

JAFFA, SYRIA, Sept. 30, 1836.

I have at length set out to make a tour through part at least of Palestine, and will attempt to send you some brief notices of what may more especially engage my attention. The great heats which are felt in this country, especially on the plains, induced me to defer my tour thus long; as I judged it not well to run unnecessary hazard in my eagerness to see the chosen land, and visit the places so much referred to in the Holy Scriptures. The great heats of summer are now past,—some showers of rain have already fallen,—and the driving up of clouds at one time from the north, and at another from the south, betoken the approach of those copious showers, which the earth, parched by a whole summer's sun, so much requires, and which both man and beast need to refresh their exhausted systems.