

evening we had been travelling rapidly. Shortly after noon we had not a drop of water remaining; and the men, as well as the poor animals, were worn out with fatigue. The mules stumbling repeatedly, required assistance to lift them up again, and to support their burden till they rose. This terrible exertion exhausted the little strength we had left. At two o'clock in the afternoon, a man dropped down stiff, and as if dead, from great fatigue and thirst. I stopped with three or four of my people, to assist him. The little wet which was left in one of the leathern budgets was squeezed out of it, and some drops of water poured into the poor man's mouth, but without affect. I now felt that my own strength was beginning to forsake me; and becoming very weak, I determined to mount on horseback, leaving the poor fellow behind. From this moment others of my caravan began to droop successively, and there was no possibility of giving them any assistance: they were abandoned to their unhappy destiny, as every one thought only of saving himself. Several mules, with their burdens, were left behind; and I found on my way, two of my trunks on the ground, without knowing what had become of the mules which had been carrying them, the drivers having forsaken them, as well as the care of my effects and my instruments.

"I looked upon this loss with the greatest indifference, as if they had not belonged to me, and pushed on. But my horse now began to tremble under me, and yet he was the strongest of the whole caravan. We proceeded in silent despair. When I endeavoured to encourage any one of the party to increase his pace, he answered me by looking steadily at me, and by putting his forefinger to his mouth, to indicate the great thirst with which he was affect-