

**Correspondence of Palestine Tourists:
Comprising a series of letters by
George A. Smith, Lorenzo Snow, Paul A. Schettler, and Eliza R. Snow,
of Utah.
Salt Lake City, Utah Territory
1875**

(pg. 254)

March 9, 1873.

PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG:

DEAR BROTHER: — We broke camp at Jerusalem on the 5th inst., and rode over a rocky, barren and almost desolate country, and camped in a ravine called the Robbers' Glen, near a spring termed the Robbers' Pool. The country is generally too rocky, barren and dry to produce anything. In the afternoon we passed several large and thrifty fig orchards and some olive groves. We passed Bethel at some distance on our right, and other ancient sites, but saw nothing that we could date back to the Jewish era, some of the ruins belonging to the Roman, some (pg. 255) to the Saracen, but more to the Crusader period; tradition alone indicates the location of ancient Jewish cities. On the 6th we passed the site of ancient Shiloh, where the land was divided by lot among the children of Israel; visited Jacob's Well, and nearby what some claim to be the Tomb of Joseph, which has been recently repaired by the British Consul. At Jacob's Well we were shown Mounts Ebal and Gerizim; on the summit of the latter the Samaritans have a mosque in which they annually offer sacrifices; they are said to be the oldest and smallest sect in the world. There are said to be extensive ruins on the summit of Gerizim. We camped that night near the city of Nablus (ancient Shechem); the day's ride six hours. During the day the valleys were wider, better cultivated, and more fruitful than nearer Jerusalem.

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(pg. 258) GEOEGE A. SMITH.

On March 9th, 1873 a letter (pg. 259-264) was sent from Nazareth to Editor Woman's Exponent by Eliza R. Snow. Mentions Gerizim and Nablus, not a word of the Samaritans.

Lorenzo Snow in a letter (pages 264-269) to the Editor Deseret News from Syria, March 11th, 1873, mentions Gerizim but no mention of the Samaritans is made.

Another letter (p. 287-291) FROM Paul A. Schettler to Editors Salt Lake Herald, dated March 18th, 1873 from Damascus, says on the 5th they lunched at Jacob's Well and stayed at Nablus, but no mention of Samaritans.

Comments on this section from the Editor of theSamaritanUpdate.com

These references are not listed in *A Bibliography of the Samaritans, Third Edition, Revised, Expanded, and Annotated*, by Alan David Crown and Reinhard Pummer, ATLA Bibliography, No. 51, The Scarecrow Press, Inc. Lanham, Maryland, Toronto, Oxford. 2005