



[For the Maple Leaf.

JERUSALEM.

Palestine is the land, of all others, towards which the heart of the Christian turns with interest and love ; the scene of events, which, for sublimity and pathos, have no equal in history. Palestine, the ancient home of the Jew, the present possession of the infidel, how full of thrilling interest is the name ! It is the land, which of old, was trod by patriarch and prophet ; the land over which Abraham journeyed, in full belief of the promise that it should be given to his seed for an inheritance, when as yet he had no foot of it in possession ; and where, centuries after, his descendants lived under the immediate government and protection of the Almighty. It is here that David the king reigned, where he wrote those beautiful psalms which have been the language of God's people in all ages. Here was the law given amid awful solemnities, and here also was first published the Gospel. It was in Palestine that, according to the promise, Christ was born. It is most dear to every pious heart, because Jesus called it his earthly home. He journeyed through its towns and villages, over its hills and plains ; he sailed on its waters ; and, when foot-worn and weary, he rested beneath the shadow of its trees. But, though