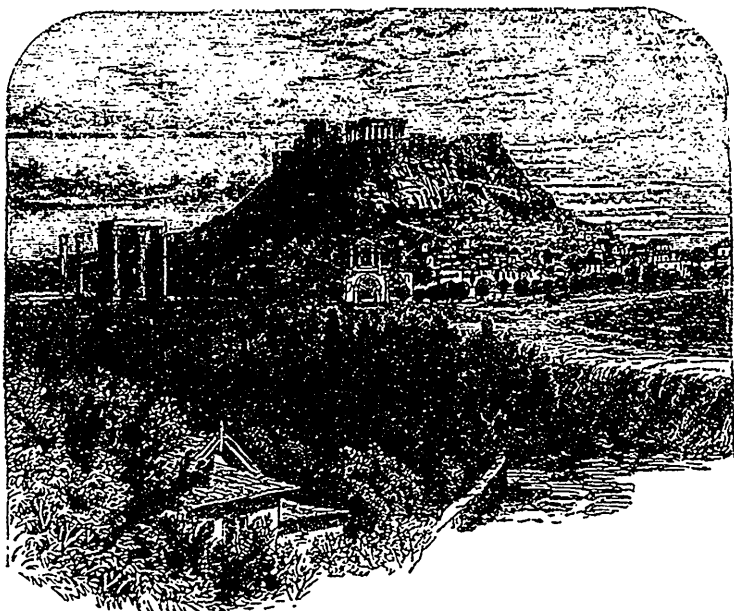


"THE MOUNTAIN OF THE MONKS."*

BY THE REV. JOHN TELFORD, B.A.



ATHENS.

JOHN RUSKIN once described Curzon's "Monasteries in the Levant" as the most charming book of travels he ever read. The verdict sent us years ago to Mudie's. But Curzon was not there. The last volume, which had lingered on for well nigh thirty years, had at last vanished from the shelves. The London Library, however, produced a copy, which enabled us to appreciate Ruskin's verdict. The illustrations of Bible customs, the glimpses of Egyptian bondage endured by precious manuscripts in dusty monastic libraries or ruined towers, the curiosities of travels in the Levant, where brigands formed an escort and the firing of a gun served for a door-knocker, above all, the choice which the would-be guest of the monks must make to climb to his hostel up a series of perpen-

* Abridged from the *Wesleyan Methodist Magazine*—*Athos; or, the Mountain of the Monks*. By Athelstan Riley, M.A., F.R.G.S. With numerous illustrations. London: Longmans. 1887—*Visits to Monasteries in the Levant*. By the Hon. Robert Curzon, jun.