



JERUSALEM FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES.

# THE LAND AND THE BOOK;

OR,

BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATIONS DRAWN FROM THE MANNERS AND  
CUSTOMS, THE SCENES AND SCENERY OF

## THE HOLY LAND.

By W. M. THOMSON, D.D.,

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A MISSIONARY OF THE A.B.C.F.M. IN SYRIA AND PALESTINE.

Maps, Engravings, &c.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

NEW YORK:

HARPER & BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS,

FRANKLIN SQUARE.

1860.

Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year one thousand eight  
hundred and fifty-eight, by

HARPER & BROTHERS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of  
New York.

## LIST OF ENGRAVINGS IN VOL. II.

	PAGE
Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives.....	<i>Frontispiece.</i>
View of an Arab House.....	6
Lodge at Butaiha.....	11
Teraphim .....	25
Ruins of Gadara .....	61
Shooting the Rapids (of the Jordan).....	64
Lake of Tiberias, from the Baths.....	67
Tiberias and Lake looking to the Northeast.....	73
Centipede .....	95
Wild Mustard.....	100
Syrian Locust.....	103
Mejdel and the Plain of Gennesaret.....	109
Assault of Robbers (at Irbid) .....	114
Kulaet Ibn M'an, Wady Hamam.....	115
Kefr Kenna.....	119
The Vale of Nazareth .....	127
Sefûrieh—Plain of Bûttauf.....	133
Tabor .....	137
Khan et Tejjar—Arab Fair.....	153
Nain and Little Hermon.....	159
Beisan (Bethshan).....	172
Colocynth .....	179
Jezreel.....	181
Painted Eye.....	184
Meel and Mukhuly.....	184
Jenin.....	187
Samaria .....	195
Entrance to Nablûs.....	201
Jacob's Well, Shechem .....	207
Foundations of Samaritan Temple on Gerizim.....	213
Plan of Theatre.....	237
Mole of the Harbor of Cæsarea.....	241
Crocodile.....	245
Ancient Harbor of Cæsarea.....	253
Water-spout.....	256
Flying-fish.....	258
Stone Pine (Tree) .....	265
Cone of the Pine.....	266
Pinus Orientalis.....	267

## LIST OF ENGRAVINGS.

	PAGE
Jaffa from the North.....	271
Na'ura—Persian Water-wheel .....	276
Shadûf.....	277
The Na'ura, or Water-wheel at Hamath.....	279
The Potter and Wheel .....	282
Fountain in Jaffa.....	285
Lydd .....	291
Church of St. George (at Lydd).....	292
Women grinding at a Mill.....	294
View of Ramleh.....	297
Well near Emmaus.....	305
Mowrej (Threshing Instrument).....	314
Egyptian Mowrej.....	315
Usdûd (Ashdod).....	317
Ruins of Askelon.....	325
Serpent at Gaza.....	332
Gaza.....	334
Shield and Spear.....	344
Dancing-girls .....	345
Beit Jibrin.....	359
Swords, Khanjars, and Daggers.....	371
Syrian Bear .....	373
Arab Camp.....	377
Water-jars and Bottles .....	379
Mandrake Leaf, Flower, and Root.....	380
Hebron .....	389
Pomegranates.....	393
Egyptian Donkeys .....	407
Lentils ('Adis).....	409
Lower Pool of Hebron.....	410
Rock of Masada.....	417
Wild Goats .....	421
Ground-plan of Solomon's Pools.....	422
Tekoa—Fureidis .....	425
Valley of Etam (Urtas).....	429
Convent of Santa Saba.....	433
Juniper .....	437
Plain of Jericho—North End of Dead Sea.....	441
Dead Sea from the North .....	447
View around North End of Dead Sea from Akabet ed Deir.....	459
Dead Sea from Top of Olivet.....	465
Wall at Southeast Corner of Temple Area.....	472
Golden Gate, Interior View.....	473
Tower of David.....	475
Tombs in the Valley of Jehoshaphat.....	479
Absalom's Tomb (restored).....	482
The Mount of Olives, Church of the Virgin, &c. ....	485
Tombs of the Kings .....	487

## LIST OF ENGRAVINGS.

	PAGE
Tombs of the Judges, Front View.....	489
Lower Pool of Gihon.....	495
Rachel's Tomb.....	502
View of Bethlehem.....	504
Cave of the Nativity.....	506
Interior of the Church of the Nativity.....	514
Pool of Hezekiah .....	522
Pool of Siloam.....	524
Gibeon from Mizpeh .....	543
Anathoth (Anata) .....	549
Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Front View) .....	558
View of the Holy Sepulchre .....	561
House of a Christian Family in Jerusalem.....	568
Specimen of Tesselated Pavement .....	570
Specimen of Wood Panel-work.....	571
Kanûn .....	576
Kanûn, and Mode of playing it.....	577
Kamanjeh, and Performer on it.....	578
Mode of playing the 'Ood.....	578
Deff, Tambourine, and Castanets.....	579
Derbekkeh.....	580
Mosque of Omar and Temple Area.....	581
Vaults under El Aksa .....	585
Jews' Wailing-place.....	587
Spring of the great Arch .....	589
Bethany .....	598

## THE LAND AND THE BOOK.

---

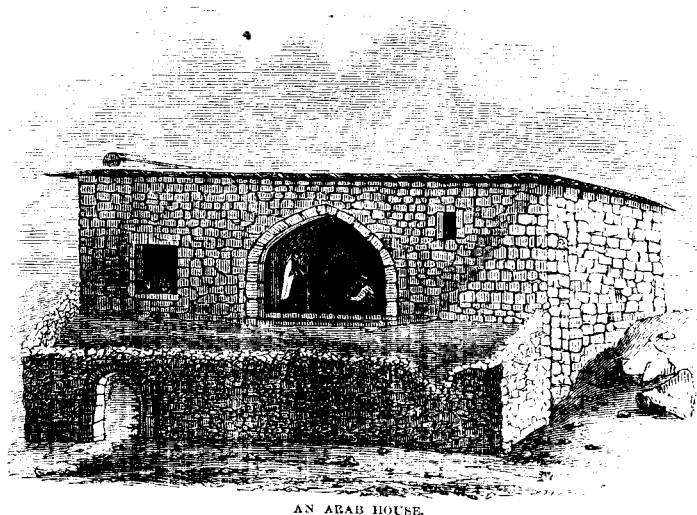
### XXV. TABIGA—KERSEH.

Thursday, March 23d.

I PROMISE you a most interesting ride to-day, and, while the loads go directly along the shore to the entrance of the Jordan, we will ascend toward the northeast for half an hour, to visit the site of Chorazin. This triangular part of Naph-tali, between the northwestern corner of the lake and Jisr Benat Yacobe, has ever been a wild, semi-deserted region, destitute of water, of trees, and of human habitations, and, of course, there are no *ruins* of importance upon it. It is, however, a fine pasture-field for the flocks of the Arabs, and I found it covered, in mid-winter, with camels and cattle from the cold Jaulan. Those parts adjacent to the shore have neither snow nor frost, and are clothed with grass and flowers in January, but the ascent is very great, not less than two thousand feet at the highest part of the road, and much higher west of it toward Safed, where the hills are often buried under deep snow. The flocks and their shepherds can therefore pass from winter to summer in an hour, and for several months can graduate their range so as to enjoy just the temperature which is most agreeable to their tastes. In May, however, the pasturage dries up, water fails, and the heat sends the flocks and herds to the higher and colder regions east of the Jordan. It is a ride of four hours from Khan Minyeh to the bridge, most of the distance over rough black basalt, interspersed in a few places with a white marble, intensely hard, and sufficiently compact to take a beautiful polish. Jub Yusuf—Well of Joseph—where Moslem

tradition locates the pit in which that unfortunate lad was cast by his envious brethren, is midway between the lake and the bridge. The *khan* there is like this of Minyeh, but not so dilapidated, though equally deserted. Indeed, there is not an inhabited house in the entire region. The land, however, is fertile, and in some coming day of peace and prosperity it will be a picturesque, fruitful, and most healthy province.

Before we pass entirely away from this vicinity, I wish to inquire whether there is any thing in the construction of modern Arab houses to explain the manner in which the man sick of the palsy was placed at the feet of Jesus. I have never been able to understand it.



The record in Mark ii. 1-12 and Luke v. 18-26 states that there was such a dense crowd around our Lord that the four men could not force their way through it, and therefore they went to the roof of the house, broke up part of it, and let down the sick man from above. The following considerations may make this act intelligible. We must ban-

ish from our minds every form of European or American houses. Those of Capernaum, as is evident from the ruins, were, like those of modern villages in this same region, low, *very low*, with flat roofs, reached by a stairway from the yard or court. Jesus probably stood in the open *lewan*, and the crowd were around and in front of him. Those who carried the paralytic not being able "to come at him for the press," ascended to the roof, removed so much of it as was necessary, and let down their patient through the aperture. Examine one of these houses, and you see at once that the thing is natural, and easy to be accomplished. The roof is only a few feet high, and by stooping down, and holding the corners of the couch—merely a thickly-padded quilt, as at present in this region—they could let down the sick man without any apparatus of ropes or cords to assist them. And thus, I suppose, they did. The whole affair was the extemporaneous device of plain peasants, accustomed to open their roofs, and let down grain, straw, and other articles, as they still do in this country.

The only difficulty in this explanation is to understand how they could break up the roof without sending down such a shower of dust as to incommode our Lord and those around him. I have often seen it done, and have done it myself to houses in Lebanon, but there is always more dust made than is agreeable. The materials now employed are beams about three feet apart, across which short sticks are arranged close together, and covered with the thickly-matted thorn-bush called *bellan*. Over this is spread a coat of stiff mortar, and then comes the marl or earth which makes the roof. Now it is easy to remove any part of this without injuring the rest. No objection, therefore, would be made on this score by the owners of the house. They had merely to scrape back the earth from a portion of the roof over the *lewan*, take up the thorns and short sticks, and let down the couch between the beams at the very feet of Jesus. The end achieved, they could speedily restore the roof as it was before. I have the impression, however, that the covering, at least of the *lewan*, was not made of earth, but of