

To the eastward is spread before us the Plain of Jordan, about ten miles in length from where the hills of Judea dip their feet into the river, to the Dead Sea, and in width about seven miles from where we stand to the hills of Moab. Here and there it is diversified by clumps of bushes and flowing streams. It has a soil of inexhaustible fertility, and only needs proper cultivation to become again "a field which the Lord hath blessed." It is said that in the middle ages the nuns of Bethany derived from the tropical produce of their farm near here, an annual income of \$25,000. Were the country to be placed once more under a good government, people would no longer think that to be sent to Jericho was an unmitigated evil.

East of the Jordan lies the lofty table-land of Moab, rich in pastures, diversified by a few mountain peaks. From one of those summits the prophet of Pethor looked down and cried, "How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob, and thy tabernacles, O Israel!"

Yonder, too, is Pisgah. Again, in fancy, we behold the seer and law-giver—the old man of 120 years, with eye undimmed and strength unabated, climbing to the mountain-top. He gazes long upon the wished-for land of rest, of which, for forty years, he had been dreaming. To the south there meets his eye the barren desert, scene of so many weary wanderings; to the north, the snow-clad peaks of Lebanon raise their lofty summits; to the west, his view is bounded by the wide-spread waters of the blue Mediterranean, while immediately before him lies the land of beauty and promise. What contrasts of colour were there! The bright blue of the sky commingling in the distance with the deeper blue of the sea; the dull gray of the sands setting in relief the green of the feathery palm, and the darker foliage of the orange; the white-walled cities gleaming brightly against the rich brown of the hills! What contrasts of hill and valley, of plain and mountain, of rocky wastes and fruitful groves! He looks and is content. There his people shall become a nation, strong and prosperous; and there the kingdom of God shall be set up in power and glory. As for him the valley of the Jordan lies at his feet, and the deep gorge of the Dead Sea. His work is done. He is content, and breathes his spirit home to God. It was wisely ordained that no man should know of his sepulchre unto this day. Hero-worship soon deepens into