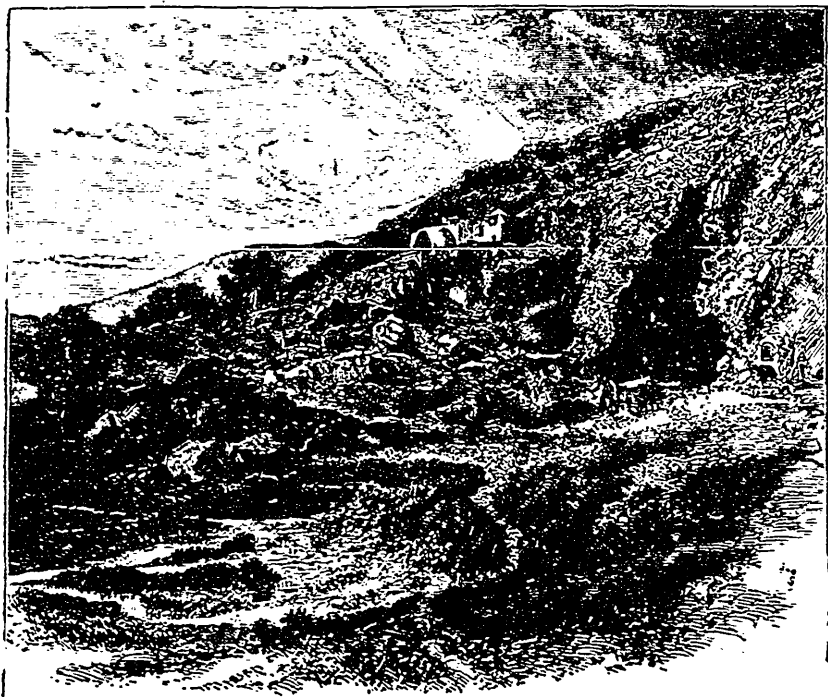


Beneath a venerable oak, profusely hung with rags and fragments of cloth, in honour of some Moslem saint, we took our lunch. A few small but fertile fields yield a great profusion of wheat and vegetables, but it was almost impossible to make one's way through the tangled undergrowth of brush and trees nourished by the abounding waters.

Two hours' ride further over a rugged road, and a climb of five hundred feet, brought us to the most picturesque camp we found in Palestine. It was on the banks of a rushing stream



PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF THE JORDAN.

on the outskirts of the town of Baniyas, the ancient Cæsarea-Philippi, the chief source of the Jordan. The shattered towers and broken walls of the ancient town were of peculiar picturesque-ness. The approach to our camp was through the gate in an old wall, shown on page 9. The round objects in the wall are sections of ancient columns built into its structure. On the site of a bold cliff is a great grotto from which gushes out strong and clear the infant Jordan, a stream fifty feet in width. This fountain is described by Josephus as descending to an immeasurable depth. For unknown ages this wild glen, the source of this