

a high horn on her head, covered with a black veil. After the usual good morning was passed, the man very respectfully laid at my feet a handkerchief full of wild egg-plant-fruit, and begged me to look at his sister's eyes. I called my girl to bring a bowl of warm water, and told the woman to sit down, take the bowl in her lap, and wash her eyes, till I could lay little Henri down quietly, and then I would look at them. In the meantime the following conversation was held :—

*Mrs. B.*—How long have your eyes been sore?

*Druze Woman.*—Eight months.

*Mrs. B.*—What have you done for them?

*Druze Woman.*—At first I did not do anything, but after a while, they getting very bad, I went to an Arab doctor. They were covered with a film then, but I could see some. The doctor cut off the film with a pair of scissors, and put in kohl, and said I must drink no water for several days, and keep the kohl on all the time. This made them much worse, and now I cannot see at all.

Here she beat upon her breast and groaned out, "Oh, my children!"

*Mrs. B.*—Where are your children?

*Druze Woman.*—With their father.

*Mrs. B.*—Where is your husband, their father?

*Woman.*—(Beating her breast.)—He has put me away, and takes the children; and my heart is turned to gall for them.

*Mrs. B.*—Why did your husband put you away?

*Woman.*—Because my eyes became sore, and I could not work, and he said I was no profit to him.

*Mrs. B.*—He has taken another woman?

*Woman.*—Not yet.

*Mrs. B.*—If your eyes should get well, would he take you back again?

"No," said her brother, "that cannot be. According to the Druze religion, if a man puts away his wife, she is as dead to him and the children. But if her eyes should get well, he would repent bitterly of the step he has taken; for my sister is young, and beautiful as the moon, and very smart to work."

*Mrs. B.*—Do you think that is a good religion that allows a man to treat his wife so? Just because your sister has been unable to work for eight months, he has put her for ever away, and will not suffer her to see her dear children, and does nothing for her support.