

passages. Had I gone there an infidel I would have been converted to Christianity. I should have said, 'It is impossible that the scriptures are a concoction or the invention of impostors.'

"Leaving aside all questions of sacred associations and historical suggestiveness, Palestine, the natural scenery itself, is majestic beyond description. I took my dragoman one afternoon just as the sun was setting, and pointing to the landscape before me I said: 'I have stood on the summits of the snowy Nevada mountain; I have climbed the highest Alps; I have gone through the Yosemite valley, but never before in my life have I looked on such a sight as this.'

"The Holy Land and the Holy Book fit each other. God with his right hand wrote the scriptures, and with his left hand read Palestine, the two hands of the same being. And in proportion as Palestine is brought under close inspection, the Bible will be found more glorious and more true. Mightiest book of the past! Mightiest book of the future! Monarch of all literature.

"The Holy Land is a vast wilderness of mighty rocks, ranging in size from mountains down to the sands of the ocean. These rocks are becoming skeletonized. A process of disintegration is going on, and the lime is melting into the soil and enriching it.

"I was on nearly all the fields of Herodian, and Solomonic, and Davidic, and Mosaic, and Abrahamic history. I took Rome and Naples and Athens, and Alexandria and Cairo, on the way out, and take the Greek Archipelago, and Constantinople, and Vienna on the way back. What more can God in his goodness grant me in the way of natural scenery, and classic association, and spiritual opportunity? Ah yes! I can think of something gladder than that He can grant me. Safe return to the people of my beloved flock, the field of my work, and the land where my fathers died, and in the dust of whose valleys I pray God I may be buried."