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THE HOLY LAND.

BY HARRIET MARTINEAU.

Jerusalem.—A Morning's Walk.

Leaving the city of Jerusalem by the Bethlehem gate we descended into the Valley of Hinnom. Here there are many tombs cut in rock, with entrances like doorways. When I speak of Bethany, I shall have occasion to describe the tombs of the Jews. It was in this valley, and near the Fountain of Siloam, that in the days of Jewish idolatry children passed through the fire in honor of Moloch. This is the place called Tophet in Scripture—fit to be spoken of, as it was as an image of hell. Here, in this place of corruption and cruelty, where fire hovered about living bodies, and worms preyed on the dead—here was the imagery of terror—the worm that dieth not, and the fire that is not quenched." The scene is very different now. The slopes are terraced, that the Winter rains may not wash away the soil; and these terraces were to day green with springing wheat; and the spreading olives and fig trees cast their shadows on the rich though stony soil.—Streams were led from the Pool of Siloam among the fields and gardens; and all looked cool and fresh in the once hellish spot. On the top of the opposite hill was the Field of Blood—the field bought as a burial place for strangers by the priests to whom Judas returned his bribe. For the burial of strangers it was used in subsequent ages, for pilgrims who died at the Holy City were laid there. It is now no longer consecrated, but a charnel-house marks the spot.

The pools all around Jerusalem are beautiful; the coolarching rock roof of some, the cool tufted sides and clear waters of all, are delicious. The Pool of Siloam is still pretty—though less so, no doubt, than when the blind man, sent to wash there, opened his eyes on its sacred stream. The Fountain of Siloam is more beautiful than the pool. It lies deep in a grotto, and must be reached by broad steps which wind down in the shadow. A woman sat to day in the dim light of reflected sunshine, washing linen in the pool. Here it was, that in days of old the priest came down with his golden pitcher to draw water for the temple service—and later it was that the thought of Milton came, when he sang of—

Siloa's brook that flowed,
Fast by the oracle of God.

We were now in the valley of Jehosaphat; and we crossed the bottom of it, where the Brook Kedron must run, when it runs at all; but it seems to be now merely a Winter torrent, and never to have been a constant stream. When we had ascended the opposite side of the valley, we were on the mount of Olives.

The ascent was steep—now among tombs, and now past fields of waving barley, decked with the shade of olive trees. As we ascended, the opposite hill seemed to rise, and the city to spread. Two horsemen in the valley below, and a woman with a burdeon her head, mounting to the city by a path up Moriah, looked so surprisingly small as to prove the grandeur of the scenery. Herabouts it was, as said, and may reasonably be believed, that Jesus mourned over Jerusalem, and told his followers what would become of the noble city which here rose upon their view, crowning the sacred mount, and shining clear against the cloudless sky. Dwellers in our climate cannot conceive of such a sight as Jerusalem seen from the summit of the mount of Olives. The sloping mountains, over towards the Dead sea, are dressed in the softest hues of purple, lilac, and gray. The hill country to the north is almost giddy with its contrast of color: its white or gray stones, red soil, and crops of vivid green. But the city is the glory—alot on the steep, its long lines of wall clearly defining it to the sight, and every minaret and cupola, and almost every stone marked out by the brilliant sun-shine against the deep blue sky. In the spaces unbuilt on within the walls, are tufts of verdure; and cypresses spring here and there from some convent garden. The green lawns of the Mosque of Omar spread out small before the eye, with their groups of tiny, gay moving people. It is now so glorious a place to the eye, what must it have been in the days of its pride! Yet in that day, when every one looked for the exulting blessing "Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces!" there came instead the lamentation over the Jerusalem that killed prophets and stoned the messengers of Jehovah, and whose house must be therefore left desolate.

The disciples, looking hence upon the strength of the walls, the massiveness of Temple buildings, then springing 480 feet from the bed of the brook below, and the depth and ruggedness of the ravines surrounding the city on three sides, might well ask when those things should be, and how they should be accomplished. On the fourth side, the north, where there is a ravine, the Roman Army was encamped. We could now see that rising ground, now covered with the Roman tents, but with cornfields and olive grounds. The Romans encamped one legion on the Mount of Olives; but it could not do any harm to the city; and the only available point of attack—the north side—was guarded by a moat and three walls. The siege was long; so long that men's hearts failed them for fear, and at least one fair woman ate her own child; and at the end of the temple, not one stone was left upon another. Now we were in

Delicate Compliment.—The ladies of Charleston have presented to General Shields, for the support of his wounded arm, a sling made of deep blue satin, on which is embroidered in gold cord a Palmetto tree, surrounded with a golden wreath of Shamrock, with the motto, "Jesus sustains the Palmetto—the Palmetto will sustain a Shields."—R. Enquirer.

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

BRUNER & JAMES,
Editors & Proprietors.

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RELEASERS.



DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE.
Gen'l. Harrison.

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the midst of these scenes to-day! We stood where the doom was pronounced; below us was the camp of the single legion I have mentioned; opposite was the huddled city, with the site of the temple courts; and over to the north was the camp of the enemy. Here was the whole scene of that "great tribulation, such as was not known from the beginning of the world."

From the summit of Olivet we went down to the scene of that other tribulation—that anguish of mind which had perhaps never been surpassed from the beginning of the world. "When Jesus had spoken these words" (his words of cheer after the last supper) "he went forth," we are told, "with his disciples over the brook Kedron, where was a garden." This garden we entered to day from the other direction, and left it by crossing the bed of the brook.

It is a dreary place now, very unlike what it must have been when "Jesus oftentimes resorted thither with his disciples." It is a plot of ground on a slope above the brook, enclosed with fences of loose stones, and occupied by eight extremely old olive trees—the oldest, I should think, that we saw in all our travels. I do not mean that they could have been growing in the days of Christ. That is supposed to be impossible though I never could learn what is the greatest age known to be attained by the olive-tree. The roots of these were supported by the little terraces of stones, that neither trees nor soil might be washed down the slope by the winter torrents. But little remains of these once fine tree hollow trunks and a few straggling branches. It is with the mind's eye that we must see filling up of this garden enclosure were Jesus "ofttimes resorted thither"—his orchard of fig, pomegranate, and olive trees, and the grass or young springing corn under foot. From every part of it the approach of Judas and his party must have been visible. By their lanterns and torches and weapons, gleaming in the light, they must have been seen descending the hill from the city gate.—The sleeping disciples may not have heard the lights and footsteps of the multitude; but step by step as it wound down the steep, and then crossed the brook, and turned up to the garden, the victim knew that the hour of his fate drew on.

By the way the crowd came down, and we ascended toward the city, turning aside however to skirt the north wall, instead of returning home through the streets.—Not to mention now other things that we saw, we noted much connected with the siege:—the nature of the ground—favorable to the encampment of an army, and the shallow moat under the walls, where the Romans brought two great wooden towers on wheels, that the men in the towers might fight on a level with those on the walls, and throw missiles into the town. The scene of conflict is very quiet now. A crop of barley was ripening under the very walls: and an Arab, with a soft mild countenance, was filling his water-skins at the pool, called the sheep pool, near the Damascus gate. The proud Roman and the despairing Jew were not more unlike each other than this Arab, with his pathetic face, was unlike them both. As he stooped under the dim arches of the rock, and his red cap came into contrast with the dark gray of the still water below, and the green of the dangling weeds over his head, our thoughts were recalled to our own day and to a sense of the beauty we meet in every nook and corner of the Holy Land.

From this ramble, my readers may see something of what it is to take walks in the neighborhood of Jerusalem.

AN IMPORTANT HINT.

It is known that there has been for two or three years past an unusual amount of sickness in the up-country, which has not been satisfactorily traced to any particular cause. A very intelligent gentleman, of extensive observation, informs us that he has no doubt it has been produced by the immense number of the dead Oak Trees standing on every plantation; and that there will be no decrease of sickness until they are cut down and burnt up. He is, himself, acting on this opinion, and is cutting down and burning the dead timber on his farm. As we have never before heard this cause assigned, we have thought we might subserve the cause of humanity by mentioning it.—Raleigh Register.

"Corrupt Federalists," &c.—It has become a custom with the "Standard," when any free citizen of the United States conscientiously differs from the President, and has the independence boldly to declare his honest sentiments, to shower down upon his devoted head, all the harsh and libelous epithets to be found in the foul vocabulary of its Party. "The King can do no wrong," seems to be the Loco Foco motto; and to canvass his actions or censure his motives, raises at once the cry of "Treason," and such an one is besmeared with its choice invective of—"Tories"—"Traitors"—"Corrupt-Federalists"—"Enemies to their Country," &c. However chaste and decorous such language may sound in the ears of the Editor of that paper, by the Whigs it is only regarded as the growlings of the surly and cowardly cur who fears to meet the noble Mastiff face to face in open combat.

But it is not strange, that a Paper professing such illimitable freedom of speech, and liberty for the Press, should be found to rail so exceedingly, at the exercise of these great and inestimable privileges guaranteed by the Constitution! If the doctrines of its opponents be false and dangerous, abuse, it has long been decided, is no argument, and never yet won over or convinced an honorable disputant. Why not, then, meet on the broad platform of popular rights, and discuss those questions upon which they differ, fairly, respectfully and understandingly? When this is the case, we may expect less error and more honesty.—Raleigh Register.

A Washington correspondent of the "Baltimore Patriot," says—"I can assure you that, when the proper time arrives, a large majority of the Whigs of Congress, will be found in favor of running General Taylor—and nobody else—as the Whig candidate for the Presidency. There are now many, or most of them, would, of course, greatly prefer, with "Old Rough and Ready" himself, to see Henry Clay occupying the Presidential chair. But Mr. Clay will not be a candidate. The only contingency which could cause him to yield to the wishes of his friends for that purpose, will not happen. Hence General Taylor will be the Whig candidate. He cannot be beaten! Political trimmers, whose Whig predilections are not over firm and strong, may, if they choose, give him their cordial support.—But they must not expect to take the lead of the great Whig party, and point out what course the members of that party must, or must not follow. If they do, they will find their error."

N. C. Mutual Insurance Company.

The annual meeting of the members of this Company, for the election of Directors, took place in this City on Tuesday last. The following gentlemen were chosen Directors for the current year, viz: Dr. J. O. Watson, Albert Stith, Richard Smith, H. D. Turnor, John Primrose, Jas. Litchford, Theodore Partridge, and Weston R. Gales, of Raleigh, and R. N. Taylor, Newbern, George McNeill, Fayetteville, James Sloan, Greensborough, John McRae, Wilmington, and James E. Hoyt, Washington.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, Richard Smith, John Primrose, and Weston R. Gales, were appointed the Executive Committee; Dr. J. O. Watson was re-elected President; Albert B. Stith, Vice President; Richard Smith, Treasurer; Theodore Partridge, Secretary, and Charles Manly, Attorney.

The Business of the Company has been greatly increased during the past year; and whilst its losses have been promptly met, no call has yet been made upon the members for an instalment on their Premium notes. The amount of property insured, up to the day of meeting, was with in a fraction of \$1,400,000. If the public, generally, would examine into the efficiency and economy of this system of Insurance, we think they would patronize it to an extent even still greater.—R. Reg.

PETITION FROM THE ARMY.

Mr. Dix, of New York, presented the annexed petition in the United States Senate, a few days ago, in a feeling speech:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America:

"We the undersigned, officers of the United States Army, beg leave, most respectfully, to represent to your honorable bodies, that many of us are married, and have left wives and children at home dependent upon us; that we are constantly exposed to danger and sudden death, not only on the field of battle, but by exposure to unhealthy and deadly climates; and that in going to the fight many of us have our hearts depressed by the melancholy conviction that, if we fall, our wives and children will be helplessly thrown on the cold charities of the world.

We most respectfully ask the country to give us the assurance, if we offer up our lives in her service, that she will provide for our destitute widows and orphans; and that she may do so, we humbly petition your honorable bodies to pass such a law as you in your wisdom shall deem just; as shall give to the wives and children of officers and soldiers dying in the service of the country, pensions during

their natural lives or widowhood of the wife, and during the minority of the children; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Pluebla, Mexico, August 1st, 1847.

It is due to Gen. Scott to say, that in signing the petition, he had added these words:—"Without any desire of procuring for my own family any contingent benefit from the proposed change in the pension laws of the army, I entirely concur in the reasonableness of the foregoing petition, and can see no military or other objection to its being signed and presented.

WINFIELD SCOTT."

Gen. Quitman also signs with the following addition—I approve the measure of placing the regular army on the same footing with the navy and volunteers.

J. A. QUITMAN,

PEACE WITH MEXICO.

BY ALBERT GALLATIN.

IV.—Negotiations and War.

In September, 1845, the President of the United States directed their consul in Mexico to ascertain from the Mexican Government whether it would receive an Envoy from the United States, entrusted with full power to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two Governments.

The answer of Mr. De la Pena y Pena, Minister of the Foreign Relations of Mexico, was: "That, although the Mexican nation was deeply injured by the United States, through the acts committed by them in the department of Texas, which belongs to his nation, his Government was disposed to receive the Commissioner of the United States who might come to the capital, with full powers from his Government to settle the present dispute in a peaceful, reasonable, and honorable manner;" thus giving a new proof that, even in the midst of its injuries and of its firm decision to exact adequate reparation for them, the Government of Mexico does not reply with contumely to the measures of reason and peace, to which it was invited by its adversary.

The Mexican Minister at the same time intimated that the previous recall of the naval force of the United States, then lying in sight of the port of Vera Cruz, was indispensable; and this was accordingly done by our Government.

But it is essential to observe that whilst Mr. Black had, according to his instructions, inquired whether the Mexican Government would receive an Envoy from the United States with full power to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two Governments, the Mexican Minister had received that his Government was disposed to receive the Commissioner of the United States who might come with full powers to settle the present dispute in a peaceful, reasonable, and honorable manner.

Mr. Slidell was, in November following, appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America near the Government of the Mexican Republic, and he arrived in Mexico on the sixth of December.

And again:

"Should the Mexican Government finally refuse to receive you, then demand passports from the proper authority, and return to the U. States. It will then become the duty of the President to submit the whole case to Congress, and call upon the nation to assert its just rights and avenge its injured honor."

With the same object in view the Secretary of War did, by his letter dated January 13, 1846, instruct General Taylor—

"To advance and occupy, with the troops under his command, positions on or near the east bank of the Rio del Norte. * * * * * It is presumed Point Isabel will be considered by you an eligible position. This point, or some one near it, and points opposite Matamoros and Mier, and in the vicinity of Loredo, are suggested for your consideration. * * * * * Should you attempt to exercise the right which the United States have, in common with Mexico, to the free navigation of this river, it is possible that Mexico would interpose resistance. You will not attempt to enforce this right without further instructions. * * * * * It is not designed, in our present relations with Mexico, that you should treat her as an enemy; but, should she assume that character by a declaration of any open act of hostility towards us, you will not act merely on the defensive, if your relative means enable you to do otherwise."

The Administration was therefore of opinion that this military occupation of the territory in question was not an act of hostility towards Mexico, or treating her as an enemy. Now, I do aver, without fear of contradiction, that whenever a territory claimed by two Powers is, and has been for a length of time, in the possession of one of them, if the other should invade and take possession of it by a military force, such an act is an open act of hostility according to the acknowledged and practical law of nations. In this case the law of nations only recognises a clear and positive fact.

The sequel is well known. Gen. Taylor, with his troops, left Corpus Christi March 21, 1846, and entered the desert which separates that place from the vicinity of the Rio del Norte. On the 21st he was encamped three miles south of the Arroyo, or Little Colorado, having by the route he took marched one hundred miles distant. He on the 19th met a party of irregular Mexican cavalry, who informed him they had peremptory orders, if he passed the river, to fire upon his troops, and that it would be considered a declaration of war. The river was, however, crossed, without a single shot having been fired. In a proclamation issued on the 12th, General Mejia, who commanded the forces of the Department of Tamaulipas, asserts that the limits of Texas are certain and recognised, and never had extended beyond the river Nueces; that, the Cabinet of the United States coveted the regions on the left bank of the Rio Bravo, and that the American army was now advancing to take possession of a large part of Tamaulipas

On the 24th of March General Taylor met a point on the route from Matamoros to Isabel, eighteen miles from the former, and from the latter place, where a deputation from him a formal protest of the Prefect of the eastern district of the department of Tamaulipas, declaring, in behalf of the citizens of that district, that they never will consent to themselves from the Mexican Republic, unite themselves with the United States. On the 24th of April the Mexican General Diaz required General Taylor to leave camp within twenty-four hours, and to go to the other bank of the Nueces river, and informed General Taylor that he could not remain upon the soil of the department of Tamaulipas, it would clearly result that the Mexicans accept the war to which they had been provoked. On the 24th of April, General Taylor arrived in Matamoros, and on the same day informed General Taylor that he could not remain in the department of Tamaulipas, and would leave. On the same day a party of American dragoons, who had been marching distance up the left bank of the river, engaged with a large force of Indians, who were killed or wounded, were surrendered compelled to surrender. These facts were before Congress by the President in his message of the 11th of May.

V.—The claim of Texas to the Rio del Norte as its Boundary examined.

From what precedes it appears that the United States considered the refusal of Mexico to receive a resident envoy or minister plenipotentiary as sufficient cause for war, and the Rio del Norte the legitimate boundary of Texas. The opinion is now of no importance; but the question of boundary, which was the cause of hostilities, has to this day been of great impediment to the restoration of peace. I feel satisfied that if this was settled would be no insuperable difficulty in other pretensions.

The United States claim no other part of the Mexican dominions, unless it be by conquest. The tract of country between the Rio Nueces and the Del Norte is the only part which has been claimed by both parties respectively belonging either to Texas or Mexico. As regards every other part of the Mexican dominions, unless it be by conquest, the United States have claimed any portion of it otherwise than compact, freely consented to by Mexico. It is in every respect most difficult to examine the grounds on which the United States to the only territory that both nations is founded. It is the main point at issue.

The Republic of Texas did, by an act of December, 1836, declare the Rio del Norte its boundary. It will not be seriously denied that a nation has a right, by a law of Congress or legislative body, it may be on the Executive not to conclude peace with Mexico unless that body agreed to. As regards right, the act of a perfect nullity. We want the arguments and documents by which the claim is based.

On a first view the pretensions are absurd. There is no exception: the Rio del Norte from its source to its mouth is declared the rightful boundary of Texas. That is its source within the department, probably of New Mexico, which it traverses through its whole length from north to south, dividing it into two unequal parts. The largest and most populous, including Santa Fe, the capital, lies on the left bank of the river, therefore embraced within the claim of Texas. Now this province of New Mexico was visited and occupied by the Spaniards Vasquez Coronado, in the years 1540 and 1541.

It was at that time voluntarily evacuated, subsequently revisited, and some settlements made about the year 1583; finally conquered 1595 by the Spaniards under the command of Onate. An insurrection of the Indians away the Spaniards in the year 1620, re-entered it the ensuing year, and long resistance, reconquered it. The internal conflict with the aborigines related to foreign Powers, the sovereigns over that territory were in question; and it was in consequence made the western boundary of Louisiana Royal Charter of the French Government.

The conquest of the province by Onate five and twenty years prior to the Pilgrims in New England, and years before any permanent settlement was made in North America, on the coast of the Atlantic, by either England, France, Holland, Sweden, or any other Power, or Florida by Spain herself.