FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE

SKETCHES OF EASTERN TRAVEL.

Nazareth—The Plain of Esdraelon—The Battle-field of Palestine—Mount Hermon and Tabor—The Sea of Galilee.

NO. VII.

[Communicated for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

NAZARETH, *Saturday Evening, March 26th.*—I rose at five this morning, and on peeping out of the tent door, found to my great delight a clear sky overhead, which the sun was beginning to tinge with his earliest hues. We are camped to night in the fields outside of Nazareth, after being ten hours in the saddle. It has been a glorious day, the sky clear, the sun bright, the air cool and balmy, the scenery magnificent and the historical associations most deeply stirring. The plain of Esdraelon by before us—the great battle-field of Palestine—30 miles long and 20 broad. It is slightly undulating, extremely rich, in its soil, and beautiful in the blending of various shades of green that mark where cultivation is bestowed upon it. As we entered the plain, and for the first hour and a half of our journey, we were riding along, with the range of Gilboa's barren mountains directly on our right. Here it was that Saul fought his last fatal battle with the Philistines; here he wad slain with his sons, giving occasion to David's peerless and pathetic elegy: "The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places; how are the mighty fallen!" Not a tree is to be seen on the whole range, and its prevailing barrenness, except a strip of green along its base, seems to show that David's imprecation upon those still: "Ye mountains of Gilboa, let there be no rain upon you, neither dew, nor fields of offerings; for there the shield of the mighty was vilely cast away—the shield of Saul, as tho' he had not been anointed with oil" 2 Sam.1. After passing these mountains, we came to the ruins of Jezreel—now a wretched village, though once the royal city of the Kings of the Ten Tribes of Israel. Near here was Naboth's vineyard, which the king coveted and Jezebel gave to him all stained with innocent blood. And here, as he went to take possession, the stern prophet, Elijah, met him and delivered the withering message in 2 Kings 9. It was over this plain that Jehu came, "driving furiously," as God's executioner, and here, too, the infamous Jezebel met her well-deserved fate, but terrible, fate. From the ruins of Jezreel we rode to the fountain of Ain Jalud, a beautiful, if not beautiful, clear water, issuing from a fine grotto at the rocky base of Gilboa. The stream runs across the plain and falls into "that ancient river, the river Kishon." The point of interest about this stream is that it was here that Gideon was encamping with his 10,000: faint-hearted men; when, by "the 300 men that lapped," God chose to effect the salvation of Israel. From the banks of this stream, after washing our horses through the water, to the mouth of the cavern from which it issues, we rode across a portion of the plain and made the ascent of Little Hermon. The view from the summit is very extensive. It commands the whole plain. Before you, in the distance, you see Mt. Carmel by the sea. On the other hand you look down on the whole range of Gilboa, which we have just passed. In another direction you catch glimpses of the River Jordan, with the dark mountains of Moiba beyond, while to the north are seen the hills of Galilee, with Nazareth on their southern slope in view. On this broad plain Barak and Deborah gained their victory over Sisera and his mighty host. Here Gideon's little band broke their pitchers and rushed attention—their attention—their attention—"The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!" Here Israel and the Philistines often fought. Here the Syrian army under Ben Hadad by Pharoah Necho—and here, down to modern times, when the French Marshal, Kleber, with 6,000, held the ground against ten times his number for six long hours, till Napoleon came to his aid and swept the Turks away—this field has been the scene of nearly all the battles of Syria. We lunched on the top of Hermon, with the glorious landscape spread out before us, and felt the inspiration of the scene. A little distance from the foot of the mountain, so that we could look down upon it, by Shunem, where dwelt "the great woman," who entertained "Elisha, the man of God," and built "a little chamber in the wall" for him, and where the child of promise given to her was raised from the dead, in answer to the prayers of the prophet. On descending the mountain, we came to Nain, the city where Jesus met the funeral procession, and checked the heart of the widow by restoring her dead son to her arms. At the ruins of this village our company parted for the afternoon; Dumas and I, with Ali, wishing to ride across the plain and ascend Mount Tabor—our only chance of doing so—and the rest preferring to hasten to the tents at Nazareth. In going to the foot of Tabor we rode by Endor, where Saul consulted the witch, in the depth of his despair, on the night before the fatal conflict on Gilboa. It took us five hours to make the ascent of Tabor and then reach Nazareth, but we felt fully recompensed for the toil in seeing the traditional though disputed scene of the transfiguration. And, apart from this sacred association, the beauty of the mountains, and the prospect it afforded, paid well for the effort. We reached our tents at six o'clock, thoroughly tired, but fully satisfied with the day's excursion.

NAZARETH, *Sunday Evening, March 27.*—There was no English service in the place, so we had service in our own tent, this morning, and attended a kind of Conference meeting at Dr. M.'s tent, this afternoon. There were about thirty Americans present, including five or six ladies. It was a very pleasant and profitable meeting. I finish my letter, and keep it till we reach Damascus. We expect to start in the morning for Tiberias, on the lake of Galilee.

TIBERIAS, *Monday Evening*, March 28th, 1870.—We are encamped now on the shore of the beautiful Sea of Galilee, whose clear, crystal waters and pebbly beach and verdant hillsides are all so intimately associated in memory with the mildness life and wonderful labors of our divine and glorious Redeemer. We left Nazareth after an early breakfast this morning, and reached our present resting-place after a pleasant ride of five or six hours. The sky was just enough cloudy to screen us from the sun, which shines, even at this season, with intense heat when the sky is clear. I carry a light Nashua umbrella with me, and use it all the time when the sun shines. I have found this absolutely necessary, for twice I neglected to do do this, and on each occasion I was obliged to go to bed immediately on reaching our tent, with an overpowering headache. I suppose this is owing to my baldness, as I miss the non-conducting property of the hair on the top of the head, in the place where it ought to grow." The umbrella remedies the difficulty entirely, only it is rather inconvenient to be always carrying one on horseback. But we do not travel very fast, and my horse sucks little management, and so I get on very comfortably. I am getting to feel quite at home on horseback, and can ride eight or ten hours a day without important fatigue. Our ride yesterday was not so full of interest as some others have been. still, we passed several places that were worthy of note. The "Well of Jesus" was the little village of Kafr Kenna. This is one of two sites which claim to be the "Cana Galilee," where Jesus turned the water into wine. I enter into no discussion of the relative claims of these two places, for I do not know, but look on the question with all the indifference would feel in such a locality if there were no rival to its honor. The village is very small, and the villages are in this country. I have not seen one that looks much better than a collection of pig-sties. The room in the reputed house in which the wedding took place is fitted up as a chapel, and two huge stone vessels, like great bollons, are shown as part of the identical "water-pots of stone, containing two or three firkins apiece," in which was "the miraculous water that saw its God and blushed." Regarding the locality as the probable one where Jesus did "this beginning of miracles, and manifested forth His glory" we are wont to recall it at our Epiphany season, I could not fail to look at it with interest. Shortly after this we passed a little village called Mashkad, with a striking well, or domed pillar, said to mark the grave of the Prophet Jonah. If this be so, then the village must occupy the site of Gathhepher, which was Jonah's place of birth and residence.

About an hour after this we passed along the base of what is called "The Mount of Beatitudes," on which it is claimed that Jesus delivered "the Sermon on the Mount." It is a smooth, green mount, easy of ascent, and very eligible for such a purpose. It is more than an hour's journey from the lake, and with other mountains nearer it, and quite as suitable, it is hardly likely that he would have led "the multitude" so far from their homes. Continuing on our way, we soon after came in sight of "The Sea of Galilee." The descent of a thousand feet down the mounts-side, from the first point of view, brought us to our camping-ground, on the shore of the lake, a short distance from the walls of Tiberias. It has not the natural beauty of Lake George, nor the grandeur of some of our adjacent lakes, but yet it is very beautiful. Murray speaks of it as dreary, but I differ from him entirely in this opinion. It is 30 miles long and 10 broad. On the west side the hills of Galilee, covered with tree branches and fresh verdure, slope gracefully down to its shores. On the east side the bold hills of Gadara rise abruptly from the water, while far off yond its northern point the lofty Hermon lifts its majestic form towards heaven, with its summit wrapped in snow. When we first looked on its placid waters they were as smooth as a sea of glass; but before we had reached the shore a fresh breeze had sprung up, and the white-capped waves were rolling in on the pebbly beach. But the chief interest of the Tiberias lake lies not so much in its natural features as in its historical memories. It was here that Jesus called most of His disciples from mending and mending their nets to become "fishers of men." It was here, at the upper end of the lake, that "Capernaum, the city," Capernaum, was situated. Here He taught the multitudes from the hillsides, along the beach, and from the ship as His floating pulpit. Here many of His miracles were performed and His parables delivered. Here He walked on the water as on dry ground, and hushed the boisterous winds, and calmed the angry billows with His simple but resistless words. But how changed is the human aspect of this sea since that day! Then its shores were teeming with life and industry; now they are great multitude of fishes immediately caught; and, when he had dined, he saith to Simon Peter, "Feed my lambs." Tho' of impulsive character, he was not so full of interest as some others have been. still, we passed several places that were worthy of note. The "well of Jesus" was the little village of Kafr Kenna. This is one of two sites which claim to be the "Cana Galilee," where Jesus turned the water into wine. I enter into no discussion of the relative claims of these two places, for I do not know, but look on the question with all the indifference would feel in such a locality if there were no rival to its honor. The village is very small, and the villages are in this country. I have not seen one that looks much better than a collection of pig-sties. The room in the reputed house in which the wedding took place is fitted up as a chapel, and two huge stone vessels, like great bollons, are shown as part of the identical "water-pots of stone, containing two or three firkins apiece," in which was "the miraculous water that saw its God and blushed." Regarding the locality as the probable one where Jesus did "this beginning of miracles, and manifested forth His glory" we are wont to recall it at our Epiphany season. I could not fail to look at it with interest. Shortly after this we passed a little village called Mashkad, with a striking well, or domed pillar, said to mark the grave of the Prophet Jonah. If this be so, then the village must occupy the site of Gathhepher, which was Jonah's place of birth and residence.

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PROPOSALS.

TO CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.—SEALED PROPOSALS, indorsed "Proposals for building a public school-house in the Twenty-first Ward," will be received by the undersigned at the office, S. E. corner of SIXTH and MIFFLIN streets, until TUESDAY, May 31, 1870, at 12 o'clock M., for building a public school-house on a lot of ground situate in Roxborough, in the Twenty-first Ward.

Said school-house to be built in accordance with the plans of A. H. Esler, Superintendent of School Buildings, to be seen at the office of the Committee, on Tuesday, May 24.

No bids will be considered unless accompanied by a certificate from the City Solicitor that the provisions of an ordinance approved May 25, 1869, have been complied with. The contract will be awarded only to known master builders.

By order of the Committee on Property.

H. W. HALLIWELL, Secretary.

mp 18 21 24 28 31

TO CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.—SEALED PROPOSALS, indorsed "Proposals for building a Public School-house in the Twenty-first Ward," will be received by the undersigned, at the office, southeast corner of SIXTH and MIFFLIN streets, until TUESDAY, May 31, 1870, at twelve o'clock M., for building a public school-house on a lot of ground situate on the corner of Seventh and Jackson streets, in the Twenty-first Ward.

Said school-house to be built in accordance with the plans of A. H. Esler, Superintendent of School Buildings, to be seen at the office of the Committee, on Tuesday, May 24.

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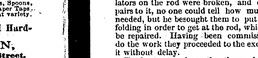

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THE RELIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA, Incorporated in 1841. Charter Perpetual. No. 308 WALNUT Street. Insures against loss or damage by FIRE, on Stores and other Buildings, Merchandise, Furniture, Household Goods, Wares and Merchandise in town or country.

LOSSES PROMPTLY ADJUSTED AND PAID. Assets, December 1, 1869. $401,872 87

Thomas Robins, Jr., Lewis R. Ashhurst, Henry Lewis, Jr., Jos. P. Martin, J. F. Mitchell, Edwin M. Lewis, Thomas Robins, Jr., Benjamin D. Comegys, Augustus Heaton, Jos. P. Martin, Thomas Wattson, Thomas Robins, Edward Y. Townsend, Wm. G. Boulton, Thos. H. Taylor, Jr.

DIRECTORS.

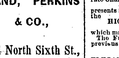
Thomas Robins, President.—LEWIS R. ASHHURST, Vice President.—J. LIVINGSTON BERINGER, Vice President and Secretary.—JOHN T. MARPLE, Assistant Secretary.—RICHARD L. ASHHURST, Treasurer.

HEATERS AND STOVES.

PANCOAST & MAULE THIRD AND PEAR STREETS, Plain and Galvanized WROUGHT AND CAST IRON PIPE For Gas, Steam and Water. FITTINGS, BRASS WORK, TOOLS, BOILER TUBES. Heating by Steam and Hot Water, Pipe of all Sizes Cut and Fitted to Order.

CARD. Having sold HENRY B. PANCOAST and FRANCIS I. MAULE (partners) in our employ for several years past the Stock, Tools and Fixtures of our HEATER ESTABLISHMENT, located at the corner of THIRD and PEAR Streets, in the city, that business will continue, together with that of HEATING and VENTILATING, PLUMBING and STEAM BUILDING, by STEAM and HOT WATER, in all its various systems, will be carried on under the firm name of PANCOAST & MAULE, at the old stand, and we respectfully solicit a continuance of the patronage so liberally extended to the late firm, and assure the public we are entirely competent to perform all work of that character.

MORRIS, TASKER & SONS, PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22, 1870. mh 31-tf



RAND, PERKINS & CO., 124 North Sixth St., MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN THE MOST APPROVED Brick-Set and Portable Heaters. A large assortment of FLAT TOP, SIDE AND TOP Boilers, Registers, Ventilators, &c. Send for Circular. mw 12 th s tu 1y

THOMAS S. DIXON & SONS, Successors to Dixon & Dunn, No. 1224 CHESTNUT Street, Philada., Opposite United States Mint, manufacturers of LOW DOWN, PARLOR, OVAL, OBSERVER, AND OTHER GRATES, For Anthracite, Bituminous and Wood Fire. WARM-AIR FURNACES, For Warming Churches and Buildings. REGISTERS, VENTILATORS, AND CHIMNEY CAPS. COOKING RANGES, FOR HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, SCHOOLS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

GROCERIES, LIQUORS, &c.

PURE OLIVE OIL.—THE SUBSCRIBERS have been in the habit of importing the pure article for many years, and have now arrangements for receiving, and have now in store, the product of the year 1869, which they offer at the lowest market rates. Orders will be promptly filled. JOHN C. DUSSLER & CO., 1 South Delaware avenue.

CHERRY WINE.—A VERY SUPERIOR and old article of Cherry Wine, only $1.00 per gallon, at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

CLARETS.—EXTRA QUALITY TABLE Claret, $3 per gallon; Claret Wine, of superior flavor, except Importation—is above and for sale at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

CHOICE SICILIA SALMON.—FRESH C. Salmon from California; a very choice article; for sale at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

CROSS BARLOW'S ALE.—A NEW ARTICLE of ale, very choice and delicious, at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

MUTTON HAMS.—A VERY CHOICE article of Dried Mutton, equal to the best dried beef, for sale at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

JUST RECEIVED AND IN STORE 1,000 Cases of Champagne, sparkling Hock and Moselle, for sale at COSTY'S Old Wine Store, No. 40 South Second street, below Chestnut.

PRESERVED GINGER IN SYRUP.—A VERY choice article, just received and for sale by JESSE HOYT, No. 117 Walnut street.

JORDAN'S CELEBRATED PURE TONIC Ale for invalids, family use, etc.

Physicians recommend it for health, its full Winter body of ale highly nutritious, and well known for its wide-spread and influence—use, by order of Board of Health, for invalids, use of Chemists, &c., commended to the attention of all consumers who want a strictly pure article of ale, brewed from the best Canada Barley, on the celebrated manner for home use or transport. Orders by mail or otherwise promptly supplied.

JESSE HOYT, Agent, 117 Walnut street, below Third, and Walnut street.

AUCTION SALES.

JAMES A. FREEMAN, AUCTIONEER, No. 232 Walnut street.

THIS DAY (SATURDAY), at 10 o'clock, sale at the Exchange, will include:

10 SHARES OF BANK TAX.—Valuable Stock, 1 share, guaranteed, interested by Tannery, assessed, Twenty-third Ward, Twenty-second Ward, Twenty-fourth Ward, Twenty-sixth Ward, and Kensington street, Twenty-fourth Ward, Twenty-second Ward, Twenty-fourth Ward, Twenty-second Ward, Twenty-fourth Ward, Twenty-second Ward