

The last name by which it is called is *Palestine*. The whole land appears to have gone by this name in the time of Moses, for in the XV. chap. of *Exodus* when the Israelites were praising God for their deliverance from Egypt, they referred to what would be accomplished, "sorrow shall take hold on the inhabitants of *Palestine*." *Palestine* means a stripe of land, and this was fact, for the land of the Philistines, or the Palestines, which it originally refers to, was about sixty miles long, and from fifteen to twenty miles broad. Its name is derived from the Philistines, descendants of Mizraim, second son of Ham, who came from Egypt and settled here on the shore of the Mediterranean; expelled the inhabitants, and became so powerful as to give their name to the whole country, though in reality they possessed only a small tract.

The extent of the country. To speak in general terms, the boundaries were, on the west, the Mediterranean, or as it is rendered in scripture, "the great sea," on the east, Arabia; on the north, Syria; on the south, the desert of Sin, and Egypt. Its extent has been variously estimated by travellers. Some say that it does not exceed 170, or 180 miles in length, (from north to south) and about 140 miles in breadth; and at the south part, only about 70 miles. From the latest accounts it would appear that it was 200 miles in length, by 80 in breadth; and where it widens or narrows, 15 miles more or less. Perhaps it may be better to compare it with some country with which we are acquainted. Scotland for instance is 80 miles longer, and 30 miles broader. Ireland is 90 miles longer and 50 miles broader. Or let us compare it with a part of this country. Suppose Lake Erie to be the Mediterranean, or "Great Sea." If we make that the base, we will have nearly its dimensions and shape, by drawing a line from the head of the Niagara river to Amherstburg, thence to Goderich, then to the township of Caledon, thence to the head of the Niagara river. The country of the Philistines lay, as we may suppose a tract 60 miles long and 15 miles broad along Lake Erie shore from the eastern point westward. When we compare it thus, it is but as a fraction of this country. The population of this country, not including the different tribes which were to be expelled, must have been immense. We are told that the number, among whom the land was to be divided, was six hundred and one thousand, seven hundred and thirty, and these were numbered from twenty years old and upwards, and the strong, almost certain probability is, that that number only included males; so that the women from that age and upwards would exceed the males; to these we must add all below twenty years of age, to these again we must add the Levites who were not included in the census of the tribes, because they had no inheritance. Their number was twenty-three thousand—all males from a month old and upwards. The proportion of females among these again has to be added; so that their number when they entered Canaan would be upwards of two millions inclu-