

eat no more of that dish. Seeing a pile of

dinner ! I took up the pile and passed the

impression was that I was eating woolen cloth

sprinkled with sand, then it seemed like leath-

dirt.

From Syria.

LETTER FROM REV. H. H. JESSUP.

ABRIH, MT. LEBANON, March 20, 1856. DEAR BRO. S .-- I received your letter of Jan. 31st on Friday, March 14th, making the he will have no fear of molestation. time forty-three days from home. This is Bro, A. and I retired carly as we were anon. At times you find yourself on the and sparkling, during the whole year. not unusual in the winter season as the Medquite weary, and we could hear L. reading brink of a precipice, with no road in sight exthe French are more cantious about venturing in rough weather, and in consequence are slower, although it is a comfort that they are much safer, than our fast American steamers. You may wish an explanation with regard to my coming here. On Saturday morning, L., Mr. Aiken, Rev. Mr. Benton, and I, set out for B'Hamdun and Ain Zehalta. It was our intention to take dinner at B, and journey on to Ain Zchalta the same afternoon. L. and Mr. B. had their own borses, while Mr. A. and I had horses from some livery stable. My steed was an improvement upon anything I had before hired, and I found a spur quite unnecessary. We rode on quietly, ascending the mountain at the usual mod- and our letter-writing was suspended by this erate pace, climbing rugged rocks, and en- sudden, but necessary infleux of darkness .joying the fine scenery. Now and then we The doors are so low that a man unused to us. Far down in the valley, perhaps a tended for bread. The loaves were about would stop to examine some rich locality of stoop, will be compelled to bend very low thousand or fiftcen hundred teet below us eightcen inches in diameter, and about the o fossil shells, or to decipher some old Roman before he will venture to advance. Along there were deep gorges with precipitous rocky

after being lulled to sleep by such a sound ! equally steep and rough. In one place there I almost lost my appetite in looking at it.making frequent mud-holes. This happened when Dr. Haskell and I were here.

inscription on the face of a projecting rock. --- the sides of the room are grotesque speci- sides, into which several large waterfalls We enjoyed the change in the atmosphere as mens of architectural ornament called by the poured in succession, with a thundering roar. we ascended, and when we reached B'Ham- Arabs, noz. The wall is first covered with On the opposite side, cliff after cliff arose in dui at the elevation of 3600 feet, it was al- clay, in which the women make all sorts of rugged, awful grandeur, while the immense most like winter at home. We needed our designs with their fingers, in circles, stars, detached masses of rocks which lay loose overcoats in the house, even when sitting by diamond, squares, and crooked attempts at and seemingly restless on the sloping surface, a warm fire. Winter clothing is as necessa- everything else conceivable, and then the only waiting the wearing of the waters, or a

ry here asit is at home, and I should have whole is coated over with white wash (as slight earth-quake's shock to send them with suffered greatly without it. To-day, we are the colored man in Montrose observes) of all fearful velocity into the unseen depths beshivering here in Abeih, (ah bay) and we are colors. This extravagant display of artistic low, threatened with instant destruction all sitting in a room warmed by a large air- ornamentation does not obtain in all of the whatever might stand in their way. F Yonder tight stove. Mrs. B. and the children were houses of the people, as all cannot afford to is a goatherd with his flock of jet black goats,

While I am trying to sleep you may look is a natural stair case about 300 feet from Respect to our hostess who stood in the coraround the room. The floor, (as are nearly top to bottom, which is so steep and narrow ner with her white veil partly drawn aside all of the floors in Syria) is of mud rolled that I did not venture to ride up. Mr. A. looking at us, required that we should eat down so as to be smooth and hard. A mat and I gave our horses to the guide, and it what she had provided, and I labored faithis spread over it, but now and then it crunimade me quite dizzy, even to walk along fully to dispose of one bowlful, but I could bles, and the dust comes through the mat, such a precipice. Some of the steps are near rendering it quite impossible to keep the floor Iy three feet high, and the poor horses are round thin mats on the earthen floor by my it rains hard the shutters outside must be closed, else the water would beat through the sash and drench the floors, perhaps

clean. The room is large and there are compelled to jump and plunge so violently side, I asked Lorenzo what they were for. two windows, which open on hinges. When that I wonder that they do not lose their foot- He said they were loaves of bread for our ing and fall into the ravines below. The scenery between B'Hamdun and Ain bread around, and then tasted it. My first they may. Zehalta is grand. Above, toward the eastward, extends the highest range of Lebanon. As we descended the deep ravine be- er, and finally when I nearly broke one of my

low, and reached the range next to Ain teeth in trying to masticate an unbroken ker-Zchalta, a magnificent landscape burst upon nel of wheat, I concluded that it might be inthickness and consistency of substantial homespun flannel. I used one loaf for a napkin, another to hold a little salt, and a stranger would have supposed me justifiable in using one for a cushion to keep me out of the dust on the floor. We sat around the table in

Arab style, as the table was only about ten inches high. In addition to the soup and bread, we had a chicken very well cooked, boiled eggs and boiled potatoes. As they chicken with our fingers and pen-knives .---] Taken alloin all, the dinner was very acceptm Beirut, and we had a bachelors' hall. It bear the expense. I should judge that the and you wonder why they are not precipitawas our intention to go on to Ain Zehalta on question of expense would be decided on ted into the deep ravines, as they leap from Saturday afternoon, but my horse and lost somewhat such a scale as the following :- | crag to crag. The air is so clear that you car

the sake of gaining English tavor. When over to Ain Zehalta to join L. The road sun was pouring down a flood of heat outside. possession while such a stately ceremony was Emir in his palace, that if he would surren ped every day. For awhile Elins, absented any difficulty occurs, an appeal from one of was not only rough, rocky, steep and crook- Khalcel's wife brought orange water for us in progress. A crowd gathered at the door der in thirty days they would allow him his our Missionaries to the English or American ed, but it was absolutely terrific. Imagine to drink, and immediately after we walked meanwhile, and guzed at us with great amaze. life, his liberty and his property; if not until Consul, is enough to bring them to terms. - yourself riding along the edge of the Pal- down the hill to see the celebrated fountains. ment. Next in order came servants bring. sixty days, he would lose his property and his The young Emir who applied to Mr. B. for isades on the Hudson, or clumbing on horse- There are three distinct springs, sending forth ing an elegant stained glass pitcher of sher- liberty but his life would be spared; if not ed to meet the trials which he foresaw were admission to the Church will probably be back the precipitous cliffs along the Delaware a large volume of water. One of the streams bet, a kind of sweet, cooling drink made from in ninety days, they would take him prisonput under our consular protection, and then division of the Erie R. R. and you can sym- is as large as the Roaring Brook in Scranton, the fragrant blossoms of the bitter orange.er and he would forfeit his life. He did not pathize partially with the traveler on Mt. Leb- and it gushes out from the rock, fresh, cool It was served to us in tumblers of glass, and come until after the expiration of thirty days, it was certainly very refreshing. It is a comso he lost his liberty and property. He died Returning from the fountains, we found inon beverage here, as lemonade is in America. iterranean is quite stormy, and the steamers over his first Arabic sermon to Mr. Benton, cept that immediately before you which turns dinner slight. At Ain Zehalta we had a similar drink offer. B'teddin, the princely palace is now used as from Marseilles and Trieste to Alexandria in the adjoining room. Who could blame zigzag down the rocks, into a deep ravine, ly Americanized. Soup was the first course. ed to us, but there it was no easy matter to barracks by Tripoli Soldiers. "Sic transit us from dreaming all sorts of Arabic dreams, from which the ascent on the other side is The chief ingredients were oil and rice, and pick out the fluid from so many sticks and gloria mundi." specks of what we call in plain Anglo-Saxon,

The mountain on which the palace stands s ascended by means of regular and substan-We now entered into conversation with an tial stone steps, similar to those by which old man who came in, about the new firyou reach Deir El Kommer, and we rode man of the Sultan, and he expressed the comdown on horseback without inconvenience.

mon opinion of the mass of the people in Sy-We left for Abeih on Wednesday morning ria, that the calamity of being hable to conscription as soldiers, almost overbalances all we all brought our Goodyear's India Rubber the benefits conferred on the people. The clothing and were perfectly protected from mountaineers of Lebanon dread a soldier's the rain. We rode above the clouds in croslife under Mohammedan officers, and well sing the mountain, and then descended through them, and received the storm in earnest. As Again the servants appear, bringing coffee, we approached the bottom of the valley of the which was very well made, and much more Damoor, the whole country was covered palatable than Turkish coffee generally is. with a carpet of beautiful flowers of almost We were now at liberty to visit the pal-

every variety. In one spot a large field was ace, which we did very expeditiously. Car. white with daisies, just as the fields are so penters were at work in one place building often at home. Other fields were blue, red, a new edifice, which is in true European style. yellow and purple, and the wheat was of a Indeed, many things were decidedly an imrich green. It was indeed a "sea of glory," provement upon Oriental customs. We and the light misty gauze rested on the flowlooked down from the house top upon an enery hillocks, like a veil on the brow of a closure in which there were five beautiful gabride. zelles, sporting and leaping about. There

When we reached Abeih, where this long letwere also several varieties of domestic fowls, ter is dated, the fog was so thick that we but I did not see any Shanghaes. There, could hardly find the house of Mr. Calhoun. were apple, pear, peach, olive, lemon, orange, Toward evening the clouds cleared away, and fig, mulberry, and pomegranate trees in the I took a sketch of Beirut from the window. garden, and a large stream of water runs di. It is a singular landscape-Beirut seems to knowledge, and understand the truth as it is. have no knives or forks, we dissected the rectly through the palace yard in a channel lie at your feet, while the horizon on the sea of marble, whence it enter's a mill-race, through rises, apparently, several hundred feet above hope that this young man may become a which it runs to the mill, about a hundred the city. In the foreground are the ranges of subject of redeeming grace, and be an instruable, especially as we had a few oranges and feet below the palace wall. The women of Lebanon, retreating in the distance toward ment of great good to his ignorant, perishing figs in our pockets. As we passed out of the the household could not restrain their curiosi- the sea on the left, toward the highest snowy countrymen.

himself from my house, not because he plac-ed any confidence in these fabrications or because his desire to hearn the truth of the thickening around him. I however went to his house and prevailed upon him to return to my employ. But again the spirit of persecution arose against him, and with renewed violence. I urged him to break away from the shackles of error and false religion, to cling to his convictions of truth and duty to take a firm stand on the side of Christ. not fearing what man should do unto him. but fearing Him rather, who hath power to cast both soul and body into hell. The tide lowever proved too strong for him, and he has at last returned to his old employment as teacher in a Maronite school. He now visits us only at evening, coming stealthily at nightfall, like Nicodemus of old, so that his movements may not be observed by others. He in a cold driving rain storm. Fortunately has, as this letter evinces, a clear intellectual apprehension of many of the great truths of the bible, but he yet needs a work of God's grace in his heart, that these divine truths may be inwrought into his spiritual being and become the guiding principles of his life. He needs our sympathies and counsels, and we will not forget him in our prayers. In regard to the letter, it is written in the usual style of oriental extravagance and grandiloquence, a style which generally means far less than it expresses, and embodies more of poetry than truth. In conversation, as well as in letter writing, the Arabs often indulge in pious and religious expressionwhich would lead a person, ignorant of their

character and customs to suppose them to be the most devout people in the world. Elias is a Protestant at heart, and is thoroughly disgusted with all the priests and their heartless, unmeaning ceremonies. His judgment and sympathies are with the missions ries and I have no doubt that he is sincere in the desire which he expresses, that not only you but " the greater part of the pupils "in our schools, "who are celebrated in spiritual will come to Syria and aid in the great work

With much esteem your christian-brother J. LORENZO LYONS. To the most noble and honored sir :- After making known my carnest desire for the pleasure of beholding you, (may you be, in all prosperity f) I respect fully present to your excellency, that I, whilst filled with desire to meet my honored friend, Mr. Jessup. on account of what had been made known to me. him through one of my intimate friends whose name is Lyons, respecting the excellence of his praiseworthy qualities, his noble characteristics, and conversation abilities ;-- was stirred in my heart, with longing, es ger and excessive desire toward him, begging God, through his son; Jesus Christ, to show me his face, and endeavoring, by special means to become ac-quainted with him,—and seeking that I might no: be prevented from beholding him. And since God most exalted can never disappoin hose who call upon him in faith, he answered this my petition, and the prayer of his servant was accepted in his sight, favoring me with meeting with im and holding conversation with him a number o times. And when I beheld the sforesaid beloved one, and presented to his excellency such proper re-spects as comported with his dignity, and inquired of him some certain things found in America, and he gave me favorable answers, I then asked him, Have you any brothers and sisters ; and how many ?" and he answered, "yes, there are to me,"-and he formed me the number of them, showing me their portraits one by one, and among the number, the picure of your excellency, which I loyed exceedingly, and hereupon I became exceedingly desirious to see the inal of the picture. With burning fervor, I turned to the gentleman before mentioned, saving to him, I ask Jesus Christ, that he, as he did not withhold rom me the sight of your picture, so he would favor me with a meeting of the original of this picture."-And I asked your brother, saying to him, "if I should write to him a writing begging him to come, would he not accept my request?" And he answered me, Right! "Perhaps he will accept." Then I composed the writing of this letter without delay. In it, first of all, inquiring after your health and the health of your honored brothers, all of them. condly, expressing the hope of seeing your excel ency ere ong, as I have seen his excellency Mr. Jessup, and that I might slake the ardor of my thirst by the dewy moisture of your conversation, begging e Lord Jesus Christ to grant me this, since the darkness of ignorance is exceeding great in these re-gions, and the people found here are in the deepest heed of the presence of skillful preachers and heralds need of the presence of skilled preachers and the analy of the gospel. And I well know that whosever comes hither from your quarter with the purpose of preaching and proclaiming the gospel of Jeses Christ and spreading abroad the knowledge of the truth to hose who know not the truth, must, without the st doubt, love Jesus Christ, and desire to devote and wear out his life for his sake. And as your exellency loves Jesus with the greatest love, as I am fully assured, beyond doubt it is your desire to come o these regions. For the destitution renders your coming exceedingly necessary; for the harrest is great and the laborers few; we ought therefore to pray the Lord of the baryest to send forth laborers into the harvest. So that, by your coming and la-boring in the Lord's vineyard, and turning men from to the knowledge of the truth, you will have fulfilled the word of the Savior, and done according to his commandment, and I shall have been blessed with the sight of you, and filled my vision with be-holding you. And then I shall lose no time in teaching you the Arabic language well, that you may at tain unto your purpose, as I am now engaged in teaching their excellencies Messas Lyons and Jessup the said language-putting forth my best exertions, in instructing them. And after we shall have falfilin instructing them. And alter we shall have numbed ed that which is our duty in this life, we may be blessed finally by beholding our. Heavenly Father with all the saints and holy angels, and inherit the glory prepared for us before the foundation of the world, he saying to us, come, inherit forver the kingdom prepared for you before the foundation of Then, also, we make known to your excellency, that his excellency Mr. Lyona, has advanced in the Arabic language and become able to speak according to the principles of the language, and has prepared a sermon in the Arabic language quite correct. And his excellency Mr. Jessup, has begun to speak. and has committed to memory 200 words, verbs and nouns. We also inform you that most of the children found here, are ignorant of the knowledge of the truth, for want of the reading in the Holy Seriptures, because their priests forbid them to read it.---And we hope and expect not only your coming to these regions, but the coming of the greater part o the pupils in your schools, who are celebrated in spiritual knowledge, and understand the truth as it is. And we have hope to see most of you in these countries, especially those who are most skillfol in

two shoes and the Arab blacksmith could No house can be thus adorned unless its roof not repair the loss in time to enable us to is capable of keeping out at least one half of mile across these mountain valleys, and viltravel over the dangerous road with safety the rain, and its floor be sufficiently level to lages which are many miles distant, seem to before nightfall. SAccordingly, we contented allow a tub to stand without tipping over. be almost within reach. This amazing transourselves to remain, and it was decided that L. should go over in the morning to preach | I explained once before, the roofs are made by perplexing. You are constantly making misto the people, and we (Bro. A. and 1) would join laying down large timbers, then cross beatns takes about distances, and in some places 1 him on Monday morning. During the morn about two feet apart, and on these a mass of have found it almost impossible to take pening, a young Druse Emir came in to request rough flat stones, over which is a thick layer cil sketches of landscape scenery, as the backadmission to the church. He is an interest- of earth. If a worm should crawl through ground of the picture seems as near as the ing young man, and the Missionaries have from above and lose his hold so as to injure fore-ground. There is no blue haze on the long regarded him as a converted man, but himself by falling upon your bed or in your have waited for him to take the first step to- face, you will commiserate his condition, and ward admission to the church. The fact is mentally express the wish that nonic of his that the Druses generally are the most false. fellows may share his fate.

earth. They fear not God nor regard man, and happen to return again at two o'clock and they have reduced hypocrisy to a science, in the morning, you will find me lighting a be above the tops of the highest mountains, teaching it to their children as we teach truth- match to explore the foot of my bed, on which and the horizon is in the clouds. Another fulness. The Druses make it a practice to something has just fallen from above, and result of this clearness of the air, is that an accommodate themselves to the religion of you will commond that wise foresight which object which is really lower than you are on the country in which they live, and always leads me to prove by candle light whether the land scens to be higher. In one place beanswer us that they are Protestants, while the fallen object were a stone, a scorpion, or ween B'Hamdun and Beirut, there is a long they are Mohammedans with the Moslems and a centipede, that, if it were either of the lat-Greeks with the Greeks. Of course it is not ter, I might not injure it by rough hand- the mountain, built for the purpose of coneasy to put confidence in their word, and the ling in the dark. And when I find it to be veying water from a spring to a khan, (or few who have come out from them have been a stone about the size of a snuff box, you received into the Church only after a long will expect me, as I think most just, to exprobation. The social life of the Druses is press my gratitude that it did not fall in my place for the express purpose of making a revolting. There is no security for either face.

sex among them. While they studiously Sabbath morning was bright and beautiful respect foreigners, especially the English and Lorenzo set out early for Ain Zehnlta.-Americans, there are family feuds among them | We attended the Arabic preaching. Aboowhich require the blood of their common Eah-ooah preached on the text, "As Moses foes. For instance, when two men quarrel, lifted up the serpent in the wilderness" &c. all of the relatives of each take up the quar- His earnest manner was very impressive, rel, right or wrong, and if one is slain, and the Arabs listened with great attention. the relatives of the one who is slain expiate I saw in the audience little Katarina, of whom his death by killing one of the family of the 1 spoke in a recent letter to you. She sat other, and this work of mutual retaliation con- with the other little girls, and behaved hertinues for years. Consequently the most of self like a lady.

them go armed, and only a few days since a In the evening, Mr. Aiken and I attended Druse young man was waylaid on his way the conference meeting which was very simifrom Abeih to Beirut, and forty of the family | ilar to the one held here, during my last viswith which he was at variance, fired upon it, excepting the fact that there was a store him at once, and he fell. The Druse women in the room and consequently not so much are in constant danger of losing their lives, there as on the former occasion. Our Arab-Last week a young woman who had married wother Aboo-F- conducted the meeting. ser Aboo-F- conducted the meeting.the man of her own choice instead of marry. It was free to all, and all joined in the coning in the family, was waylaid by her own versation. One man, who came over to obbrother and the rejected suitor, and thrown tain employment from Mr. Benton as a teachuto a well ! er in his native town, and had boasted of his Such is the state of morals at this end of knowledge of the Bible and the way of salva-Mt. Lebanon. Yet they respect the Mission- tion, was asked by A-F-how he received aries and are importunate in their demands peace of conscience? He said," by his good for Missionary schools among them. As works. A-F- immediately began to quesyet, but little has been accomplished by these tion him, and by quoting passage after passchools as far as the conversion of the Drus- sage of Scripture, the instance of Paul and of es is concerned, but schools established on all holy men who counted themselves as "unsuch a basis cannot be without an influence. profitable servants" after having done all, he It is difficult to say what is the religion of the asked this man if his good works could give Druses. It is probably a compromise be- him peace of conscience ? . He hung his head tween Paganism and Mohammedanism .- and said no. The poor man had never seen They build their temples in "high places," a Missionary before, and was utterly ignoas did the Baal worshipers of old, and you rant of the truth, and when Aboo F- urged it the rock, whence it is taken in bags made of can see their sacred buildings on the summits home upon him, he was greatly interested.-of the mountains in every direction in the On Monday morning he came to Mr. Benton

Druse region. During the war between the for a Testament and some other religious dust which lie about the fluor occasionally ble to sell or give away to travelers. There ceeded at length in prevailing upon him to Druses and Maronites, some of these temmoved the towel from our knees and placed become mingled in inseparable union with books to give him light. ples were destroyed, and little metallic imais a large parade ground within the palace give up his school and for a while he came another more highly ornamented upon our As usual at these meetings; pipes and cofthe flour, but this is no objection here, as the about as large as the Public Square in Mont. | regularly every day to my house. But after preaching and evangelizing. And I ask God that these words of mine may be hands to wipe them dry, and passed on to ges of the calf were found, which would seem about as large as the Public Square in Mont-rose. You can then form some idea of its magnitude, when you hear that this is not one fourth of the area occupied by the vari-the lapse of a few weeks, his two brothers of his relatives, finding that he was engaged in teaching "heretics," as they call us, brought the Lord Jesus Christ, who poured out his pre-the Lord Jesus Christ, who poured out his prefee were passed around, and it did not con- quality of the bread depends on the grit to indicate that they are idolators. I saw the next. tribute much to our relish of the coffee, to which is imparted to it by the lime stone dust. one of these images at the house of Mr. Bird | see the man of the house wipe out the cups The next operation was equally Oriental. After crossing the stone bridge, we scaled Que servant brought a beautiful silver vase, in Deir El Kommer. Their religion is a mys | with his handkerchief! Courtesy would not | the hill toward Ain Zehalta through beds of

You will be interested in the ceilings. As parency of the atmosphere is at times quite distant mountains, no indistinctness in remote objects, and the whole scene seems a vast crewding together of mountains, cliffs and

villages. We noticed again, as I have already stated in a previous letter, the singular phenomenon presented by the sea. It seems to aqueduct, extending more than a mile down inn:) The aqueduct runs along by the road side, and if a hundred men should visit the scientific examination, I verily believe that

every one of them would insist that the water runs up hill, and that the khan is higher than the spring. The deception is complete. Mt. Lebanon to be in no respect inferior to We examined it very closely, and I would not believe that the spring was the bighest, (absurd as the contrary supposition would

be,) until I saw the water running freely the whole distance in an aqueduct for the most part uncovered. Again, any one would insist that Deir El

Kommer is higher than Ain Zehalta, and yet the fountains of the latter place supply the former with water through an aqueduct. When we were within an hour of Ain Zehalta we met Bro. Lyons who had come out to meet us. He said that he preached to a large audience on the Sabbath, and the people understood the whole of his sermon .--As he entered the town on his way to the house where the meeting was held, the vil lagers crowded around him, kissing his hands and uttering every expression of welcome .---He seems to have had a delightful Sabbath. After narrating our mutual Sabbath experience, we rode together into the town, stopping a moment at the "Ain Zehalta flouring room to receive some refreshments." mills." This is where the natives get their flour. The mill-stones are about like ours

at home, and the water wheel is constructed on correct principles. The "hopper" is of rough boards, bound together with long withes of oak branches, and suspended from the wall on ropes of wood. The flour, on coming out from the mill-stones, falls into a large hole in sheep-skins and goat-skins, with the neck and legs on. Of course, the small stones and

ty to see us, and came crowding to a large own after dinner, we rode almost through almost recognize a man at the distance of a the midst of the boy's school. The little fellows were seated on the ground, studying with all diligence. I told Lorenzo to warn the teacher against such a practice, as the glaring reflection of the sunlight from their books would injure the eyes of the children. He said that he had only to choose between a stone house without windows, where they must strain their eyes in the durkness, and this unsheltered position in the sun. finger nails colored red. The road from Ain Zehalta to Deir El

Kommer runs for miles along the brink of a precipice which overhaugs a ravine of fearful depth. In one place we saw a village hundreds of feet below us, embowered in olive trees, on the bank of a beautiful stream.-The scenery is delightful," and as we were riding westward, the sea stretched across the end of the valley, like a faint blue line in the air. Beautiful flowers bordered the road he read off my full name, Henry Harris Jesand covered the fields on every side. Hyacinths, anemones, cyclamines, poppies, lilsessor of so many names. ies, daisies, asters, gillia (or stock gillia) purple, red, white and yellow, and many other flowers which we cultivate at home with great care, but with whose names I am not familiar. I also raw apple, pear, peach, plum, almond, orange and lemon trees in full bloom. Such a sight is worth a journey to Syria, and I man or an American. wonder that so few come here, when so many Americans visit Europe. Persons who have visited Switzerland, declare the scenery of

it. On Tuesday morn, Mr. Bird, Yusef, one of the Arab Protestants, Mr. Aiken, Brother Lyons, and I, rode to Mukh-tara, the palace of the present Beg, or Head of the Druses. On the way, we stopped a while to collect Geodes, and I took a sketch of Der El Kommer as we ascended the mountain opposite.----While we were thus engaged, a Druse passed and asked Yuzef what these Frank devils were doing. As we approached Mukth-tara, another beautiful landscape burst upon us.

I had no time to sketch it. When we reached the village, which is but a tributary to the palace, we dismounted and went directly to the palace. The Beg, or Sheikh, was absent in Beirut with his fifty servants, so that we did not receive all formal honors of the place, but this was no disappointment as our time was quite limited. However, the Sit, or lady of the Beg, sent word to us to sit, down in the Secretary's

After taking our seats on cushions on the floor, several servants came in, bowing very reverently, one bearing a brazen dish and pitcher of water, and the other several large and beautiful towels fringed at the ends and heavily embroidered with gold thread. Af. ter one had thrown a towel over our knees. the other poured water over our hands so that it would run into the basin. In the mid dle of the basin was a raised rim in which the scap was placed. The first servant then re-

range on the right, and in front blending with window with their veils half drawn aside, but the plain which extends for several miles

the moment we looked towards them, they | south of Beirut. Near the base of the mounwould run like affrighted gazelles. The sons tains this plain is covered in one place with of the Beg were presented to us, and were vast plive orchards, in another, with seatfine-looking, 'black-eyed boys. They were tered palm trees, while still nearer to Beirut, only four and six years old but their courte- is the dark green forest of pines, which stand sy was quite beautiful. Their eyelids were out in bold contrast with the vast plain of stained black, but for what purpose I did not light yellow sand which skirts the shore and ascortain, though it is probably an ornament. is gradually advancing upon the city, threat-Many of the little girls in Syria have their ening to extinguish every trace of vegetable life. Far o the north, you see the range of Wishing to leave our names, we requested Lebanon less ening and fading in the distance

paper, and were shown into the office of the toward Tripoli, and in clear weather you can Beg where we were supplied. The people see the sharp peak of Mount Casius in Northcrowded around, and could not refrain from | ern Syria, shooting up like an island in the expressing their amazement at seeing a man | sea. I have sketched it for you on another write from left to right as we do. Yusef sheet wrote our names in Arabic, and the men

BEIRUT, Monday Eve, March 24. looked at me with somewhat of wonder, when We remained in Abeil during Thursday, to attend the semi-annual examination of the sup, in Arabic, and pointed to me as the pos- Seminary. The young Arabs acquitted themselves creditably, especially in the Bible As we were leaving, the Sit, or wife of the and Catechism, which they recited in a man-Prince, sent us a pressing invitation to rener which would astonish the Christian youth main to supper, but time would not permit of America. There had been a revival of reand we rode away after offering a gift to the ligion in the Seminary recently, and several

servants, which they refused to take, as their of the young men have been hopefully conmaster had enjoined them never to take a verted. This is one of the cheering features bucksheesh (reward or gift) from an Englishof missionary life. These young men will wield a great influence in Syria in years to On our return we crossed the famous battle come. There is so much of darkness here, field where the Emir Beshir conquered one that one true, living christain is of inestimaof his chief rivals. It is an extensive table- ble value in the exertion of an upright healthland on the mountain, and our horses gallop- ful influence. Several of them intend to ed over it as if they could "snuff the battle

preach the Gospel. from afar." We approached Deir El Kom-I requested an Arab named Elias Wussol. mer by the mountain above the ancient Palone of my teachers, to write you a letter, ace of the B'teddin, which we found we had giving his views about the importance of Mistime to visit. We first visited the summer sionary labors, and he has written the followhouses on the hill. They were built in splen- ing, to which Lorenzo, at my request, has did style, and the walls are elegantly wrought written a preface. with carved marble and mosaics. In one

BEIRUT, March 25, 1856. room there is a fountain, the basin of which My DEAR FRIEND :- At Henry's request is a marble boat about ten feet long, of a finour Arab teacher, Elias Wussol, has written ished model, lined with cement and inlaid you the accompanying letter. It will no around the outside border with fine mosaic doubt strike you as a somewhat remarkable and unique production and as I have known work of red, black and white marble.. Evthe writer for some time past, we have thought erywhere there are sad proofs of the former it worth while that I should give you a short glory of the place, and the devastating influaccount of him.

Elias is a young man about 35 years of ence of time and neglect. Rusty looking age, and resides in Berrut. He is a member Turkish soldiers stalk sullenly among the the nominally christian sect called Maroruins, through the deserted, decaying rooms nites, a sect remarkable for the tenacity with and courts, birds build their nests in the old which they cling to the papal rites and cuscornices of the former palace halls, and the toms of their ancestors. Among this class of people the missionaries have had as yet but grass grows on the heaps of rubbish in the little success. Elins, however, is a man of doorways, and over the arches and walls,--considerable education and intelligence, and Within the building, in the spacious courts the truth of the gospel seems at times to have | the world. paved with marble, there are sparkling fountaken a strong hold upon his conscience. A tains and fruit trees in full bloom. Some few months since, when I first became acquainted with him, he was engaged in teachof the rooms are lined entirely with beautiing a Maronite school in this city. He does ful mosaics, the separate pieces of marble benot know any English, but I was so well ing no larger than a dollar. There are sevepleased with his appearance, his vivacity of ral gateways which must have been extravamanner, his simplicity of character, and with gantly expensive. There is nothing in Amerwhat I supposed to be his earnest desire to ica which can compare with them in beauty. know more of religious truth, that I determined to secure him if possible as my teach-Yet now they are rapidly decaying, and the er in Arabic, hoping ultimately to take him oldiers dig out the blocks of variegated marwith me to Tripoli as a native helper. I suc-

In Deir El Kommer. Their religion is a myst tery, and they are bound by featful oaths to another religion, Fear of English researce to the base do no extrement of the section of the se