

P A L E S T I N E :

THE

P H Y S I C A L G E O G R A P H Y

AND

N A T U R A L H I S T O R Y

OF THE

H O L Y L A N D .

BY JOHN KITTO,
EDITOR OF THE 'PICTORIAL BIBLE'

ILLUSTRATED WITH
ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-ONE WOODCUTS,
BY THE MOST EMINENT ARTISTS.

LONDON:
CHARLES KNIGHT AND CO., LUDGATE STREET.
1841.

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LONDON
Printed by WILLIAM CLOWES and Sons,
Stamford Street.

ERRATA FOR PHYSICAL HISTORY OF PALESTINE.

- Page clxi, sixth line from bottom, *for Szaffud read Szaffad*.
 „ clxvi and clxvii are improperly printed clxvi and clxvii.
 „ cxlii, twenty-third line from top, *for Breidanbach read Breidenbach*.
 „ cxcli, foot-note ^a, *for delphinium read delphinium*.
 „ ccli, „ ^c, *for pataocarpa read pterocarpa*.
 „ cclxviii „ ⁱ, *for bupthalam read bupthalmum*.
 „ cclxix, in the name of cut and note ¹, *for Jasmimum read Jasminum*.
 „ cclxx, foot-note ^o, *for bupthalsum read bupthalmum*.
 „ cclxxxvi, nineteenth line from bottom, *for Beyraut read Beyrouk*.
 „ cclxxxi, foot-note ^a, *for 146 read 147, and for 279 read 299*.
 „ „ „ ^b, *for فارة read فارة*.
 „ cclxxxiii is erroneously numbered cclxxxii.
 „ ccccv, foot-note ^d, *for phænicopterus read phænicopterus*.
 „ cccvii, „ ^p, *for Rallas read Rallus*.
 „ cccxii, „ ^c, *for cuprimulgas read caprimulgus*.

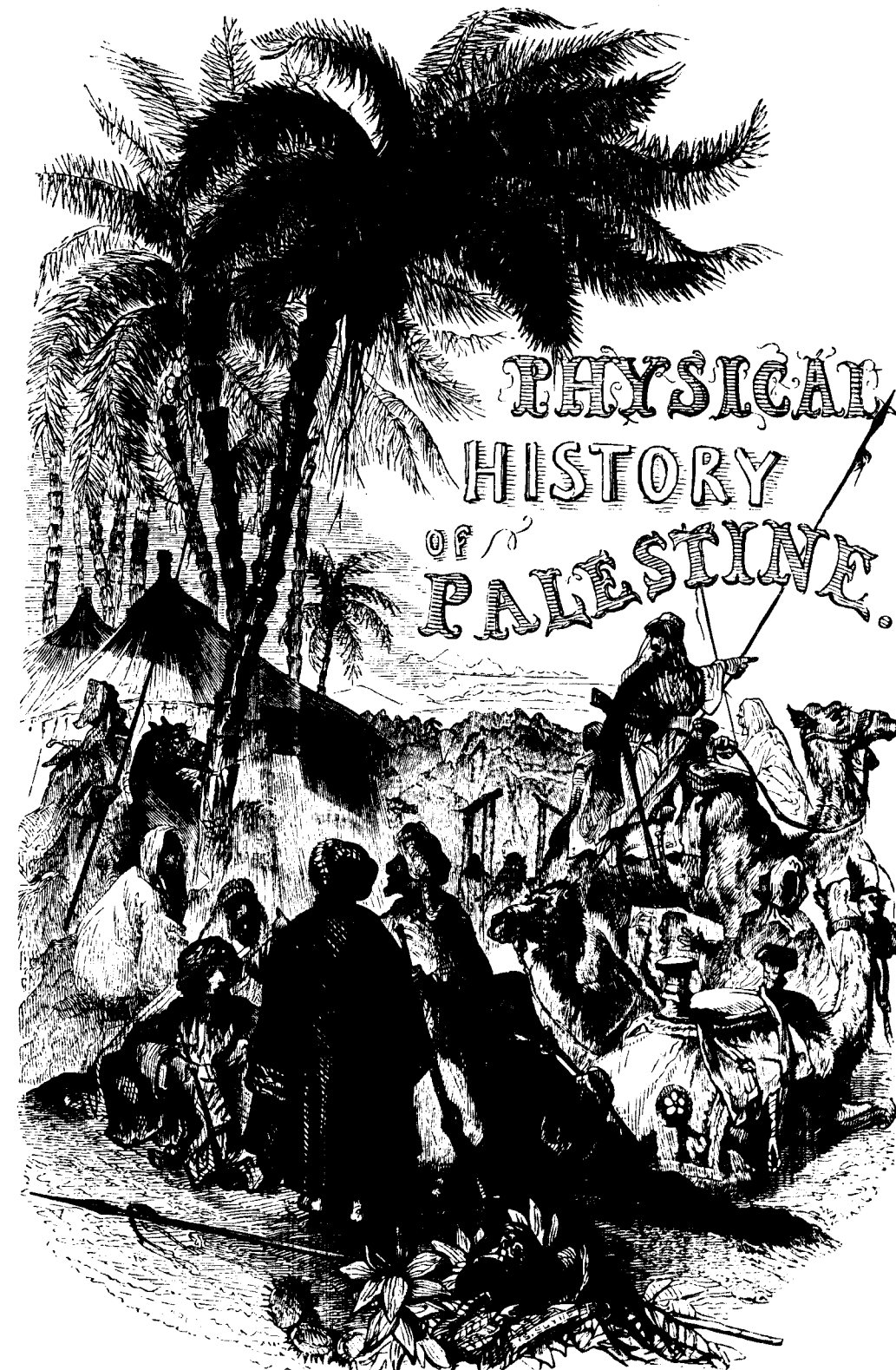
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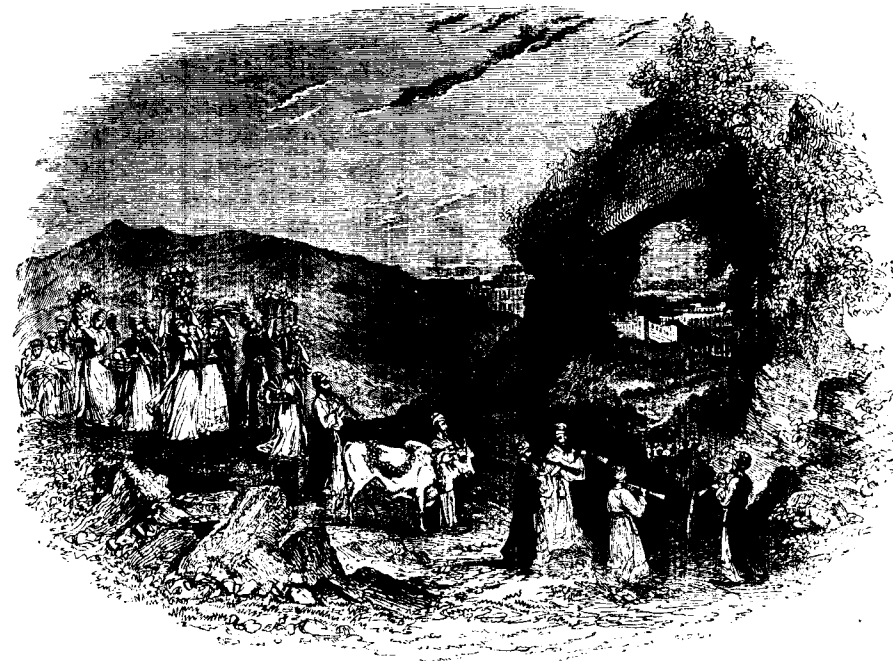
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PHYSICAL
HISTORY OF PALESTINE.

CHAPTER I.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION.



[Bringing First Fruits to Jerusalem.]

IN commencing this portion of our undertaking, we feel it to be one of much interest and very considerable difficulty. Its peculiar interest arises chiefly from the frequent allusions which are made by the sacred writers to the physical characteristics and natural products of Palestine. These allusions do not, in general, so much afford information, as require information in the reader—such information as the inhabitants of the country possessed, and the want of which renders many of the passages which afford such references difficult to understand, or particularly liable to be misunderstood. For, first, the amount of the practical information which might be obtained from the Bible itself is very considerably lessened by the uncertainty which often attends the results of the most laborious or ingenious attempts to determine the species of plants or animals which the Hebrew names denote; and then, our information concerning the natural history of Modern Palestine is meagre and unsatisfactory, to a degree which seems astonishing, when we consider that there is no Asiatic country to which there has