

HOMRA TREE, FORTY-TWO FEET IN CIRCUMFERENCE:

Peculiar to Tropical Climates. Its Fruit is called Gangalos.

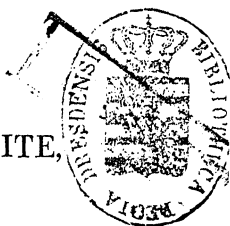
بحر النيل والصحراء  
والبحر الأحمر

SEA NILE, THE DESERT,  
AND NIGRITIA:

TRAVELS IN COMPANY WITH CAPTAIN PEEL, R.N.  
1851-1852.

DESCRIBED BY

JOSEPH H. CHURI, MARONITE,  
OF MOUNT LEBANON.



WITH THIRTEEN ARABIC SONGS,

*As Sung by the Egyptian Sailors on the Nile,*

TRANSLATED, WITH NOTES, AND THE ARABIC WORDS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH AS PRONOUNCED  
AND SET TO MUSICAL ANNOTATION; WITH OTHER ARABIC SONGS.

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LONDON: PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR,  
31, KING STREET, HOLBORN.

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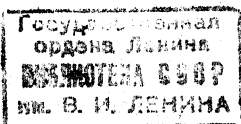
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## PREFACE.



### TO THE COURTEOUS READER.

I HOPE, gentle reader, that you will not regret reading these Travels, which, with much diligence, I have undertaken to describe for you. I trust you will derive some pleasure from the account of the Life in the Desert, of the Arabs, of Nubia, of the interesting conversations I held with the people amongst whom I travelled, and of many other things which may serve to give you a just idea of the Blue and White Niles and of the Negroes. You will, no doubt, feel moved to compassion by some dolorous passages; but even these I have tried to mingle with descriptions that will interest you.

I do not intend giving you here a dissertation that would not be to the purpose, but I feel obliged to say one or two things that seem needed. You must know, gentle reader, that I am a Maronite of Mount Lebanon, and at the age of fourteen I was sent to the College of Propaganda, in Rome, to be educated in virtue and doctrine for the ecclesiastical state; and, as I then knew no other language but Arabic and Syriac, I began my course of European studies with the a, b, c, then followed Latin grammar, rhetoric, logic, metaphysics, and one year of divinity. During this time I always kept up the use of