where we found a huge Bronze Age site, with pottery extending from early Bronze to Middle Bronze, in addition to a large Nabataean city built a half a kilometer away; el-Muddeiyneh, with pottery extending from early Middle Bronze to Early Iron. There we spent, on the one site an entire day. The site is so rich, that after careful examination of the top surface and the slopes of the magnificent tell, which is situated in the W. ~~ot-Temed~~, we found the heads and bodies of half a dozen figurines and animals. One figurine is especially important. It represents a semitic deity or king of a local type. So far as I have been able to establish thus far, it is absolutely unique. I am sending you two photographs of the more intact individual finds from this place. The finely modeled features of the this

figurine bespeak the work of a capable artist, and represent a model radiating power and intelligence. The head of another Beard-figuring was found nearby, and the torso of an Astarte figurine. The site is perhaps to be identified with Mattanah, as Savignac who had already visited it years ago has suggested. It is a wonderful tell, situated in what is now a barren, desert region, which evidently at one time was cultivated. The tell occupies a commanding position near the head of the wadi, which has a perennial water supply. There are pools of water in the vicinity even now, and by digging a foot deep we struck water. The Israelites must have used this wadi. It would make a wonderful excavation. There is a water supply. A road could be made without much trouble other than throwing stones out of the way, and it is a completely uninhabited site and district. It would, however, be simple to get a sufficient number of workmen for the dig. I should like very much to excavate this site under the auspices of the School.

I shall not try here to describe or name any more of the sites we have visited, nor detail finds made. Dr. Albright has suggested that I put all of the material I shall write up about this survey in the Annual. I shall wait till I see him at the end of this month or beginning of July, and then write to Dr. Burrows about the availability of space in the Annual for this study. Dr. Burrows has already written me asking me to put the Kilwa material in the Annual. I should like very much to do so, particularly if the AJA to which I have sent an article about the finds at Kilwa does not use all of it. I sent them an article to which I affixed also the names of Mr. and Mrs. Horsfield, several of whose suggestions I incorporated, and without whose assistance, I could not have made the trip. In the Sunday New York Times of May 28 I have a short article on Kilwa, and a similar article which I wrote has appeared in the Ill. London News of June 3, which I gave to Mr. Horsfield to send to them.

So you see that although I have not as yet received the five hundred dollars allotted to me for this survey, I am actively engaged in spending it. If the money can be sent to me before I leave Palestine, I can straighten the account of this T.J. Survey with the School, from whose funds I have been drawing to defray the expenses. If not, I shall render an account when I pass through Philadelphia, as I hope to, on my way home, and a check can then be sent to the School. I shall be here till August 10. I hope to be in Philadelphia about Sept. 15 at the latest. I am glad to report that the hostel surplus for this year will be about three hundred pounds, apart from the surplus left by Dr. Burrows last year. There will be a coresponding surplus in the School funds.

With cordial greetings,  
sincerely yours,

Nelson Glueck, Director.