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FORDS OF THE JORDAN.

The Jordan.

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A COUPLE of hours' ride from the Dead Sea, through a sandy, swampy country, brought us to the bank of the Jordan, at the place which, according to Greek tradition, is the scene of our Lord's baptism. It is a lovely spot, surrounded with rich foliage of clustering trees, between which the river sweeps along in a rapid,

muddy current, so swift that it is dangerous to venture more than a few feet from shore. Here, annually, come thousands of pilgrims to bathe in these waters as a religious duty and privilege.

It was intensely hot when we reached the Jordan, and the sun beat down with dangerous fierceness, but a careful bathe in the cool waters, and luncheon and rest in the shadow of the trees, renewed our energies for the ride to camp. Whatever be the opinion as to the authenticity of the place, as the site of our