

would make a formidable fort for defence against the Bedouin. A stone stairway leads to the upper floor. There is no pretence of accommodation beyond the bare walls. All travellers must bring their own provision and forage. As the place had, apparently, never been cleaned out, it was in a very objectionable condition. Near by is one of the typical wells of the country, such as are shown in the accompanying cut.

Overlooking the Lake of Tiberias, at an elevation of 3,500 feet, is the ancient city of Safed. The lovely lake, with its engirdling Galilean hills, and the fertile Haraun beyond the Jordan, lies like a map far beneath the eye. Safed is still one



WAYSIDE WELLS.

of the sacred cities of the Jews. In 1837 this whole region, from Beyrout to Tyre and Tiberias, was shaken by an earthquake, the ravages of which can still be seen in chattered vaults and yawning walls. In one village church the entire congregation of 135 were crushed by the ruins. At Safed the destruction was most terrible, from the fact that the houses were in steep terraces street above street. Of its population of nine thousand, more than half perished miserably. Dr. Thompson gives a heart-rending account of this disaster, and of the often futile efforts to relieve its victims. Some lingered for days before help could reach them, or death end their misery. The Moslems acted in the most heartless manner, plundering and robbing the dying and the dead, even while the earth shook and trembled.