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John Madox

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John Madox : Excursions in the Holy Land, Egypt, Nubia, Syria, c: Including a visit to the unfrequented district of the Haouran before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Excursions in the Holy Land, Egypt, Nubia, Syria, c: Including a visit to the unfrequented district of the Haouran:

This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1834 Excerpt: ...The inhabitants, as I passed, invoked blessings upon me, as upon an Arab bride, and appeared not a little surprised, I being the first European lady they had seen. Some, in order that they might present me with bouquets, begged I would 188 RECEPTION or A ENGLISH LADY. stop my horse, wishing me a long and happy life; and joy was depicted in the features of all. I seemed rather to be received with the affectionate welcome of an old friend than with the mere courteous greeting of a stranger. On the following day, baskets of fine grapes and figs were brought me by the women, who, urged by curiosity, resorted to this expedient to obtain an interview. They declined all remuneration, and were extremely clean, though apparently very poor. " At the period of our visit, the village was in mourning for its chief prince, whose death 'had taken place a few days before we arrived; but six others yet remained, which struck us as a

tolerable supply for so small a territory. One of these princes called upon my father, who shortly after returned the compliment. On this occasion, the chief princess (a Druse) sent word that she wished to see him, and offered either to receive him in her own apartments or to come to him. My father left the matter to her own convenience, and she preferred the latter. The princess in a short time entered, when my father, with the princes rose. They, however, almost immediately resumed their seats; but he, observing that his fair visiter remained standing, did the same, and, on her desiring him to sit, explained to her the custom of England in such a case. She sat down directly, and entered into conversation, offering the usual compliments, and excusing herself from visiting us, as contrary to MARRIAGE CEREMONY. 189 the custom of the D...