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LEBANON AND ITS CEDARS.

LEBANON.—A celebrated range of mountains in Syria, north of Palestine, running north-east and south-west, in two parallel chains, in crescent form, and pursuing nearly the course of the shore of the Mediterranean. The south-eastern chain is called Anti-Libanus, *opposite to Libanus*, or Lebanon proper. Between these ranges is *Valle-Syria*, or *the valley of Lebanon*. Some of its eastern and north-eastern branches were called Hermon, Sion, and Amana. Its summits (which some travellers have stated to be higher than the Alps or Pyrenees) and ravines are covered with snow during the year, and its rock is a white limestone, from which issue pure, limpid streams. It is described by travellers as a multitude of mountains, separated by deep

ravines, and covered pretty thickly with pine and fruit trees, although not so densely as the forests of America. Its ascent is steep and rocky. Its cedars are now found principally at the foot of one mountain, covering a space three-fourths of a mile in circumference, and amount to nearly four hundred; some of them forty feet round, and nearly one hundred in height.—The balsamic odour of these cedars is alluded to, Hos. xiv. 6. Sol. Song iv. 11; and so many of them were used in building Solomon's palace, as to give it the name mentioned in 1 Kings vii. 2, and x. 17. The same timber was used for ship-building.

Mr. Fisk, an American missionary, who ascended mount Lebanon in the autumn of 1823, informs us that even