



## The Norman Fiefs in Palestine

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shed, the regions further east and south are unnoticed, and the property described is that of public bodies not of the original fief-holding knights. The army alone is calculated to have consisted of some 20,000 to 25,000 men in all (*see* "Syrian Stone Lore," p. 428), and the population was probably at least equal to that of our own times.

It should be noticed that crusading ruins are mentioned in the "Memoirs" at a great many of the sites, which are included in the above-named lists.

C. R. C.

## THE NORMAN FIEFS IN PALESTINE.

By identification of the various towns in Palestine mentioned in Norman documents, it becomes possible to define the limits of the fiefs, and these I have now laid down on the Survey Map. The fief of Sagette (Sidon), including the Land of Schouf—now *Jebel Shâf*—lay beyond the limits of the Survey on the north, being bounded on the south by the Kasimiyeh gorge, but including the Merj 'Ayûn and the important castle of Belfort. South of this line the following were the divisions:—

(1.) *The Seigneurie of Tyre*, from the Kasimiyeh on the north to the Ladder of Tyre on the south, including the lower hills on the east to *Zubkin*, *Reshkananin*, *Baflei*, and *Nîha*.

(2.) *The Seigneurie of Toron*, held by the Courtney family, east of the last, and extending in a southern direction to *Harfeish*.

(3.) *The Seigneurie of Renier of Marûn*, including *Marûn er Râs* on the south-west, and the towns *Mees* (*Meis*), *Belide* (*Belideh*), *Cades* (*Kades*), and *Chateau Neuf* (*Hunin*). It appears to have reached to the Jordan Valley.

(4.) *The Seigneurie of Montfort*, between (1) and (2), extended from *Aithire* (*P'ater*) on the north to *Jeth* (*Jett*) on the south. On the west it included *Judyn* (*Kul'at Jiddin*), *Zoenite* (*Zueinîta*), and *Tabaria* (*Tibria*) reaching to the plains of Acre.

(5.) *The Seigneurie of St. George of Labeyne*, from *Beit Jenn* on the east to *Gelon* (*Jallân*) on the west, and from *Bucael* (*el Bukei'ah*) on the north to *Wâdy Halzân* on the south. St. George of Labeyne was the present *El B'aneh*, near which is the shrine of *El Khudr* (St. George).

(6.) *The Territory of Acre*, from the Ladder of Tyre to the Kishon, and extending from the sea to the mountains west of *Caphar Mada* and *Zekanin* (*Kefr Menda* and *Sukhnin*).

(7.) *The Seigneurie of Cayphas* included *Carmel* and the sea shore almost to *Chateau Pelerin*.

(8.) *The Seigneurie of Caymont*, a small fief round *Tell Keimûn*.

(9.) *The Prince of Galilee* occupied the rest of Upper Galilee and all the plain of *Esdraelon* to *Petit Gerin* (*Jenin*). On the south-east the border ran from *Le Grand Gerin* (*Zer'in*) by *Lecara* (*Kâra*), *Hubelet*

(*Yebla*), and Gebul (*Jabbûl*), having the Valley of Jezreel in the next fief. The borders of the Seigneur of Tiberias in this fief I am not able to define.

(10.) *The Seigneurie of Bessan* included the Jezreel Valley and Jordan Valley, perhaps as far as *Tell er Ridhghah*, where the Beisan plain ends.

(11.) *The Seigneurie of Cæsarea* included the Sharon plain to the River of Roche Taillie (*Nahr el Fâlik*). On the east it ran to the low hills including Hatil (*Attîl*) and Allar (*Ellâr*), Caphet (*Keffa*), Pharaon (*Fer'on*), and Phardesie (*Furdisia*).

(12.) *The Seigneurie of Arsur*, south of the last, and as far south as the Arsur river (*Nahr el 'Auja*); extended on the east to include Largieous (*Jeiyâs*).

(13.) *The Seigneurie of Naples* included the Samaritan hills as far south as Kafarhone (*Kefr'Ana*) and Val de Curs (*Ain Sinia*).

(14.) *The Seigneurie of Jaffa and Ascalon* belonged to the famous Seigneurs of Ibelin (*Yebnî*). It extended south from the River of Arsur to Gaza, and on the east to Betenoble (*Beit Nûba*), Huldres (*Khuldah*), Blanche Garde (*Tell es Sâfi*), Zeite (*Zeita*), and Agelin (*'Ajlân*).

(15.) *The Seigneurie of Darum*, round *Deir el Belah*.

(16.) *The Seigneurie of St. Abraham* included the Hebron hills from *Beit Jibrin* eastward. On the north it seems to have extended to Jamavara (*Jemrârah*) and Meîmes (*Mâmâs*).

(17.) *The Royal Domain* was between St. Abraham and Naples, including the Jerusalem hills and Jericho Valley. A large proportion of the villages in this region were given by successive kings to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

(18.) *Oultre Jourdain*, the great fief of Renaud of Chatillon, included Gilead and Moab.

(19.) *The Land of Suhete* was the Jaulân up to Bânias.

A few notes may be added,

There were three bridges over Jordan in the 12th century, viz. :—

(1) The bridge of Chastelet = *Jisr Benât Y'akûb*.

(2) The bridge of Sennabra = *Jisr es Sidd*, just south of the Sea of Galilee, where the ruins of Sinnabris (*Sin-en-nâbra*) still exist.

(3) The bridge of Judaire = *Jisr el Mujâmi'a*.

The *Jisr ed Dâmîeh* is also probably a Crusading structure, but I do not know its Crusading name.

The *Lake of Castorie* was in the plain near Arsuf. It seems clearly to be the present *Bahret Katurîeh* of the Survey.

M. Rey, in 1883, promised a Crusading map of Palestine. I do not know if this has yet appeared. If so, the fiefs will probably be shown much as above, since many of the towns noticed in this paper were identified by him.

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