

ernor of Damascus, wished to buy the animal, and repeatedly made the owner the most liberal offers, which Jabal steadily refused. The Pacha then had recourse to threats, but with no better success. At length, one Gafar, a Bedouin of another tribe, presented himself to the Pacha and asked what he would give the man who would make him master of Jabal's mare? "I will fill his horse's nosebag with gold," replied the Pacha. The result of this interview having gone abroad, Jabal became more watchful than ever, and always secured his mare at night with an iron chain, one end of which was fastened to her hind fetlock, whilst the other, after passing through the tent cloth, was attached to a picket under the felt that served him and his wife for a bed. But one midnight Gafar succeeded in loosing the chain. Just before starting with his prize, he caught up Jabal's lance and poking him with the butt end, cried out, "I am Gafar! I have robbed thee of thy noble mare, and will give you notice in time." This warning was in accordance with the customs of the Desert; for to rob a hostile tribe is considered an honorable exploit, and the man who accomplishes it