

of his right fore-foot is broken?" "The same," said the merchant; "and now, since you have described him so well, you can, of course, give me some information where I may find him." "None whatever," replied the dervise. "What! after giving the most accurate description possible, not tell me where you have seen him?" "I have not seen your camel," said the dervise.

Provoked by the apparent obstinacy of the old man, the merchant took him before the Cadi in order to extort the necessary information. The case being stated, he was asked why he refused to relate where he had seen the camel. "I have already told the truth," said he; "I have not seen the camel. Living, as I do, in the midst of the desert, it is but seldom that I meet with my fellow-men. But passing to-day over the hillside, I observed the track of a lame camel. Barley was scattered on one side of the way; on the other I saw honey—from this I inferred what his burden consisted of. I also observed the herbage was cropped on one side only; by this I judged he was blind. I saw he had a broken tooth by a mark on the bushes which were eaten off. It was from these observations that I was enabled to describe the camel. From these circumstances you may see, though I have lived all my life in the desert, I have ever found ample scope for contemplation."