

THE TIMES, MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1914.

## A BIBLICAL FORGERY.

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### THE EXPOSURE OF SHAPIRA RECALLED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—In your issue of March 11 reference is made to the notorious Shapira forgery of a Biblical manuscript, and the statement occurs that Dr. Ginsburg detected how Shapira had employed strips from disused Synagogue scrolls of the Pentateuch.

This discovery was beyond question most effective in exposing the whole fraud. But the author of the discovery, and the first public exposé of the nature of the forgery, was not Dr. Ginsburg, but M. Clermont-Ganneau.

In proof of this assertion I would refer to the issue of *The Times* of August 21, 1883, where the French savant's letter appears, with a leading article on it. I well remember the sensation caused by Clermont-Ganneau's contribution to your columns, for undoubtedly it was the prime factor in promptly disposing of Shapira's claims.

Yours obediently,

ISRAEL ABRAHAMS.

Cambridge.