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(p. lv) Proceedings at Boston, May, 1881.

(p. lviii) Communications were now presented, as follows:

(p. lxiix)

8. On a Manuscript Fragment of the Samaritan Pentateuch, by Prof. Isaac H. Hall, of Philadelphia; presented by Prof. Toy.

Some days ago, through the kind offices of Rev. Dr. W. Hayes Ward, I came into possession of a parchment folio, or pair of leaves, written in the Samaritan character, quite old, and somewhat obscure. It was obtained from a Jew, who stated that he brought it from Jerusalem fifty years ago.

The size of each leaf is 4 ½ x 3 ½ inches; of the written page, 3 x 2 ½ inches. It is written with twenty-four lines to the page, except that a word is pushed into the twenty-fifth line on two of the pages, and on another the same is true of the punctuation at the end of a chapter. The style of writing is that of ordinary Samaritan manuscripts, with a fine point or dot to separate the words, here and there replaced by a punctuation mark like a colon. At the end of a chapter the punctuation is like that seen in Petermann's edition of the Book of Genesis in Samaritan characters. Spaces are left between the letters toward the end of a line when necessary, so that the last letters of the lines may stand in an upright, even column. No words are divided at the end of a line. A hole in the parchment, older than the writing, divides some words, in one case separating the letters by more than half an inch. Paragraphs are marked by leaving a whole line blank.

The manuscript is a fragment of the Samaritan Pentateuch, containing Numbers xxvii. 24 (beginning at *את אשר עשה*)—xxviii. 16; xxxii. 23-42. An easy computation shows that just eight pages, or four leaves, or two folios, were inside this folio in the quire when the MS. was complete. It was therefore the middle folio, or one of the outer folios, of the quire: if the quire was a *ternio*, then it was the outer one, which I do not think was the case.

The writing begins in a verse which I have called 24, above; but it is a verse not there in the Hebrew, added after verse 23 from Deuteronomy iii. 21, 22, slightly altered. The paragraph and chapter end with this extra verso in the MS.; and the next paragraph ends with verse 10. Another paragraph ends with verse 15; and the page ends with the third word of verse 16, *כארב [עה]*, of which last word only the first 3 can be read without a lens, and the last two letters are hopelessly defaced. The previous word is interrupted by the hole: thus, *הראי O שון*.

