

of narrow fanaticism, made the Galileans far more liberal than their southern brethren, and much more frank and manly. The people of the south were traders and bigots, those of the north husbandmen and open to new ideas.

Dan, in the far north of the ancient territory of Naphtali, is famous for the outburst of one of the three "heads" of the Jordan, from below the mound on which the city once stood. Lebanon is close at hand, and the waters having made their way from it to Dan, underground, rush out at once, with the volume of a small river, and make their course lovely with oleanders and shrubs of all kinds. A little to the east lies Cæsarea Philippi, where Jesus was transfigured; the most charming place in the whole land. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the wooded hills, or of the leafy bed of the second "head" of the Jordan, which leaps into the light from below the limestone heights, while the music of rushing brooks is everywhere heard, as one wanders through this paradise.

Besides the Dead Sea, Palestine has only two lakes: that of Galilee and the marshy lake Huleh, once known as Merom, near which Joshua overthrew the northern Canaanites, under Jabin, King of Hazor; a town in the lovely green hills on the west of the lake. These bodies of water are the last traces of a time, long before history, when the Dead Sea stood twelve hundred feet higher than it does now; the shrinking of this vast expanse of lake being the result of the passing away of the glacial period, and the consequent failure of the supplies of melted snow from Lebanon. These cut off, and the rainfall diminishing, enabled evaporation gradually, in the course of ages, to lower the floods, till the Dead Sea, the Lake of Galilee, and Huleh, with the Jordan, are all that is left of them. Christ's own lake is pear-shaped, or like a harp, whence its old name, Chinnereth, and lies about six hundred feet below the Mediterranean. Hence the heat on its shore is great in summer, causing the fevers of which several instances occur in the gospels. On the west side it is set in a frame of rounded gray hills; on its east side, the tableland of the Hauran forms a wall of bluffs, cut here and there into gullies, but too steeply close to the waters to let towns or villages be built beside them. The lake is clear as crystal and abounds in fish, which, in Christ's day, gave occupation to vast numbers of fisher-folk. Tarichæa, indeed, a town south of Tiberius, was noted for fish-curing establishments, and was able to fight Vespasian with three hundred boats, tho now there is only one on the waters. But there is no wood for boat-building, so that the timber has to be brought from Beirut if wanted. There are almost no inhabitants on either side; Tiberias, the one "town," being only a wretched collection of hovels, while Magdala does not deserve the name even of a ruined hamlet. As to the famous little plain of Gennesareth, it is sacred to thorns and briars.

It is curious to notice how the seclusion of the Hebrews in such a