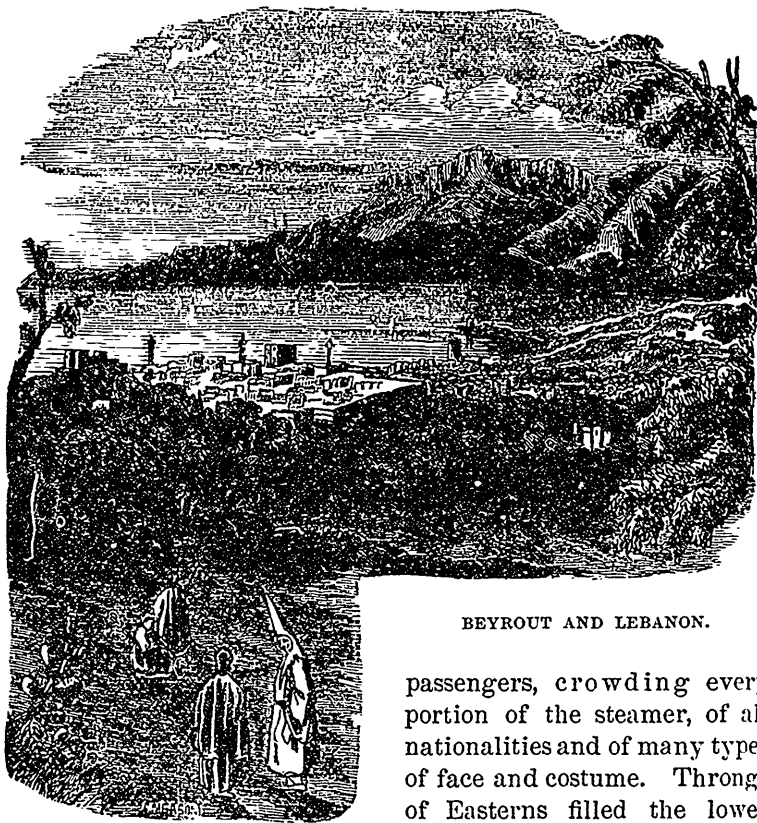


of eastern travel, are eager to take the most direct, as well as, in some respects, the most interesting route, and of that the Austrian Lloyds' boats have the monopoly. Being monopolists, and the rush taking place but once or twice a year, they are not particularly solicitous as to the comfort or accommodation of their passengers on these occasions, as my own experience and that of many others abundantly testifies.

As I stepped on board, I found myself one of a large number of



BEYROUT AND LEBANON.

passengers, crowding every portion of the steamer, of all nationalities and of many types of face and costume. Throngs of Easterns filled the lower decks, and the upper were

equally filled with tourists, among whom English, Americans and Germans predominated. M—— was there ahead of me, with the luggage, and had already found his quarters in the crowded second cabin, where, as I had, as yet, no local habitation, I was glad to deposit my own *impedimenta*.

In a little while we were off, and, as the steamer moved out to sea, took our farewell view of beautifully situated Beyrouth, daintily dipping her white foot in the sea, while the broad shoul-