

A PICTORIAL TOUR IN THE HOLY LAND

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A Pictorial Tour in the Holy Land by Albert Augustus Isaacs

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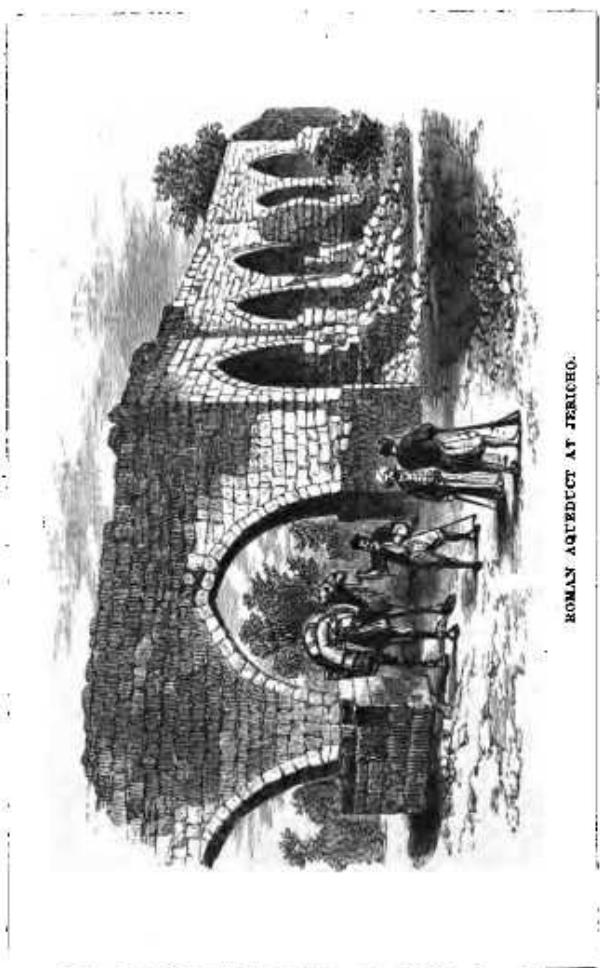
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ALBERT AUGUSTUS ISAACS

**A PICTORIAL TOUR
IN THE HOLY LAND**



ROMAN AQUEDUCT AT JERICHO.

A
PICTORIAL TOUR
IN
THE HOLY LAND.

BY THE
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OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE;
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New and Improved Edition.

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Illustrated from Photographs taken on the spot by the Author.  
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PREFACE.

THE following pages are the substance of several lectures which I have given in reference to the Holy Land. I have been repeatedly urged to publish an account of my visit there, but have hitherto been deterred from doing so, not only by reflection upon the number of books treating on the subject of Palestine, but because the great cost of publishing too generally renders a book of travels a matter of loss to the author, rather than an advantage.

I have now been induced to prepare this work from unexpected facilities being afforded me of elaborately illustrating it, and of at the same time issuing it in a very cheap form. The execution of these illustrations is not only unexceptionable, but when it is known that they have all been most carefully drawn from the photographs which I took on the spot, their value is manifest.

An undying interest is associated with all that concerns the past, the present, and the future of the Holy Land. It is the land of the Bible,

and as such it is more or less familiarized to the minds of persons of every class. This may, in the main, account for the avidity with which every book is read which is written on the subject. But, at the same time, it must be evident that each traveller views his subject from a somewhat different point. He probably sees things under a new aspect, and above all, his own progress is connected with different incidents, and his own observations made under different circumstances. A freshness and originality may thus be thrown over scenes which we have often visited in imagination, and of which we have been wont constantly to hear and to read.

I am also convinced, that when we have been in any way enabled to exercise the pictorial art, it increases vastly those powers of observation which add to the force and correctness of a descriptive narrative. As far as I am concerned, I am persuaded that I should not have had such clear impressions concerning the scenes I have visited, had it not been for the use which I have been enabled to make of the photograph and the pencil.

But in addition to this, I enjoyed peculiar advantages from previous acquaintance with most of the Europeans residing, at the time of my visit, in the Holy Land. Even in those cases in which we were only known to each other by name, there was

no barrier to familiar and immediate intercourse. I have not only cause to acknowledge the extreme kindness and hospitality which I uniformly received, but also the aid and companionship of many gifted and well-informed members of the European and native community, without whose co-operation I could not possibly have accomplished all that I did.

I trust that this unpretending little volume will be profitable as well as interesting to the reader. The theme of which it treats may well excite attention ; and I think it likely that much will be found in it which has been left unnoticed in other works previously published on the subject, but based upon a more ambitious and elaborate plan than that adopted in these pages.

A. A. ISAACS.

. *Photographic Views of Jerusalem and Hebron, as well as those taken within the precincts of the great mosque at Jerusalem, may be obtained on application through the Publisher.*

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