

# THE MISSIONARY AND SABBATH SCHOOL RECORD.

Vol. VIII.

AUGUST 1, 1851.

No. 8.



## SCRIPTURE MOUNTAINS.

### MOUNT CARMEL.

Carmel is a ridge of mountains, above the town. As we advanced about six miles long, on the western borders of Canaan, near the sea-coast; the highest part of which lifts its head 1200 feet above the sea, and is distinguished as Mount Carmel. At the base of this latter mount the river Kishon falls into the Great or Mediterranean Sea. The north end forms a bold promontory on the sea-side; hence it is called, "Carmel by the sea," Jer. 46 : 18.

Carmel signifies "the vineyard," or "the garden;" and here, in ancient times, the vine was carefully cultivated. King Uzziah had here his vine-dressers. The name is also said to mean "bushy plantations," which may refer to the fruit-trees that abounded on its sides. "After dinner," says Dr. Wilson, "we left our tents for the ascent of Mount Carmel. We passed through some very fertile fields and olive groves lying

we found a lateral gash in the hill, running in the direction of the promontory, which is of some magnitude. It is here that the best cultivated fields occur. Long before we got to the summits of the mount, we were in a thick jungle of brushwood, principally of prickly oak, mountain juniper, thorns, and grasses, intermixed with many beautiful sweet-smelling plants and flowers, growing most luxuriantly, and well calculated to remind us of the ancient 'excellency of Carmel,' Isaiah 35 : 2. This jungle extends over the higher flanks and the summit of the hill, as far as we could see, and forms good shelter for the leopards which are here occasionally seen. The Hebrew word Carmel means 'a garden;' and the allusions to the mount in Scripture lead us to believe that probably the whole hill was formerly laid out in the finest